

## **Christianity through the Ages in Scotland** **July 20<sup>th</sup> – Aug 1st, 2019**

Price of the tour is **\$3300 per person; \$1100 single supplement**. Minimum 20 paid travelers.

### **WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE TOUR:**

- 11 Nights deluxe double occupancy hotel accommodations  
1 x Glasgow, 2 x Oban, 2 x Inverness, 2 x Dundee, 2 x ?, 2 x Edinburgh
- Porterage at hotels
- Private coach bus transportation
- Driver expenses (excluding gratuity)
- All activities and admissions per itinerary
- Ferry crossings
- Full Scottish Breakfast daily
- Welcome dinner
- Farewell Scottish Evening (dinner and entertainment)
- 2 dinners at Carberry House
- Tour director/guide for the duration of the tour including expenses (excluding gratuity)
- Talks by Kristy Christian during the tour

### **WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED:**

- Airfare
- Lunches and dinners (except the welcome dinner and farewell dinner and
- Tips to bus driver and tour guide
- Any personal expenses (laundry, excursions not listed on the itinerary, etc.)
- Trip Insurance – if you wish to purchase trip insurance: consider these 2 options -  
[www.travelguard.com/aig/insurance](http://www.travelguard.com/aig/insurance); [www.travelexinsurance.com](http://www.travelexinsurance.com)

## **SATURDAY, JULY 20**

Depart from your home city for an overnight flight to Glasgow, Scotland.

## **SUNDAY – JULY 21 (D)**

Arrive in Glasgow, Scotland's second largest city. Glasgow is a port on the River Clyde in Scotland's western Lowlands. It's famed for its Victorian and art nouveau architecture, a rich legacy of the city's 18th–20th-century prosperity due to trade and shipbuilding. Today it's a national cultural hub, home to institutions including the Scottish Opera, Scottish Ballet and National Theatre of Scotland, as well as acclaimed museums and a thriving music scene.

**You will need to take a taxi to the Millennium Hotel on your own.**

Free day to acclimatize.

Welcome dinner at the hotel included.

Overnight: Millennium Hotel Glasgow, George Square.

## **MONDAY, JULY 22 (B)**

Today we head to Oban via **Loch Lomond**, a freshwater Scottish loch which crosses the Highland Boundary fault. It is the largest inland stretch of water in Great Britain by surface area. This is a beautiful drive with lochs, mountains and the sea as we travel North to our overnight hotel in the seaside town of Oban. We will stop to visit the unique **Arduaine Gardens** on the way. The garden was begun in 1898 at a time when curiosity about foreign travel and an appetite for the exotic were all the rage. It lies on a rocky promontory at the head of the Sound of Jura and enjoys the warming benefits of the North Atlantic Drift allowing for plants from across the globe to flourish.

Overnight: Royal Hotel Oban

## **TUESDAY, JULY 23 (B)**

We will take an early morning ferry to the **Isle of Mull** and then take another short ferry to the tiny, peaceful **Isle of Iona**. Here we will visit the Abbey and Nunnery. The island is barely three miles long by one mile wide, but this site has had an influence out of all proportion to its size to the establishment of Christianity in Scotland, England, and throughout mainland Europe. Iona's place in history was secured when in 563 A.D. St. Columba arrived on its beaches with 12 followers, built his first Celtic church and established a monastic community.

Once settled, the Irish monk set about converting most of pagan Scotland and northern England to the Christian faith. Iona's fame as a missionary center and outstanding place of learning

eventually spread throughout Europe turning it into a place of pilgrimage for several centuries to come.

Overnight: Royal Hotel Oban

### **WEDNESDAY, JULY 24 (B)**

Today we travel the scenic “Road to the Isles” via Fort William and pause at the **Glenfinnan Monument**, which marks the place where Prince Charles Edward Stuart raised his standard, thus beginning the 1745 Jacobite Rising. Prince Charles initially landed from France on Eriskay in the Western Isles. He then traveled to the mainland in a small rowing boat, coming ashore at Loch nan Uamh, just west of Glenfinnan. Here he was met by a small number of MacDonalDs. He waited at Glenfinnan for a number of days as more MacDonalDs, Camerons, McPhees, and MacDonnells arrived. When he judged he had enough support, he climbed the hill and the McPhees raised his royal standard, on Monday 19 August 1745, and claimed the Scottish and the English thrones in the name of his father James Stuart ('the Old Pretender'); A MacPhee (Macfie) was one of two pipers at Glenfinnan when Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his banner there in 1745.

So, began the rebellion that was to end in failure eight months later at the **Battle of Culloden** (16 April 1746). Many MacPhees (Macfies) followed Cameron of Lochiel in the second line into the Battle of Culloden in 1746. After Culloden, in his flight to evade government troops, Charles came to the same area again. After being hidden by loyal supporters he boarded a French frigate at the shores of Loch nan Uamh, close to where he had landed and raised his standard. Today, The Prince's Cairn marks the spot from which he departed.

We continue along **Loch Ness** then on to Inverness for overnight.

Overnight: Best Western Palace Hotel, Inverness

### **THURSDAY, JULY 25 (B)**

Today we shall visit the site of the **Battle of Culloden**, just outside Inverness, one of the most famous of Scottish battles when on 16 April 1746, the final Jacobite Rising came to a head. Jacobite supporters gathered to fight the Duke of Cumberland's government troops.

Then on we go for a boat trip on **Loch Ness** to see if we can spot the elusive monster! We will disembark to visit the dramatic ruins of **Urquhart Castle** on the shores of the Loch.

Overnight: Best Western Palace Hotel, Inverness

### **FRIDAY, JULY 26 (B)**

Today we travel south via the **Cairngorms National Park** stopping to visit **Scone Palace** – originally the site of an early Christian church and later an Augustinian priory. In the 12<sup>th</sup> century

it was granted abbey status. It is the Stone of Scone on which Scottish kings were crowned and for centuries sat in the Coronation Chair at Westminster Abbey.

Overnight: Apex City Quay, Dundee

## **SATURDAY, JULY 27 (B)**

This morning we visit **Dunfermline Abbey and Palace**. The Abbey Church is the centrepiece of Dunfermline, one of the oldest settlements in Scotland and once its proud capital. The history of The Abbey is entwined with that of Scotland itself, as Dunfermline was the burial site of the Scottish monarchs before the adoption of the island of Iona, including **King Robert the Bruce**. Outside is the shrine of Queen Margaret, a place of pilgrimage since the medieval times.

Next, we will drive over the spectacular Forth Road bridge for a brief visit to **Linlithgow** castle – the birth place of James V and Mary Queen of Scots. It has also been used to film some of the *Outlander* scenes – the prison entrance and corridors.

Then on we travel to the Trossachs Region to **Stirling Castle** – Mary Queen of Scot’s childhood home. It was also probably the most strategically important castle in Scotland. We’ll learn about “Braveheart” (William Wallace), who led the Scots to a victory at the Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297. We will also visit the site of the **Battle of Bannockburn**, where **Robert the Bruce** decisively defeated the British under Edward II in 1314. It was a significant Scottish victory in the First War of Scottish Independence, and a landmark in Scottish history.

While in Stirling, we’ll visit the **Church of the Holy Rood** (Holy Cross) and its graveyard. Of particular note is the fact that this is the only active church in Great Britain, apart from Westminster Abbey, that can say that a coronation was held here. James VI was quickly crowned when he was less than a year old – witnessed by about 13 men, with John Knox preaching the coronation sermon. Look for the Reformation memorial in the churchyard too.

Overnight: Apex City Quay, Dundee

## **SUNDAY JULY 28 (B, D)**

Just a short drive over the river Tay to **St Andrews** this morning, famous as the birthplace of golf and the university. We will visit the ruins of the castle and cathedral. Caught in the Protestant Reformation struggle for hearts and minds, **St. Andrews Castle** was a bishop’s palace, a fortress and a state prison during its 450-year history and the cathedral dominated Scottish religion until 1560, as headquarters of the medieval Scottish Church. Even in its ruinous state, the cathedral remains a prominent landmark.

As we continue our journey, we will visit **Falkland village** with its central market cross, regularly used as a film and television location. Over the Firth of Forth on the spectacular Forth Road Bridge and around Edinburgh to our very special hotel just south of Edinburgh, once the home of Lady Margaret Elphinstone, sister to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Dinner and Overnight: Carberry Tower Mansion

### **MONDAY, JULY 29 (B, D)**

We travel South today and over the border to England for a very special trip, to the island of Lindisfarne. In 635AD Saint Aidan came from Iona and chose to found his monastery on **The Holy Island of Lindisfarne**. The Christian message flourished here and spread throughout the world. The island has also given its name to the famous Lindisfarne Gospels, an illuminated manuscript gospel book probably produced around the years 715-720 in the monastery at Lindisfarne. The original is now in the British Library, but we will visit the Heritage Center where they have a facsimile edition. St Aidan founded the monastery in AD 635, but St Cuthbert, prior of Lindisfarne, is the most celebrated of the priory's holy men. Buried in the priory, his remains were transferred to a pilgrim shrine there after 11 years and found still undecayed - a sure sign of sanctity. From the end of the 8th century, the isolated island with its rich monastery was easy prey for Viking raiders. In 875 the monks left, carrying Cuthbert's remains, which after long wanderings were enshrined in Durham Cathedral in 1104, where they still rest. The Durham monks re-established a priory on Lindisfarne: the evocative ruins of the richly decorated priory church they built in c. 1150 still stand. The small community lived quietly on Holy Island until the suppression of the monastery in 1537. Also included today is a visit to the ruins of the priory.

Dinner and Overnight: Carberry Tower Mansion

### **TUESDAY, JULY 30 (B)**

Today we will have the whole day to explore Scotland's capital city with a local guide. We will visit the **National Gallery** where we will view William Dyce's, *The Man of Sorrows* (1860) and other paintings. The tour then takes us to **St. Giles Cathedral** where the Reformer, John Knox preached, then on to the home of John Knox and visit the **John Knox Museum**. We'll finish the day with a visit to **Edinburgh Castle**, including the apartments of Mary, Queen of Scots, and the 16<sup>th</sup>-century great hall.

Overnight: Jurys Inn, Edinburgh City Centre

### **WEDNESDAY, JULY 31 (B, D)**

Your final day in this beautiful country.

We start today with a morning excursion to **Rosslyn Chapel**, made famous by Dan Brown's book *The da Vinci Code*. The carvings are extraordinary. The afternoon is free for final personal sightseeing or last-minute shopping and preparation for the return home.

We come together for a farewell Scottish Evening with dinner and Scottish entertainment at the lovely Prestonfield Stables.

Overnight: Jurys Inn, Edinburgh City Centre

**THURSDAY, August 1 (B) - Depart for Home.**