

Proposal # 483473
Name: Kaye Carmichael
Tour Name: Carmichael Travel
Tour Date: September 2019

Sept 12 **DEPART THE UNITED STATES**

Depart from Birmingham on United's flight #3996 to Chicago, leaving at 10:40am and arriving at 12:48pm. Connect to United's flight #118 to Edinburgh leaving at 6:15pm. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you travel to Scotland.

Sept 13 **EDINBURGH ARRIVAL**

Arrive at Edinburgh's airport at 7:50am where you will complete customs and immigration formalities. Your CIE Tours guide will welcome you to Scotland and escort you and your luggage to the coach. Next, set off on a guided panoramic tour of Edinburgh to see some of the city's magnificent highlights. During your tour, you will travel through the Old Town and, of course, along the Royal Mile. If time permits, you will also see the Palace of Holyroodhouse, St. Giles Cathedral and even the National Museum of Scotland. Transfer to your nearby hotel, check in and enjoy some time for lunch on your own and a free afternoon. In the evening, join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: PRINCIPAL CHARLOTTE SQUARE HOTEL, EDINBURGH

Sept 14 **EDINBURGH SIGHTSEEING**

This morning, embark on a guided tour of Edinburgh to see some more of the city's highlights. You will stop for a guided tour of the imposing Edinburgh Castle, perched high above the city on volcanic rock. Also visit Greyfriars Kirk, which sits just outside the Old City, near the Grassmarket. It is one of the oldest surviving buildings from the 1600s and has an interesting connection to the Reformation. Next, continue on to visit the historic John Knox House. Originally the residence of James Mosman, goldsmith to Mary Queen of Scots, the house was made available to John Knox during the defense of Edinburgh Castle by Mary's supporters. After, continue on to visit St. Giles Cathedral, which is the High Kirk of Edinburgh, and has been at the heart of the city's spiritual life for at least 900 years. A living church with an active congregation, it is also host to around a quarter of a million visitors every year. John Knox, leader of the Scottish Reformation and founder of Scottish Presbyterianism, first preached here in 1559. His statue can be seen inside the cathedral, and he was buried in the old St. Giles kirkyard which is now covered by flagstones. Return to your hotel, where the rest of the afternoon and evening is at leisure for individual pursuits and dining on your own.

OVERNIGHT: PRINCIPAL CHARLOTTE SQUARE HOTEL, EDINBURGH

Sept 15

ST. ANDREWS & DUNDEE

After breakfast, attend morning worship at St. Giles Cathedral. Then, journey north across the Firth of Forth to St. Andrews where golf originated. Upon arrival, embark on a guided walking tour to see the highlights of this historic town. See the famous Royal and Ancient Clubhouse and the British Golf Museum, which tells the story of British golf both past and present. Stop to visit St. Andrews Castle, which is situated on a high cliff top and overlooks the sea. The castle was the main residence of the bishops and archbishops and has parts dating from the 13th century. From the Castle, Archbishop Beaton watched the reformer George Wishart burn at the stake, himself to perish at the hands of a group of avenging Protestants afterwards. See the infamous bottleneck dungeon, underground passages and learn about those who spent time there. Then, continue on to visit St. Andrews Cathedral, founded in 1160 and then consecrated in 1318. The cathedral was by far the largest church in Scotland before its destruction during the reformation. The adjoining Priory was similarly the most important monastic foundation of its time. John Knox probably studied for the priesthood at the University of St. Andrews. He was captured by the French at the Castle and carried away to slavery in 1547. Continue to your hotel in Dundee, check in and settle into your room. In the evening, join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: MALMAISON HOTEL, DUNDEE

Sept 16

GLAMIS CASTLE

Leaving Dundee, drive through the lush countryside of Aberdeenshire and stop to visit Glamis Castle, the legendary setting of the story, "Macbeth" and childhood home of the Queen Mother. After your visit, continue your journey into Pitlochry and stop to enjoy some free time. You may like to shop at one of the many woollen mills located in this charming town. Next, continue on to Leault Farm in Kingcraig, where you will see a sheepdog demonstration and learn about farming life in Scotland. Transfer to your hotel in Ft Augustus, check in and enjoy some free time to relax or freshen up before dining with your group in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: LOVAT HOTEL, FT. AUGUSTUS

Sept 17

CULLODEN VISITOR CENTRE

Today, journey into Culloden Moor and stop to tour the Visitor Centre. Walk around the battlefield where, on April 16, 1746, British government forces defeated the army of Prince Charles Edward Stuart in just one hour and ended hopes of restoring the Jacobite Stuarts to the British throne. The brutal measures imposed after the battle signaled the end of the distinctive Highland way of life and culture. Visit the ancient monuments of Clava Cairns, a setting that inspired the popular Outlander TV series, and a well preserved Bronze Age cemetery complex of circular chamber tombs and standing stones. Enjoy an authentic Scottish lunch at the Cawdor Inn before continuing to the family inhabited, 14th century Cawdor Castle and gardens. Return to Ft. Augustus and enjoy dinner at your hotel this evening.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: LOVAT HOTEL, FT AUGUSTUS

Sept 18

GLENCOE VISITOR CENTRE

Departing Ft. Augustus, enjoy scenic views and a stop for photos as your travel along Loch Ness and into Ballachulish. Upon arrival, stop at the Ballachulish Hotel to enjoy lunch with your group in the hotel restaurant. After, journey into Glencoe and stop to visit the Glencoe Visitor Centre to explore the landscape, wildlife and history of this special place. Also learn about the conservation issues that faces the region both past and present. Continue to the Oban Distillery for a tour and tasting before checking into your hotel. This evening, meet your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: PERLE HOTEL, OBAN

Sept 19

IONA ABBEY

This morning, take a ferry ride to Craignure on the Isle of Mull. Continue by motor coach to Fionnphort, where you will embark on a very short ferry ride to Iona. Visit Iona Abbey, a place of pilgrimage as it was Scotland's first Christian settlement founded by St. Columba in the 6th century. Enjoy lunch with your group at the St. Columba Hotel, and some free time on your own before heading back to Oban for a free evening and dinner on your own.

OVERNIGHT: PERLE, OBAN

Sept 20

STIRLING CASTLE

After breakfast, journey into the historic town of Stirling and stop to visit Stirling Castle. Captured from the English in 1297 by William Wallace and again in 1314 by Robert the Bruce, Stirling Castle has been featured largely throughout Scottish history. At one time Mary, Queen of Scots resided there. Next, travel to visit Church of the Holy Rude before continuing your drive into the lively city of Glasgow. Upon arrival, check into your hotel, settle into your room and enjoy some free time. The evening and dinner are on your own.

OVERNIGHT: HILTON HOTEL, GLASGOW

Sept 21

GLASGOW SIGHTSEEING

Today, set off on a guided tour of Glasgow to see George Square, filled with statues of Sir Walter Scott, Queen Victoria and other influential people. Also view the Victorian City Chambers, opened in 1888 by Queen Victoria. Stop to visit the Govan Old Parish Church, 6th century site of one of the oldest Christian churches in Scotland. Continue to visit St. Mungo's Cathedral, where the Saint's tomb is in the lower crypt. The cathedral was built before the reformation from the late 12th century and although it's no longer designated as a cathedral, it is still a place of active Christian worship. Next, travel to visit the Museum of Religious Life before returning to your hotel. The rest of the day is at your leisure for independent sightseeing. Tonight's farewell dinner will be in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: HILTON HOTEL, GLASGOW

Sept 22

RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

Transfer to Edinburgh's Airport to check in for your United flight #119 to Chicago leaving at 11:30am and arriving at 2pm. Clear customs and immigration then connect with United #4401 leaving at 7:30pm and arriving in Birmingham at 9:13pm.

Note: Flights #3996 and #4401 are operated by Express Jet Airlines dba United Express.

Hotels

Principal Charlotte Square, Edinburgh	2 nights
Malmaison Hotel, Dundee	1 night
Lovat Hotel, Ft. Augustus	2 nights
Perle Hotel, Oban	2 nights
Hilton Hotel, Glasgow	2 nights

Highlights

Tours of Edinburgh & Glasgow with a local guide
Morning worship at St. Giles Cathedral
Guided walking tour of St. Andrews
Leault Farm w/sheepdog demonstration
Oban Distillery
Ferry to Iona

Inclusions:

Transport by luxury motor coach with driver and tour director guide

Meet and greet service with one group transfer arrival and departure at the airport.

Hotel accommodation based on rooms with private bath for 9 nights.

All visits and meals as outlined in the custom itinerary.

9 full breakfasts

3 lunches

6 dinners

Hotel portorage for one bag per person, service charges and government taxes.

Flight bags, ticket wallets, luggage tags and identifying strap