



Your Scotland Tour.

57 West Park,

Inverbervie.

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01561 365 131

07789 502 048

ross@yourscotlandtour.co.uk

www.yourscotlandtour.co.uk

Your Scotland Tour Itinerary August 28th to September 4th 2018.

Introduction

Thank you for booking with Your Scotland Tour, we understand there are many tour operators you can choose from and appreciate your custom. If there is anything your driver can do to make your trip better, please speak to them at the time.

Prices listed are correct at the time of writing this document.

On your tour you will be supplied with fresh bottled water each day. There is also mobile phone charging and shared wifi (where cell cover permits) available.



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Overview of Itinerary:

Tuesday 28th August Palaces and castles

Depart	Arrive
09:00 Edinburgh	10:00 Scone Palace (lunch)
13:00 Scone Palace	14:30 Braemar Castle
15:30 Braemar Castle	16:00 Ballater Village (tea stop)
16:45 Ballater	17:15 The Boat Inn, Aboyne

Wednesday 29th August Castles and gardens

Depart	Arrive
09:00 Aboyne	10:15 Tolquhon castle
11:30 Tolquhon Castle	11:45 Pitmedden Gardens (lunch)
14:00 Pitmedden	15:00 Crathes Castle (tea stop)
17:00 Crathes Castle	17:30 The Boat Inn, Aboyne

Thursday 30th August Jacobites and Loch Ness

Depart	Arrive
09:00 Aboyne	11:00 Culloden Moor (lunch)
13:00 Culloden Moor	13:30 LochEnd of Loch Ness
14:00 Loch End	14:15 Urquhart Castle
16:15 Urquhart castle	17:00 Smithton Hotel, Smithton Road Inverness, IV2 7NN

Friday 31st August Gardens and Gorges

Depart	Arrive
09:00 Inverness	11:00 Inverewe Gardens (lunch)
13:30 Inverewe	15:00 Corrieshalloch Gorge
16:30 Corrieshalloch	17:00 Harbour House, Ullapool

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Saturday 1st September Wester Ross scenery

Depart	Arrive
09:00 Ullapool	10:30 Torridon (morning tea stop)
11:15 Torridon	12:15 Applecross (lunch)
13:15 Applecross	14:30 Eilean Donan Castle
16:00 Eilean Donan	17:30 Cruachan Hotel, Fort William

Sunday 2nd September Glens! Castles! Massacres!

Depart	Arrive
09:00 Fort William	09:30 Glenfinnan
10:30 Glenfinnan	11:30 Glen Coe
11:40 Glen Coe	12:15 Bridge of Orchy (Lunch)
13:15 Bridge of Orchy	13:45 Kilchurn castle
14:00 Kilchurn	14:15 Ben Cruachan visitor centre (tea stop)
15:15 Cruachan	15:45 Dunollie Castle
17:00 Dunollie	17:05 Clohass Guest House

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Monday 3rd September

Depart	Arrive
09:15 Oban (09:50 sailing)	10:40 Craignure Mull
10:45 Craignure	11:05 Salen Bay (Seals)
11:30 Salen Bay	11:50 Tobermory
Open time – Mull Museum, shopping, Tobermory distillery, lunch	
14:55 Craignure (15:15 sailing)	16:10 Oban

Tuesday 4th September Back to Edinburgh we go!

Depart	Arrive
09:00 Oban	10:00 Inveraray Castle
12:00 Inveraray	12:15 Loch Fyne Seafood
13:15 Loch Fyne	13:45 Luss
14:45 Luss	16:15 Edinburgh



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Detail:

Tuesday 28th August, Palaces and castles.

We'll depart from your accommodation in Edinburgh (The Edinburgh Lodge, 6 Hampton Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5JD) at 09:00 with the first destination being Scone Palace. This home to the Earls of Mansfield, once the historical crowning place of Scottish kings is a beautiful building. Peacocks run free in the extensive gardens and the coffee shop (great for lunch) is award winning.

From Scone we'll head north up through the magnificent Cairngorm mountains (also known as the Grampian mountains) to Braemar castle. This small castle, close to the famous Balmoral, offers a fantastic tour from one of the volunteer guides and a great insight into the history of this ancient castle.

From Braemar we'll continue East to Ballater village where you may enjoy a tea stop before enjoying a stroll around this pretty little village.

Whenever you're ready we'll be back on the road to your overnight location, The Boat Inn, Charleston Road, Aboyne.

Days Expenses

Scone Palace – Adult £12, Senior £10.50

Braemar castle - £6 per person

Lunch – from £15 per person

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Wednesday 29th August Castles and gardens

You'll be picked up at 09:00 to head to our first destination, the ruined Tolquhon castle, one of Aberdeenshires 300+ castles this particularly spectacular ruin has a history dating back to the early 1400's and was occupied until around 1718 when it was abandoned due to financial disaster brought about by the Darien Scheme (Scotland's solo attempt at colonisation in the Caribbean Sea during the late 1690's).

Enjoy a stroll around the ruins before moving on to Pitmedden Gardens, where you have plenty of time to stroll through the walled garden (recreated to an original design from 1675) and enjoy a lunch in their award winning tearoom.

We'll then head to Crathes castle, which features the history of the Burnett family and another fantastic walled garden! The castle dates back to the 16th century and some of the garden features yew hedging planted as early as the 1700's! The tea room offers good quality teas and coffees as well.

From here we head back to Aboyne and your hotel for the night.

Days Expenses

Tolquhon Castle – adult £5, senior £4

Pitmedden Gardens – adult £7.50, senior £5.50

Crathes Castle – adult £13, senior £9.50

Lunch – from £10 per person.



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Thursday 30th August Jacobites and Loch Ness

This is your last day with Ronald and it starts at 09:00 with a journey to Culloden Moor, site of the last Jacobite battle in April 1746 which resulted in the defeat of Bonnie Prince Charlie. Following this battle England posted garrisons throughout the country to ensure 'law and order' were maintained. Scots were prevented from carrying/practising with weapons, wearing tartan and even singing certain songs!

Find out more about the battle and why the Young Pretender failed so miserably here at the visitor centre, before wandering around the moor and experiencing the landscape for yourself.

There's time for lunch here too before moving on to Loch End, Loch Ness. This shingle beach with slightly awkward access affords my favourite view down Loch Ness towards the south, you can see both sides but not the far end from here!

A few minutes' drive finds us at Urquhart castle, this fantastic ruin on the banks of the Loch Ness was partially destroyed in 1692 by the government forces when they left the castle. The tearoom here affords a great view out over the castles ruins and the film presentation is well worth a watch too.

From here you head back north to Inverness and The Smithton hotel.

Days Expenses

Culloden visitor centre – adult £11, senior £9.50

Lunch – from £10 per person.

Urquhart castle – Adult £9, senior £7.20



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Friday 31st August Gardens and Gorges

This is your first day with Ross! It starts at 0900 and we're off to visit Inverewe gardens on the west coast, it'll take us a couple of hours to get there but the drive is stunningly beautiful. The garden itself was created in 1862 and covers 49 acres – there's a 2 km path which will allow you to see the best of the gardens without too much strenuous hill hikes!

After you've enjoyed the gardens for a little while we can have lunch at the café before moving on again to Corrieshalloch Gorge. This deep gorge has a steep access path meandering down to the edge and a suspension bridge over it. The gorge is the result of glacial erosion, there is a river flowing along the bottom of the gorge which is visible from the suspension bridge.

From Corrieshalloch we'll head to our accommodation in Ullapool, The Harbour House.

Days Expenses

Inverewe – adult £11, senior £9.50

Lunch – from £10 per person.



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Saturday 1st September Wester Ross scenery

Today is all about the scenery, stopping for photo's and enjoying the views of and from Wester Ross! Our first stop is the iconic Torridon hotel and Inn the road down to Torridon is beautiful with many mountains and lochs to grab photos of!!

From Torridon we'll head around the coast to Applecross and have lunch in one of the cafés or the Applecross Inn. The view from Applecross of Raasay and the Isle of Skye is second to none.

After lunch we continue south to Eilean Donan, this castle on an island where 3 sea lochs (Loch Long, Loch Duich and Loch Alsh) meet it is often said to be the most beautiful in Scotland. Take a stroll through time and view the reconstructed castle which had been in ruin for over 200 years!

From Eilean Donan we continue south to Fort William and the Cruachan Hotel on the southern edge of the town.

Days Expenses

Eilean Donan – adult £7.5, senior £6.50

Lunch – from £10 per person.



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Sunday 2nd September Glens! Castles! Massacres!

We'll head west from Fort William to visit Glenfinnan (famous for the Harry Potter bridge) and Loch Sheil where Bonnie Prince Charlie rallied his troops in 1745, before the 3rd and final instalment of the Jacobite rebellion he lost 8 months later at Culloden!

From Glenfinnan we'll drive back through Fort William and continue south through Glen Coe where in 1692 the Campbells massacred the MacDonalds for failing to pledge their allegiance to the Protestant English King William the 2nd. What truly sets this massacre apart is the Campbells had been guests of the MacDonalds!

We'll continue through Glencoe and Rannoch Moor to Bridge of Orchy where we can have lunch!

After lunch we'll have a quick photo stop at Kilchurn castle which fell out of use when the Campbells moved to Taymouth Castle, by 1770 it was a ruin.

From Kilchurn we'll stop at Ben Cruachan visitor centre – this power station housed inside the mountain has a great location for a café with lovely views out over Loch Awe. You'll be able to learn a little about how the powerstation was built and operates too.

After the tea stop we'll head to Oban and the ruins of Dunollie castle, this ruined tower house has great views out over the sea to the isles of Kerrera and beyond.

From Dunollie we continue into Oban and our accommodation for the next two nights - Clohass Guest House

Days Expenses

Dunollie – adult £6, senior £5

Lunch – from £10 per person.

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Monday 3rd September Mulling it over.

We've a ferry over to Mull to catch! So we need to be on the road for 09:15 to make sure we catch it! Once we're on Mull we'll see if we can spot some of the local wildlife before heading to Tobermory for lunch and a gentle wander around the town for a couple of hours before heading back to Oban on the 15:15 ferry.

Days Expenses

Lunch – from £20 per person.

Tuesday 4th September Back to Edinburgh we go!

From Oban we'll visit Inveraray castle, Inveraray castle is an iconic 4 turret castle, still home to the Duke of Argyll and his family is one of my own personal favourites. Enjoy an hour or so wandering the castle and gardens and perhaps even bump into the Duke or the Duchess as you stroll. It's still their family home despite featuring in programmes like Downton Abbey.

From Inveraray, a former Herring boat landing port, we'll head 15 minutes round the Loch to Loch Fyne Seafood and Oyster bar. The food and drink available here represents some of the best in the area and is not one to be missed! We've got 45 minutes or so for lunch so can take time to enjoy a couple of courses – well worthwhile!

After lunch an hour or so drive see's us in the historical / conversation village of Luss. Enjoy strolling the streets on the banks of Loch Lomond for an hour or so before we head east to Edinburgh and your accommodation Edinburgh Lodge West End.

Days Expenses

Inveraray castle £11 per person

Lunch – from £20 per person.

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