



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 Sunday May 20th to 26th 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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Itinerary Overview:

Sunday 20th

Depart	Arrive
08:30 Edinburgh Hotel	11:00 Dalwhinnie (£12) (booked)
12:15 Dalwhinnie	14:00 Glenfiddich (Lunch)
	15:00 Glenfiddich tour (£10) (booked)
17:30 Glenfiddich	17:45 Charleston of Aberlour

Monday 21st

Depart	Arrive
09:40 The Dowans	10:00 Balvenie (£50) (booked)
12:30 Balvenie	12:45 Aberlour for lunch
13:45 Lunch	14:00 Ballindalloch (£35) (booked)
16:30 Ballindalloch	17:30 Inverness

Tuesday 22nd

Depart	Arrive
09:00 Inverness	10:00 Glenmorangie (£7.50) (booked)
11:15 Glenmorangie	11:45 Clynelish (£6) (booked 12pm)
13:15 Clynelish	13:30 Lunch (Coffee bothy)
14:15 Lunch	18:15 The Torridon Inn (booked)

Wednesday 23rd

Depart	Arrive
07:45 The Torridon Inn	10:00 Talisker (£10) (booked)
11:00 Talisker	12:00 Armadale ferry terminal (booked)
12:15 Armadale (ferry)	12:40 Mallaig
12:45 Mallaig	14:15 Loch Leven Seafood cafe (lunch)
15:15 Lunch	17:15 Falls of Lora hotel.



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Thursday 24th

Depart	Arrive
05:00 Falls of Lora Hotel	06:30 Kennacraig ferry (booked)
07:00 Kennacraig	09:10 Islay (Port Ellen)
09:15 Port Ellen	10:00 Bowmore
11:15 Port Ellen	11:30 Lunch Port Ellen.
13:20 Lunch	13:30 Lagavulin (£6) (booked)
14:45 Lagavulin	15:30 Laphroaig (10)
16:45 Laphroaig	17:45 Port Askaig hotel.

Friday 25th

Depart	Arrive
09:10 Port Askaig Hotel	10:00 Ardbeg (booked) (£20) 5 drams
11:30 Ardbeg Distillery	12:15 Port Ellen Ferry (lunch on ferry)
12:45 Port Ellen Ferry	15:05 Kennacraig
15:15 Kennacraig	16:00 Campbeltown

Saturday 26th

Depart	Arrive
09:50 Argyll Arms	09:55 Springbank (£7) (booked)
11:14 Springbank	13:15 Inveraray (Quick Lunch)
14:00 Loch Fyne	15:00 Auchentoshan (£10) (booked)
16:00 Auchentoshan	17:30 Edinburgh



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Detail:

Saturday 19th – SMWS meet and greet.

I'll arrive into Edinburgh for around 6pm – we can meet at Waverley train station – details to be confirmed. From here we'll head to the wonderful Scotch Malt Whisky Society 'rooms' in Leith and enjoy getting to know each other a little over dinner and a few drams. Ordinarily I'll invite friends to join us so this is very much a 'social' affair rather than a formal affair. Jeans and t-shirts or similarly relaxed clothing is fine.

Sunday 20th Highlands and Speysides.

We'll leave your hotel in Edinburgh around 0830 and head north, over the new Queensferry crossing into Fife before following the road north, to Dalwhinnie Distillery – this Highland distillery and the highest in Scotland at 355m (1164ft) above sea level is home to one of my favourite highland malts, their 15 year old.

From Dalwhinnie we'll head around and across the Cairngorm mountains to Glenfiddich Distillery for lunch in their excellent 'Malt Barn' café. Allow their award-winning chef to provide fantastic cuisine at reasonable prices.

There's enough time for lunch for you to also enjoy a whisky flight from their well-stocked bar – I think they have the largest collection of William Grant & Sons whiskies available anywhere in the world.

You then have the hour long 'Explorers' Tour booked which will take us to just after 4pm.

Our hotel for the evening is The Dowans in Charleston of Aberlour, home to Aberlour distillery and Walkers Shortbread. On the way there we'll stop at the Craigellachie bridge, where if the weather is good you may want to walk the banks of the River Spey.

I'll meet you in Aberlour where I'll have you checked in to our accommodation for the night. Our hotel is home to one of the best restaurants in the area and is home to a 500 strong whisky collection in their 'Still' bar. Feel free to enjoy the whiskies available as our start tomorrow morning is not until 0940!

Here you have a single en-suite room each reserved for you.

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Monday 21st Speysides, New and Old.

A nice relaxed start to the day see's us on the road for 0940 and heading to Balvenie the baby brother of Glenfiddich and owned by the same William Grants & Sons as Glenfiddich this is one of many peoples favourite tours. It showcases the 'floor maltings' and some of the traditional practices still used in the industry today. Enjoy the company of 5 excellent whiskies at the end of your tour.

We'll head back into Aberlour for lunch at the small café 'The Byre'. An excellent array of teas, coffees and food await you.

Our 2nd distillery of the day is the fantastic 3 and a bit year old Ballindalloch. A single estate distillery they use their own barley in production. The Macpherson-Grant family owned distillery has yet to start putting whisky into bottles. However, it showcases what a real 'small' distillery looks like and is a fantastic contrast to the rest of the distilleries on this tour. You literally can see the entire process from start to finish down the length of the distillery building.

Following from our visit to Ballindalloch we will head north via the standing stones of Clava Cairns to our overnight stop in Inverness, the well placed but slightly shabby Ardross Glencairn. You have a shared en-suite room here with 1 single and 1 double bed.

Dinner is booked for you at 7pm at the great wee Café 1, 75 castle street, Inverness.



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Tuesday 22nd Highlands and Wester Ross Scenery.

From Inverness we'll be on the road by 9am and heading north for Glenmorangie – this most famous whisky sits on the shore of the Dornoch Firth since 1843. Find out why they use the tallest stills in Scotland and how that gives this whisky its' unique nose and flavour. Understand why you find giraffes in this distillery!

Of course there'll be a couple of drams at the end of your tour too!

From here we'll head to our first Diageo group distillery, the ever provocative Clynelish, established in 1819 and 'upgraded' with modern facilities in 1968 there's a lot of history and change here to cram into your 1 hour tour but don't worry there's always time for the wee dram at the end! The 14 year old from Clynelish is an old favourite and fallback of my own. So hopefully you'll enjoy it too.

We'll head into Golspie and the 'Coffee Bothy' on Fountain Road for a light lunch prior to an epic journey across the highlands.

We'll take the Highland roads over the hills from the East coast to the West coast town of Ullapool. Stopping on the way for a few photos and getting a feel for how rugged and desolate northern Scotland really is.

From Ullapool, we'll follow the rugged, twisty roads of the western short and lochs towards our fabulous overnight stop The Torridon Inn. Here you have a twin ensuite room to share.

You have a tasting menu dinner booked for 7pm at the Torridon Hotel, a short 5 minute stroll from the Inn. Enjoy the fantastic food and fabulous whisky selection in their bar. Do be aware though, we need to be on the road 07:45 the following day!



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Wednesday 23rd Islands, Ferries and Falls.

Unfortunately, an early start to this day is required (7:45am) as we've got a tour booked on the Isle of Skyes oldest distillery, Talisker! I personally love this whisky, a hint of smoke, a little sea salt and some burnt caramel in the background! You're booked on the 45 minute tour which gives a short window of time at the end of the tour before we need to be on the road to Armadale to catch our ferry to Mallaig on the mainland.

We'll drive past some famous sites on the way, The Glenfinnan Viaduct – made even more famous by appearances in 'Harry Potter' movies is an architectural marvel! Constructed not with reinforced concrete but with mass concrete around 1898, this 21 arch railway bridge is the longest concrete railway bridge in Scotland at 416 yards (380m) long. At 100m above the river beneath, it's also pretty high!

The bridge overlooks Loch Shiel with the monument to Bonnie Prince Charlie looking down the Loch towards the open water of the Atlantic beyond.

Lunch today is booked at the fantastic Loch Leven Seafood café (sorry Michael!).
Dave you're in for a treat of some of Scotland's finest fresh seafood.

After lunch we'll take the long way round through Glen Coe before finishing up at the Falls of Lora hotel. Not as sumptuous as the night before this hotel has the fantastic feature of overlooking 'The Falls of Lora' – a naturally occurring standing wave on the tidal shift between the Firth of Lorn and Loch Etive. You have an ensuite twin room to share at this hotel.

Dinner will be at the hotel, as yet unbooked.



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Thursday 24th Islay – part 1

Another day of an early start! 0500 on the road! We have our ferry booked from Kennacraig to Port Ellen on Islay for 7am which means arrival at the ferry terminal by 06:30 to check in and load the boat! We'll have 2 hours on the ferry so bring a book!!

When we arrive into Port Ellen our first stop is Bowmore at 10am – this distillery needs no introduction!

From Bowmore we head to Sea Salt Bistro on Frederick Crescent for lunch. We'll have an hour or so before our next tour on Islay – the magnificent Lagavulin Distillery. You have a tour and tasting here booked for 1:30pm. After your tour here we have a little time to stroll on the island towards Laphroaig where we have a tour booked for 3:30pm. These 2 stalwarts of the Islay style are 2 of my own personal favourites, nearly always found in my own collection at home – don't be surprised if I make a purchase while here!

From Laphroaig we'll drive the full length of Islay to our overnight destination the Port Askaig hotel. This unpretentious hotel offers good solid pub grub and has a large whisky selection, many of which are from Islay. We're not on the road until 09:10 the next day – so enjoy a dram or two this evening!

You have an ensuite family room booked at this hotel.



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Friday 25th Islay – part 2!

Our first stop today is the Excellent Ardbeg, you're booked on their 'Full range tour and tasting which includes 5 drams – 3 from the core range and 2 from their limited edition range. This is another of my favourite drams – don't be surprised if I buy a bottle here too!

From Ardbeg, unfortunately we need to leave the island and head back to the mainland, we'll grab lunch on the ferry before having a scenic drive through the Kintyre peninsula to Campbeltown itself.

Campbeltown is our penultimate whisky producing region and a night in the town centre at the Argyll Arms. You have an ensuite twin room to share at this hotel.

Diner is not booked but we'll head to The Black Sheep pub for 7pm.

Saturday 26th Campbeltown and Lowlands c'est fini!

A lazy start to the day as our first distillery visit is a walk away – The Springbank Distillery – the first tour of the day starts at 10am! The Springbank has been the love of the Mitchell family since 1828 (well actually probably prior to that when illicit distilling was rife across Scotland).

After The Springbank tour we're on the road heading north towards Inverary and a quick lunch in The George. A great range of beer and whisky is available at this lively old pub. Look out for the Silver Darlings on the way in...

From Inveraray we have a quick dash to Auchentoshan, our final distillery – this great example of a Lowland malt is unusually distilled 3 times rather than the normal twice for Scotch Malt Whisky. Find out more about this unusual process, why they do it and what it adds or removes from the whisky!

Finally we'll be on the road back to Edinburgh and your hotel – Edinburgh Park Premier Inn – One the train and tramline into Edinburgh city centre and still close to the airport to make your journey in the morning less painful!