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From
$15,295 AUD

Single Room
$17,725 AUD

Twin Room
$15,295 AUD

Prices valid until
30th December 2024

17 days
Duration

Scotland
Destination

Level 2 - Moderate
Activity

Jacobites, Scottish History small group mature travellers tour

Jul 07 2024 to Jul 23 2024



History of the Jacobites small group tour

Odyssey offers easy, convenient, and relaxed escorted small group tours across Fabulous Scotland and beyond. We explore Scotland's natural beauty, its ancient Roman, and Gaelic heritage, its World Heritage Sites, and world famous cities, all with some truly spectacular scenery along the way. This and more is all waiting to be explored on

one of Odyssey's small group themed tours of Scotland , designed for the senior traveller, and led by experienced, and enthusiastic like minded people.

Over the course of this 19-day Jacobites & Scottish History small group tour, we explore the stunning scenery and the remarkable history of Scotland. This tour, focused on the history of the Jacobites, commences in Edinburgh. We travel from Edinburgh as far north as Inverness, and then south again to finish in Glasgow.

We stay in 8 locations across Scotland, learn from 10 specialist guides about the Jacobites, all while exploring 28 places and taking part in diverse experiences across the duration of this tour.







Tour Highlights

Our Jacobites, Scottish History small group mature travellers tour is offered in mid-August, letting you take advantage of the extraordinary long summer nights. In Edinburgh, you spend 3 nights enjoying visits to Edinburgh castle, National Museum and Holyrood Palace.

Next is Stirling for 2 nights. From Stirling you travel north to Perth and on to Aberdeen. You visit Linlithgow Palace, Doune Castle and Alloa Tower along the way. Local guides enjoy sharing their stories with you at these historic locations.

Moving towards Inverness, you learn about Culloden battlefield and Urqhuart Castle. You travel south now to Fort William for two nights and then Oban. Along the way on this section of the tour we listen to a local guide's tale of the 1692 massacre at Glencoe. Finally we finish the tour in Glasgow.

Jacobites, Scottish History tour is structured for the senior or mature couple or solo traveller. This tour is for the traveller who enjoys

exploring and learning in a small group environment.

If you would like to learn more about Scotland, visit our country profile where all the other tour departures are listed as well. For more details about this tour, click the ‘Top 5’ or ‘Itinerary’ buttons above! If you’re keen to experience this tour, please call or send an email. Or, to book, simply fill in the form on the right hand side of this page.







Articles about Scotland published by Odyssey Traveller

The following list of articles are either published by Odyssey Traveller or are carefully selected external source to maximise senior travellers’ knowledge and enjoyment of Scotland when visiting:

- Visiting Scotland
- Scotland & Scotch Whisky
- Country Spotlight; Scotland
- History of Edinburgh castle
- Everything to know about Scotch Whisky
- Overview of Scottish history
- Chronology of the Jacobites
- James Stuart; A pretender

Highlights

1. Learn about the history of the Jacobites
2. Visit key locations where events that shaped the history of the Jacobites occurred

3. Enjoy the stunning Scottish scenery as we travel through the country
4. Conduct Ancestry research at the Scottish ancestry research centre
5. Spend 13 days touring rural Scotland beyond the major cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow







Itinerary

Day 1

Locations: Edinburgh

Overview:

Upon arrival in Edinburgh, we will come to the hotel individually. We will enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

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Accommodation:

2 nights at Jury's inn Edinburgh Centre or similar.

Day 2

Locations: Edinburgh

Overview:

A full day in Edinburgh includes Edinburgh Castle, the last castle held for James VII after a three month siege of the castle in 1689, following the invasion of the Protestant William and Mary in 1688. This then resulted in the exile of James VII (also James II of England) and, as a result, is the ideal location from which to begin this Jacobite tour. Edinburgh castle also featured in the Jacobite rebellion of 1715 (the second of the three main rebellions) when Jacobite Highlanders successfully scaled the castle walls but failed to take the castle. Similarly, in 1745, Bonnie Prince Charlie led a Jacobite army which

captured Edinburgh town but again failed to take the castle.

Following the castle visit we'll make our way to the National Museum of Scotland for a short visit.

In order to incorporate Ancestry into this tour the tour includes an optional evening at Scotland's People Family History Centre. Research assistants there will assist you in finding records of Scottish ancestors you may have.

Please note that this could be an invaluable opportunity for some groups or members of the group but for others it may not be worthwhile and the website highlights that any ancestors in Scotland before 1855 may be difficult to find. It will also be necessary for the group to have some names and ideas of birth, death or marriage dates to work from.

Accommodation:

Jury's inn Edinburgh Centre or similar.

Day 3

Locations: Edinburgh

Overview:

The itinerary includes a visit to Holyrood Palace where Bonnie Prince Charlie took up residence in 1745. Here the group can see where the prince lived, held balls and conducted official business.



The group transfer out of the city centre to visit HMY Britannia in the afternoon. The HMY Britannia was launched from the John Brown & Company shipyard in Clydebank, Scotland, on 16 April, 1953 and ror over 44 years the Royal Yacht served the Royal Family, travelling more than a million nautical miles to become one of the most famous ships in the world.

Accommodation:

Jury's Inn Edinburgh or similar.

Day 4

Locations: Stirling

Overview:

A transfer to Lithlingow Palace is included. On the banks of Lithlingow Loch, this country residence was visited by Stuart kings of Scotland. In 1745 the Palace was visited by the advancing army of Charles Edward Stuart and by the Duke of Cumberland and his troops in 1746, in pursuit of the retreating Jacobites.

In the afternoon the more modern construction, the Falkirk Wheel can be visited. A stop at the near by Helix park is included where the group can view The Kelpies sculpture. A self-guided walking tour is optional.

Accommodation:

Golden Lion Hotel Stirling, or similar

Day 5

Locations: Stirling

Overview:

The impressive Stirling Castle is included in the morning; the castle has a particular connection with the Jacobite cause. In 1746, it was the location of an unsuccessful siege by Charles Edward Stuart when marching to Culloden.

In the afternoon we transfer to Crieff for a distillery guided tour and tasting.

Accommodation:

Golden Lion or similar Stirling

Day 6

Locations: Perth

Overview:

A morning transfer to Doune Castle is included, the filming location of Monty Python and the Holy Grail. I have included the audioguide at this castle as the reviews suggest it is very entertaining. The Castle is

connected to the Jacobite theme of the tour by its use as a government prison from 1746 after having been taken by the Jacobites in 1745.

On our way to Scone Palace gardens we stop to view Alloa Tower.

We arrive at our hotel in Perth in time for dinner.

Accommodation:

Mercure Perth Hotel or similar Perth

Day 7

Locations: Perth

Overview:

Huntingtower Castle, former home of strong Jacobite supporters in the 1715 rebellion, is included in the morning. This is followed by a visit to the Blackwatch regiment museum. The Black Watch was formed by the government in the wake of the Jacobite rebellion of 1715. Originally comprised of groups of trustworthy highlanders, the Black Watch would patrol the highlands enforcing the new laws proclaimed by the government which restricted the weapons carried by the highland clans.

The afternoon is at leisure for you to explore on your own one of the many attractions the city has to offer.

Accommodation:

Mercure Hotel Perth or Similar

Day 8

Locations: Aberdeen

Overview:

The Clan Donnachaidh Museum is included. It is a very small museum dedicated to clan heritage on the highland clans and this will only be a short visit.

The Battle of Culloden changed the highland way of life forever and this museum will provide an insight into Scottish culture.

In the afternoon a walking tour at Killiecrankie is included where the first battle in the Jacobite rebellion took place (1689). A visit to the House of Dun is included on the way to Aberdeen

.

Accommodation:

The Links hotel Aberdeen or similar

Day 9

Locations: Aberdeen

Overview:

There are many castles in Scotland that would be relevant to a Jacobite tour, we have choose a few. Drum Castle has a lovely rose garden and is a Jacobite Castle and was held by Jacobite supporters who fought alongside Bonnie Prince Charlie at the Battle of Culloden. Craigievar Castle contains a manuscript giving the order for the Battle of Culloden (*note*: the castle is currently closed until 2024 due to major conservations works taking place).

The group continues on to Kildrummy Castle which was the home of John Erskine who launched the 1715 uprising.

Accommodation:

Park Inn by Radisson Aberdeen or similar

Day 10

Locations: Inverness

Overview:

Today we enjoy a Jacobite themed tour through Aberdeed and view the main sights including Mercat Cross, RObert Gordon's castle and visit Tolbooth Museum or alternative attraction. (note: Toolbooth museum is temporarily closed whilst a comprehensive survey of the historic building is carried out)

We transfer to Sauchen and explore Castle Fraser before continuing to Inverness where we will be based for the next two nights.

Accommodation:

Royal Highland hotel or similar Inverness

Day 11

Locations: Inverness

Overview:

The impressive Fort George is included this morning. It is a military fortress which has barely changes in 250 years. The Battle site of Culloden Moor and the new visitor centre is included in the afternoon.

It was here on April 16th 1746 that the last battle on British soil was fought. Following recent excavations on the battlefield, historians now label the battle a civil war between those who wanted the Stuart kings restored to the throne and those who wanted to retain the status quo. English and Scottish, Protestants and Catholics, and men from the same clans fought on both sides. The new centre houses a fascinating exhibition. A tour of the battlefield will show us even further detail of the events of that fateful day.

Accommodation:

Royal Highland hotel or similar Inverness

Day 12

Locations: Fort William

Overview:

From Inverness the group travels along Loch Ness to Urquhart Castle in Drumnadrochit for impressive views of the surrounding countryside.

We travel on to Fort William and the remainder of the day is at leisure.

Accommodation:

Clan MacDuff or similar

Day 13

Locations: Fort William

Overview:

The Jacobite steam train runs from Fort William to the coastal town of Mallaig, passing the Glenfinnan viaduct (seen in the Harry Potter films). A one way ticket for the Jacobite train is included so that, on the return

journey in the coach, the group can stop at the Glenfinnan Monument and Loch Nam Uamh, where Bonnie Prince Charlie landed in 1945.

We enjoy a group lunch at Mallaig and later rejoin our coach to visit Loch Nan Uamh and Glenfinnan Monument before we return to our hotel in Fort William for dinner.

Accommodation:

Clan Macduff hotel Fort William or similar.

Day 14

Locations: Oban

Overview:

In the morning a tour within the spectacular landscape of Glencoe is included. This is the site of the 1692 massacre of MacDonald Jacobite supporters were killed by government troops.

In the afternoon we visit Dunstaffnage Castle. The castle is famous for having held Flora MacDonald captive after she helped Bonnie Prince Charlie escape after the battle of Culloden.

We transfer to Oban and have dinner at our hotel this evening.

Accommodation:

Muthu Alexandra Hotel or similar

Day 15

Locations: Glasgow

Overview:

A day at Loch Lomond is included. The itinerary includes a transfer from Oban to Port of Menteith for an excursion to the scenic Inchmahome Priory, a sanctuary visited by key figures in Scottish history and culture.

From here the group will transfer to Glasgow where the afternoon is at leisure for you to enjoy the city at your own pace.

Accommodation:

Leonardo Hotel Glasgow or similar

Day 16

Locations: Glasgow

Overview:

A full day guided tour of Glasgow is included, in the morning we visit the Museum of Piping where the group can learn more about Scottish culture and have the opportunity to hear the bagpipes.

In the afternoon we visit the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum which featuresfeatures 22 themed, state-of-the-art galleries displaying an astonishing 8000 objects.

This evening we enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Accommodation:

Leonardo Hotel Glasgow or similar.

Day 17

Locations: Glasgow

Overview:

Our tour will end today after breakfast.

Inclusions / Exclusions

What's included in our Tour

- 18 nights of accommodation.
- 18 breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 8 dinners.
- Transport in comfortable and modern coaches.
- Ferry services.
- All excursions, entrance fees, and local guides.
- Gratuities and necessary tips.
- Services of a Tour Leader for the duration of tour.

What's not included in our Tour

- International airfares and departure taxes.
- Comprehensive travel insurance.
- Items of a personal nature such as telephone calls and laundry.

Level 2 - Moderate

Participants must be able to carry their own luggage, climb and descend stairs, be in good health, mobile and able to participate in 3-5 hours of physical activity per day, the equivalent of walking/hiking up to 8 kilometres on uneven ground.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any requests for further information about this tour or any others offered by Odyssey Travel.