

Explore Scotland: Where History and Fantasy Unite

June 4-13, 2022

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Saturday, June 4, 2022 • Depart

We depart today on an enchanting exploration of Scotland where the fantasy of Outlander comes to life! If you are an Outlander fan already, you will be thrilled with the many film and book locations we visit. If you haven't discovered Outlander yet, you will enjoy these sites for their history, and we will all soon become enchanted with the beautiful country of Scotland!

Day 2: Sunday, June 5, 2022 • Glasgow

On arrival in Glasgow we are met by our driver and guide and transfer into the city for a city tour lead by a local guide. The guide introduces us to the city including George Square, where Frank proposed to Claire in Outlander, the University of Glasgow which was used as the filming location used to represent Harvard University, the famous Glasgow Necropolis - a memorial Victorian cemetery where 50,000 people are buried, and a tour of the beautiful Glasgow Cathedral where the crypt that was used for filming the inside of the L'Hopital des Anges is located in Outlander. **D**

Day 3: Monday, June 6, 2022 • Fort William

Making our way North this morning through The Trossachs National Park, we make a stop near Loch Lomond, home to red deer and oak woodlands, and the traditional boundary of the Scottish Highlands. We continue to Inveraray Castle where we enjoy a guided tour of this the ancestral home of the Duke of Argyll and the chosen location for the Downton Abbey Christmas 2012 episode and is an iconic, must-see attraction on the West Coast of Scotland. Making our way further North this afternoon we stop at the Three Sisters viewpoint near beautiful Glencoe which Outlander fans will recognize as the scenery used in the opening credits of every episode before arriving in Fort William for the night. **B, D**

Day 4: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 • Inverness

We check out of our hotel and start on our way to Inverness. We make our way onward stopping at picturesque Invermoriston Old Bridge. At Loch Ness we stop for a picture Before heading to Castle Leod. Castle Leod is the seat of Clan Mackenzie and is believed to be the

inspiration behind the fictional “Castle Leoch” in Outlander. After our tour we continue to Inverness for dinner and overnight. **B, D**

Day 5: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 • Inverness

Today we learn more about the Jacobite movement at Culloden Battlefield including the rise (and demise) of the clan system, as well as local homes, weapons and battlegrounds. Culloden’s battlefield is littered with monument stones to the fallen clans where you can stop and pay your respects. Next, we visit Clava Cairns, a Bronze Age cemetery complex of passage graves, and it has been suggested that Outlander’s fictitious stone circle, Craigh na Dun was inspired by standing stones at this site. Next up is Brodie Castle, a 16th century castle which houses an impressive art collection, decorative ceilings and a beautifully landscaped garden. We return to Inverness for overnight. **B**

Note: The Brodie Castle Rhododendron Festival normally takes place in April and May, when the Rhododendrons are at their peak. The castle gardens are still impressive at every time of year.

Day 6: Thursday, June 9, 2022 • Pitlochry

Departing Inverness today, we travel a short distance south to visit the Highland Folk Museum where we are given a taste of how Highland people lived and worked from the 1700s up until the 1950s. Outlander fans will note that this museum served as the ideal choice to film MacKenzie village where shelter is taken in the very first episode and where Dougal later collects the rent. Other highlights today include a working sheep dog demonstration and a visit to Blair Castle and Gardens. Nestled in the wooded foothills of the Grampian Mountains and on the edge of the Cairngorms National Park, we learn about the Atholl family at Blair and their turbulent history over 700 years. The estate is one of the best-known Highland estates and has adapted to the times, offers services in tourism, agriculture, forestry, renewable energy and more. We learn about its initiatives and visit the castle to see for ourselves what made Queen Victoria love the area. We overnight in Pitlochry. **B, D**

Day 7: Friday, June 10, 2022 • Edinburgh

Making our way to Drummond Castle Gardens, highlighted in Outlander S2 where Jamie and Claire were confronted by Black Jack Randall, we enjoy take time to explore these formal gardens. Our next stop is another Outlander favorite, Falkland. This idyllic town was used for filming Outlander many times with the infamous “Jamie’s Ghost” scene standing outside of Claire’s window. Recreate this iconic scene yourself looking up to Mrs. Baird’s Bed & Breakfast window! Then it’s off to Deanston Distillery for a tour and tasting. Deanston, housed in a former cotton mill, was the setting for Jamie’s cousin’s wine warehouse on the docks of Le Havre. Finally, we find ourselves at famous Doune Castle. Outlander is not this castle’s only claim to fame as Castle Leoch it was also featured in Monty Python and the Holy Grail and starred in the pilot episode of Game of Thrones. Our audio tour of Doune Castle is sure to be a highlight! We overnight in Edinburgh tonight. **B, D**

Day 8: Saturday, June 11, 2022 • Edinburgh

This morning we enjoy a city tour of Edinburgh, a beautiful city, often referred to as the "Athens of the North!" Highlights will include the Holyrood Palace, Walter Scott Monument, the elegant Prince's Street and the Royal Mile. We have an inside tour of Edinburgh Castle, with its foreboding ramparts and walls, amazing city views, Crown jewels, and the siege gun, Mon's Meg. The remainder of the day is free to explore more of what Edinburgh has to offer. **B**

Day 9: Sunday, June 12, 2022 • Edinburgh

Today we head a little out of the city to explore the area. Our first stop is the Hopetoun House, perhaps Scotland's finest stately home. We have time for a tour and stroll through the beautiful, stunning estate before continuing to Midhope Castle, a 16th century tower house better known to Outlander fans as Lallybroch. On our way back to Edinburgh we stop at the Royal Yacht Britannia, a 300-foot vessel until recently, commissioned to Queen Elizabeth II. Tonight, we celebrate our last evening in Scotland by attending a Ceilidh, a traditional evening of dinner, Highland dancing, and bag pipe music. Haggis, anyone? **B, D**

Day 10: Monday, June 13, 2022 • Return

Sadly, it is time to bid farewell to Scotland as we transfer to Edinburgh airport for our return flights home. We return, however, with memories of stunning landscapes, fabulous architecture and film sets, inspiring stories of Celtic history, and most importantly, a wealth of new friends! Welcome home! **B**