

Discovering Scotland

Tuesday, May 5 – Wednesday, May 13, 2020

a guided tour exploring our sacred heritage

First Presbyterian Church, Rocky Mount, NC

Group Leader: Rev. Dr. Preston Smith



Iona Abbey

Some Tour Highlights

Edinburgh – *Scotland's beautiful capital* Isle of Iona – *Christian beginnings*
St John's Kirk of Perth – *Knox and the Reformation* St Andrews – *place of pilgrimage*
Haggis Ceremony – *poetry of Robert Burns* Culloden Battlefield – *Jacobite history*
Stirling Castle The Great Glen and Loch Ness Distillery Visit

Prices

Per person sharing twin/double – land only

Earlybird rate: ~~\$3695~~ **\$3595 Rev Smith's Group Rate** (deposit by January 5, 2020)

Regular rate: \$3795 (deposit after January 5, 2020)

Single supplement - \$780

Earlybird
discount ends
Jan 5, 2020

Your Tour Price Includes

Coach Travel Ferries and Tolls Entrance Fees and Entertainment Porterage
Tipping (waitstaff) VAT (UK sales tax at 20%) Professional Guides Tour Manager
8 Hotel Nights 8 Breakfasts 6 Dinners (incl welcome and closing celebration)

Not included: Flights; airport transfers; beverages; personal items; driver/guide tip (discretionary)

Your group will be part of an open tour hosted and led by Scotus Tours

Arrival in Scotland and Tour Departure:

This is a "land only" tour and begins on Tuesday, May 5, 2020. Travel arrangements prior to that are at your own discretion. Flights into Edinburgh from the US mostly arrive in the morning. There is no program on Day 1 until early evening when we meet for a welcome dinner. You may, of course, arrive a day or two early or choose to stay on after the tour.

Registration and Payment Details:

To reserve your place -

At the Earlybird Rate -

- Part 1 deposit \$195 by January 5, 2020
- One half balance by Feb 9, 2020 (which shall include Part 2 deposit of \$800*). Single supplements must also be paid in full by this date.
- Remaining balance by April 5, 2020

** NB Earlybird booking allows a discount of \$100. It also allows the deposit to be paid in two parts. The total Earlybird deposit is \$995.*

At the Regular Rate -

- Deposit \$1195 at date of booking
- One half balance by Feb 9, 2020. Single supplements must also be paid in full by this date.
- Remaining balance by April 5, 2020

Booking form and payment by check to -

First Presbyterian Church (FPC) (Memo line: Scotland Tour)

The First Presbyterian Church, 153 North Church Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Reservations made on first come, first served basis.

Prices subject to exchange rate fluctuations and changes in rate of government taxes

Cancellation:

Refunds made only in line with this policy - no exceptions.

Time prior to departure: *Cancellation Fees:*

Up to 91 days.....	deposit
75 - 90 days.....	50% of tour cost
61 - 74 days.....	60% of tour cost
15 - 60 days.....	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days.....	100% of tour cost

How Active is the Tour?

We don't take long country hikes. We try to use hotels which have elevators and portage for luggage where possible. But you must be in good enough health to travel. Among other things you must be able to - Stand or walk with our guides, inside and outdoors, sometimes in inclement weather; manage coach steps several times a day; manage your own luggage; climb stairs in some hotels; walk city streets (Edinburgh has some steep hills and steps).

Accommodations:

In good 3 or 4 star hotels.

Insurance:

We strongly recommend that you obtain adequate insurance coverage.

Our Itinerary

Day 1: Tuesday, May 5 - Welcome to Scotland! Group members will make their own flight arrangements. Arrive Edinburgh this morning. Spend the day as you wish in this lovely city and check in to your hotel. Meet your tour manager for an early evening welcome dinner. *Meals included – welcome dinner Overnight: Edinburgh City Center*

Day 2: Wednesday, May 6 – Let's Go! Our coach takes us to Glasgow. We visit Glasgow Cathedral and pause for a service of welcome – a short act of worship in the Celtic tradition. Our scenic route then leads by Loch Lomond to the west coast port of Oban where we catch the ferry to the Isle of Mull. We arrive at our hotel, overlooking lovely Tobermory Bay, in time for dinner. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight: Tobermory, Isle of Mull*

Day 3: Thursday, May 7 – Iona...a Thin Place We drive across the single track road to Fionnphort where another short ferry ride brings us to the Isle of Iona. It was here in the year 563 that St Columba arrived, establishing the Christian faith in this land. We visit the Abbey and learn about Columba. And we hear about the present day Iona Community. We return to Tobermory for dinner. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight: Tobermory, Isle of Mull*

Day 4: Friday, May 8 – The Great Glen and Inverness The morning ferry takes us back to the mainland. A distillery visit is on our agenda. And we'll pass by Glen Coe. We travel on through the beautiful scenery of the Great Glen and alongside Loch Ness. Near Inverness we'll visit the Culloden Battlefield where we can learn about Bonnie prince Charlie and the Jacobites. *Meals included – breakfast Overnight: Inverness area*

Day 5: Saturday, May 9 – I will lift mine eyes unto the hills We turn south today and continue through the majesty of the Scottish Highlands. We'll find out what life used to be like here as we visit the excellent Highland Folk Museum at Kingussie. Then on to Perth and St John's Kirk. John Knox preached here setting light to the Reformation in Scotland. Dinner tonight begins with a haggis ceremony complete with bagpipes and the poetry of Robert Burns. And, of course, you can taste a little. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight –Perth*

Day 6: Sunday, May 10 – St Andrews...The Auld Grey Toon The lovely town of St Andrews is just an hour from Perth. Famous for golf today, it has also been a place of pilgrimage and is an important site for Reformation history. We'll share Sunday worship with a Church of Scotland congregation then have a walking tour. We return to Perth via the Tay Bridge and city of Dundee. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight – Perth*

Day 7: Monday, May 11 – Two Great Cities - The historic town of Stirling is our first stop today. Stirling Castle, sitting on a volcanic crag, fortified since ancient times, provides a memorable visit. Then on to Edinburgh. Our guide will walk us among the medieval streets and will also tell us about modern living in this vibrant city. We see Greyfriars Kirk and hear about the Covenanters. And we'll end at the very modern buildings of the Scottish Parliament. The evening is free for you to choose dinner in one of our capital's many eating places. *Meals included – breakfast Overnight – Edinburgh City Center*

Day 8: Tuesday, May 12 – A Little More Edinburgh Most of today is free for you to explore or do a little souvenir shopping. Maybe you'll want to visit the Castle or Holyrood Palace. Or you might want to relax over coffee and watch the city go by. Tonight we will share worship together and close with a celebration dinner. *Meals included – breakfast, celebration dinner Overnight – Edinburgh City Center*

Day 9: Wednesday, May 13 – Departures Haste ye back! *Meals included – breakfast*

The above program is a fair representation of the proposed tour but is subject to change at the discretion of Scotus Tours.

Times of Worship:

We aim to include time for

- a service of welcome
- morning prayers on the coach
- evening devotions in some locations
- a Sunday service (Church of Scotland)
- closing worship

Contact Us:

Rev. Jim Wallace

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Rev. Dr. Preston Smith

The PEP (Presbyterians Educating Presbyterians) Sunday school class has been studying Presbyterian history, polity and doctrine. From this study we were reminded of our connection to Calvin, Knox and Scotland. Many of the class members voiced interest in going to Scotland both for the religious heritage and the beauty of the country. The seed was planted and now it's germinated into reality.

Our class would like to invite all church members, as well as friends of FPC, to join with us to experience this wonderful life time event. This is an opportunity to learn, experience, and grow as people of the faith community. This will not only be a physical journey but it will be a spiritual one as well.

We are excited about this tour and hope you will be too as we plan, dream and anticipate what this adventure will bring to us. For questions or curiosity feel free to call me at (252) 813-1219.

Preston

Dear Fellow Traveler,

People are always telling me they would love to visit Scotland. Whether it is the majestic scenery of the highlands which attracts them; or our castles, churches and cities steeped in history; or maybe our proud tradition of hospitality – all these and more combine to make a trip to Scotland an unforgettable experience.

For people of faith Scotland also has much to offer. Christianity came to these shores no later than the sixth century. And the impact of the Reformation has extended far around the world.

I'm a native Scot and minister of the Church of Scotland. I've also served in the PC(USA). So I am delighted to be offering this tour. I want you to enjoy an outstanding trip; to see the real Scotland; to discover, in particular, our sacred heritage. And I run Scotus Tours to make that possible.

I hope you can join our tour. Please contact me if there is anything else you need to ask.

Jim



*Jim Wallace
on tour at Loch Lomond*

