

**Tour Name: Brainspotting Trip –
Scottish Highlands & Islands**

Start Date : 9/7/2024 End Date : 9/20/2024

TRIP INCLUDES:

- Tour & Amenities offered within the package (hotels & transportation to each destination within the itinerary)
- 13 Breakfasts for each guest
- 2 Lunches for each guest
- 9 Dinners for each guest
- Travel Protection for each guest
- \$700 savings per couple
- Airport to hotel transfer provided you arrive on 9-7-2024
- Hotel to airport transfer provided you depart on 9-20-2024

Some things that are not included in the pricing below:

- Roundtrip Airfare
- Pre-Paid Gratuities (will be due 180 days before departure) average \$200 each
- Pre/Post Night Accommodations (If you arrive early and depart later than group dates)

Hotels are subject to change and are not guaranteed until the time of check-in

- DoubleTree by Hilton Glasgow Central Sep 7, 2024 - Sep 8, 2024 Glasgow
- Hilton Edinburgh Carlton Sep 8, 2024 - Sep 11, 2024 Edinburgh
- Mercure Inverness Hotel Sep 11, 2024 - Sep 13, 2024 Inverness
- St Clair Hotel Sep 13, 2024 - Sep 15, 2024 Thurso
- Dunollie Hotel Sep 15, 2024 - Sep 17, 2024 Isle of Skye
- Oban Bay Hotel Sep 17, 2024 - Sep 19, 2024 Oban
- Radisson Blu Glasgow Sep 19, 2024 - Sep 20, 2024 Glasgow
- Full Buffett Breakfast Daily; 2 Lunches; 9 three-course dinners

DAY 1, SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 2024

ARRIVE IN GLASGOW, SCOTLAND

Welcome to Glasgow!

Free time the remainder of the day. At 6 pm, meet your Tour Director and travel companions for a welcome dinner at your hotel. (Dinner)

DAY 2, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

GLASGOW–FALKIRK–ROYAL BURGH OF CULROSS–LINLITHGOW–EDINBURGH

Sculpted Horses & Scottish Heroines

FALKIRK See The Kelpies, the largest equine sculptures in the world.

ROYAL BURGH OF CULROSS Take a walking tour with a Local Guide.

LINLITHGOW See Linlithgow Palace ruins, birthplace of Mary Queen of Scots, and a filming location for the Outlander TV series.

EDINBURGH Free time. **(Brainspotting for those interested)** (Breakfast)

TOUR HIGHLIGHT

CULTURE & TRADITION The Royal Burgh of Culross is considered one of Scotland's most picturesque examples of life in the 17th and 18th centuries. No wonder it is the filming location for many film and television productions, as well as an inspiring destination for history lovers. Its well-preserved buildings with red-tiled roofs line steep cobblestone streets from the market cross to the hilltop abbey

DAY 3, MONDAY SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

EDINBURGH

Traditions & Treasures

EDINBURGH City sightseeing with a Local Guide includes the New Town the Old Town and a visit to Edinburgh Castle to see Scotland's Crown Jewels. (Breakfast)

Tour Highlight

HISTORIC SPOT Edinburgh Castle, one of the most important historical strongholds in the Kingdom of Scotland, rules with an 11,000-year history as “the most besieged place in Great Britain.” Here, you’ll find the royal regalia and Scotland’s Crown Jewels.

DAY 4, TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

EDINBURGH. EXCURSION TO ABBOTSFORD

Regal Manors & Royal Music

ABBOTSFORD Take a guided tour of Sir Walter Scott’s Abbotsford House.

EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO Attend the world-renowned Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo performance. (Departures August 3 through August 17 only). (Breakfast)

TOUR HIGHLIGHT

LEGENDARY LIVES The 19th century comes alive with echoes of triumph and tragedy at Abbotsford House, where Scottish legend Sir Walter Scott became the biggest-selling author of his day and the fashion for Scots baronial architecture began.

Learn how the “Great Scott” popularized tartan, saved the Scottish banknote, and reclaimed his country’s Crown Jewels.

DAY 5, WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

EDINBURGH–ST. ANDREWS–PITLOCHRY–INVERNESS

Scottish Highlands & Scenic Drives

ST. ANDREWS See the home of golf and famous university town then drive across the Firth of Tay via Dundee to Pitlochry.

PITLOCHRY Walk through the Victorian mountain resort. Take a scenic drive through the Grampian Mountains and Cairngorms National Park en route to Inverness. (Breakfast, Dinner)

TOUR HIGHLIGHT

ICONIC FOOTSTEPS See the fairways and greens at the birthplace of golf, where legendary players of the Scottish game made history in the university town of St. Andrews.

DAY 6, THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

INVERNESS. HIGHLANDS EXCURSION

The Bronze Age & Brave Battles

THE HIGHLANDS Visit the Bronze-Age chamber tomb site of Clava Cairns. See the Culloden battlefield site and visitor center.

Visit Cawdor Castle.

INVERNESS Free time the remainder of the day. (Breakfast)
(Brainspotting for those interested)

TOUR HIGHLIGHT

LITERATURE & ARCHITECTURE In The Bard's words, 'This castle hath a pleasant seat; the air nimbly and sweetly recommends itself unto our gentle senses.' Walk through history in the dramatic countryside of the Scottish Highlands to visit Cawdor Castle, the ancestral home of the Campbells of Cawdor. Discover the castle's literary connection to The Scottish Play by William Shakespeare - also known as Macbeth

DAY 7, FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

INVERNESS–THURSO

Gardens & Grandeur

DUNROBIN Visit the castle and gardens.

THURSO Free time this afternoon. **(Brainspotting for those interested)**
(Breakfast, Dinner)

TOUR HIGHLIGHT

HISTORIC SPOT Perched in the Northern Highlands overlooking the Moray Firth is Dunrobin Castle, the historic home of

The Earls and Dukes of Sutherland. One of the oldest continuously inhabited “Scottish great houses,” the castle evokes images of a French château with towering spires and grand gardens inspired by the Palace of Versailles.

DAY 8, SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2024

THURSO. EXCURSION TO THE ORKNEY ISLANDS

Breathtaking Views & Brews

JOHN O’GROATS Ferry crossing to the Orkney Islands.

ORKNEY ISLANDS Sightseeing includes the four Churchill Barriers, Scapa Flow, Skara Brae, the Ring of Brodgar, and Kirkwall.

Enjoy a guided tour of The Orkney Brewery with a light lunch at the brewery’s Tasting Hall café and visit Skail House.

Return to the mainland by ferry in the late afternoon. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

LOCAL FAVORITE

LEGENDS & LORE Orcadian water, the best malt, hops, and yeast are the only four ingredients of hand-crafted ales such as Orkney Dark Island, Northern Light and the world-famous Skull Splitter named after a vicious Orkney Earl. Join a guided tour of the brewery and learn the traditions of beer making and a long, long history of brewing quality ales.

DAY 9, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

THURSO–ULLAPOOL–ISLE OF SKYE

Scottish Fish Stories

ULLAPOOL Visit the fishing port and enjoy a traditional fish & chips lunch at a local restaurant. (Breakfast, Lunch,

Dinner)

LOCAL FAVORITE

LOCAL TASTES Walk along the whitewashed cottages with views of lovely Loch Broom in the charming harbor town of

Ullapool. Feast on traditional fish and chips, a Scottish specialty that never fails to satisfy.

DAY 10, MONDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2024

ISLE OF SKYE

Sea & Skye

ISLE OF SKYE Drive across the Inner Hebridean island; visit the Museum of Island Life; stop in the picturesque island capital of Portree and take in the views of the Cuillin Hills. (Breakfast, Dinner)

TOUR HIGHLIGHT

NATURAL WONDERS Magic abounds on the Isle of Skye, home to some of Scotland's most iconic landscapes to enchant the senses. With magnificent mountain ranges, miles of captivating coastline, and heroic history, Skye casts a spell with its breathtaking beauty and sense of island adventure. (**Brainspotting for those interested.**)

DAY 11, TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

ISLE OF SKYE–GLENFINNAN–FORT WILLIAM-OBAN

Brave Lads & Bonnie Lands

ISLE OF SKYE Visit Museum of the Isles. Ferry crossing on the Sound of Sleat to mainland.

GLENFINNAN See the monument to fallen Jacobite clansmen and the famous Glenfinnan Viaduct.

FORT WILLIAM See the gateway to Ben Nevis, the UK's highest peak.

GLEN COE Scenic drive en route to Oban. (Breakfast, Dinner)

TOUR HIGHLIGHT

HISTORIC SPOT Long before it was made famous by the Harry Potter films, the Glenfinnan Viaduct was hailed one of the most visually stunning railways in Scotland. Flanked by rolling green hills that are home to the iconic Scottish red deer, the elevated curves of the longest concrete railway in Scotland traverses through a world of adventure and history.

DAY 12, WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

OBAN. EXCURSION TO ISLES OF MULL AND IONA

Highland Isles & Miles

OBAN Ferry crossing to the Isle of Mull.

ISLE OF MULL Take a scenic drive across the island.

ISLE OF IONA Continue to Iona with a ferry to the island and visit the center of Celtic Christianity before returning to mainland. (Breakfast, Dinner)

TOUR HIGHLIGHT

PICTURE PERFECT Called “Eagle Island” by wildlife watchers, the Isle of Mull is a paradise for birds of prey keeping a watchful eye on the wonderful wild landscapes below. Watch for Scottish red deer, iconic Highland cattle, and rolling hills that paint a picture of quintessential Scotland.

(Brainspotting for those interested)

DAY 13, THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

OBAN –INVERARAY–GLASGOW

Glasgow Sights & Grand Heights

INVERARAY Take a scenic drive over the mountainous Pass of Brander.

LOCH LOMOND Stop for photos.

GLASGOW Visit a whisky distillery. Enjoy an orientation drive to see Glasgow’s landmarks, including the 12th-century.

cathedral, university buildings, and Georgian squares. Free time this evening. **(Brainspotting for those that are interested)** (Breakfast, Dinner)

Local Favorite

LOCAL TASTES Feel your heart skip a beat in the heart of Scotland. Raise a dram of whisky at an historic, local distillery whilst you learn all about Scotland's favorite spirit.

DAY 14, FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2024

GLASGOW

Safe travels until we meet again!

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning. (Breakfast)