



The Traveling Professor Presents

EDINBURGH AND THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS BY SCENIC RAIL

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

Day 1: Welcome to Edinburgh, Scotland

Check-in and rest up. We'll do a quick orientation and let's have a wonderful Scottish welcome this evening. Starting time will be determined once we get traveler arrival info.

Day 2: Edinburgh Walking Tour

The best way to explore Edinburgh is on foot. The city is one of the world's finest capital cities, teeming with cultural diversity and impressive history. A professional and licensed guide tells us about the history, traditions, and architecture of this 1,000-year-old city. Visit the Royal Mile, Princess Street Gardens, Calton Hill and more. Edinburgh Castle Rock dominates over the city and is of immense historical significance to Scotland. We visit this World Heritage city with stunning views over the city.

Day 3: St. Andrews Day Trip

It's getaway day from Edinburgh as we take the lovely trip up to St. Andrews. There are scenic stops along the way until we arrive in the historic town. St. Andrews is the home of golf, but there is so, so much more to this town. Our professional, licensed guide takes us to the University of St. Andrews and ancient cathedral. We also find those nooks and crannies that The Traveling Professor tours are known for. It's a delightful half-day walk full of stories, legends, history and the characters that make St. Andrews what it is. Those interested in golf have the opportunity to walk the most historic and famous golf course in the world or stroll the famous beach of "Chariots of Fire".

Day 4: Melrose Abbey and Rosslyn Chapel Day Trip

A private van picks us up at the hotel for a delightful trip to the Scottish Borders with scenic stops along the way. Robert the Bruce is buried at the monastery at the ruins of Melrose Abbey where we learn more about Scottish history. Then it is on to Rosslyn Chapel, made famous by Dan Brown's "The Da Vinci Code" for an interesting and mystical Scottish experience.

Day 5: Edinburgh Free Day

It's a free day in Edinburgh but we have plenty of suggestions of things to do. The Royal Yacht Britannia and Palace of Holyroodhouse are just two stops on the Hop-on, Hop-off bus. There is plenty to see and do while strolling this incredibly walkable city. It's a great day of leisure on this free day in Edinburgh.

Day 6: Scenic Train Journey to Inverness and Walking Tour

It's off to the Highlands by train through scenic Scotland. Get the true feel of being in the Highlands with our stay at the Royal Highlands Hotel. After check-in and lunch, let's meet our professional guide for a walking tour of the town and hear the stories of rebellions, witchcraft, prophecies, clans, Jacobite curses and yes, the Beatles.

Day 7: Loch Ness, Urquart Castle, Culloden Battlefield

The finest way to see Loch Ness is with a luxury water cruise. There are indoor and outdoor viewing areas for your pleasure. The ship is sonar-equipped to detect any mysterious underwater activity and after visiting the fully stocked bar on-board, The Professor guarantees a sighting of the Loch Ness monster! Nothing says "castle" like famous Urquart Castle. It has seen great conflict in its 500-year history as it passed back and forth between the Scots and English during the Wars of Independence. It is a beautiful spot for a photo as it looks over the great Loch Ness. We finish the day by traveling to the site of the 1746 Battle of Culloden between the Jacobites and British armies that marked the dismantlement of Highland Society. This one-hour battle changed Scotland's history forever.

Day 9: Kyle of Lochalsh and Isle of Skye Day Trip by Scenic Rail

This might be the most scenic train ride you have ever been on. Roll through stunning landscape to Kyle of Lochalsh. Our driver meets us at the train station and to journey through the dramatic Isle of Skye including Kilt Rock. We have lunch surrounded by some of the best natural scenery to be found.

Day 8: Dunrobin Castle

Today we travel up to Dunrobin Castle. This is as good as it gets in the Scottish Highlands. Be treated to beautiful scenery, a tour of the famed castle, falconry, whisky tasting and a great day out in the Highlands.

Day 10: Inverness Free Day

Free day in Inverness. There is plenty to see and do like visit old bookstores, bike along the canal, stroll the Victorian Market. Maybe an optional trip to Dunrobin Castle is in your future.

Day 11: Glasgow

It's another scenic train ride as we travel to the exciting city of Glasgow. Upon check-in, we do a short orientation and find some of the best places to shop, dine and have a wee dram.

Day 12: Glasgow

One of the most exciting cities in Europe with a mix of old history and new visions, the best way to see it is on the Hop-On, Hop-Off bus. There are sites like the Glasgow Cathedral, Barras Weekend Market, Riverside Museum, Glasgow University, Kelvingrove Art Gallery and more. Steve and Linda will organize a farewell dinner to say goodbye to all our friends

Day 13: Departure from Glasgow

We are here to help you get on your way to your next destination.

ABOUT OUR TOURS

Since each tour is planned with traveler input, your tour may be slightly different. We always add in "off the itinerary" sites of interest. Adjustments may be made for crowd management, weather, special events, or conditions beyond our control.

We travel with to 8-16 people. This offers the opportunity to do what we want to do, on our own schedule. We provide all local transportation as well as admission to those sites listed on the itinerary.

Breakfast is included each day of the tour. Every day we plan a relaxing lunch and dinner. Please join us or go out on your own - we are glad to offer our best recommendations.

Our guide is with us during the day. Tour leaders are with the group 24/7. Unless otherwise noted, we ask travelers to be ready to go at 9:30 a.m. for a full and active day of touring.

Well before departure date, each traveler is supplied with a “final” detailed itinerary along with a complete and detailed information packet. It has advice on packing, money matters, passports, weather, etc. We make sure travelers are well-prepared. And of course, we are always available to personally answer any questions you may have.

For complete information on this tour including dates and pricing at
www.travelingprofessor.com