

HARRIGAN HOLIDAYS AC/PASR SCOTTISH ISLES
JUNE 11 - JUNE 24, 2020

Thursday, June 11 - Depart USA for Glasgow, Scotland

Friday, June 12: Welcome to Scotland

Arrive at Glasgow airport. After collecting baggage you will meet your driver and guide. Your visit to Scotland will begin with a visit to the **National Piping Centre**. The National Piping Centre serves as the centre for excellence for the Great Highland Bagpipe and its music. The Centre is host to The Museum of Piping, The Highland Library, and The School of Piping, teaching many varieties of pipes and drumming. See and Hear the Great Highland Bagpipe, Scotland's national instrument, and learn about its colourful history. Amongst this stunning collection is the Iain Dall MacKay Chanter - the oldest piece of bagpipe in the world, as well as a piping relic that belonged to Robert Burns.

Check into your hotel. Hotel dinner is included this evening. **(D)**

Saturday, June 13: Explore Glasgow *

Visit the **Tenement House**

A 4-room time capsule flats that provide an insight into the everyday lifestyles of the early 20th-century. The previous owner Miss Agnes Toward lived in the property from 1911 – 1965, she preserved her possessions with great care and held onto many personal items that most people would have thrown away. It is the perfect representation of what it was like to be an independent woman. The Tenement House is a National Trust for Scotland property in Glasgow.

Continue to the **Tall Ship at Riverside**

The Tall Ship at Riverside was built in 1896 in Glasgow. Named Glenlee, the ship is three-masted and has a hull length of 245.5 feet. Glenlee began her life as a cargo ship. In 1922, she became part of the Spanish Navy fleet, and was used as a sail training ship. In 1981 she was decommissioned from the Spanish Navy fleet and lay idle until 1992, when she was bought by the Clyde Maritime Trust.

Visit **Kelvingrove Museum**

One of Scotland's most visited attractions is a magnificent building with 22 themed, state-of-the-art galleries displaying an astonishing 8000 objects. The internationally significant collections are extensive and wide-ranging, covering natural history, arms and armour, art from many art movements and periods of history, and much, much more. There is even a real Spitfire! Kelvingrove welcomes families with children, and its displays have been designed with children in mind. There are lots of interactives throughout the venue that will appeal to younger audiences. Visitors to Kelvingrove can enjoy its cafés and shops, and make use of its Study Centre and Library to find out more about Glasgow Museums' collections and carry out research online.

** Alternatively you may opt for Hop-on Hop-off Bus to explore Glasgow on your own.*

Enjoy a free evening. Dinner is on your own this evening. **(B)**

Sunday, June 14: Glasgow to Fort Augustus

This morning we will depart from Glasgow and journey through the **Trossachs National Park** enjoying some of the finest scenery in Scotland and is split into four distinct areas. It is a place of contrasts, from rolling lowland landscapes in the south to high mountains in the north, and has many lochs and rivers, forests and woodlands.

Enjoy a photo opportunity and rest stop at TARBET.

Continue North-West and enjoy **extensive views from Nevis Range**

The Nevis Range mountain gondola system is only one of its kind in Britain. It was originally constructed on the mountain of Aonach Mor, just 7 miles north of Fort William, as a way to transport skiers to the slopes. The journey allows breathtaking views of the Scottish Highlands, including the Great Glen, Ben Nevis, and surrounding areas. On a clear day this spectacular view can extend as far as the Inner Hebrides.

Continue to Fort Augustus and check into your hotel.

Overnight, dinner, bed and breakfast in Fort Augustus or area. **(B,D)**

Monday, June 15: Fort Augustus to Stornoway

This morning we will depart for Ullapool where you will catch to Stornoway

Check into your hotel. Overnight, dinner, bed and breakfast in Stornoway or area. **(B,D)**

Tuesday, June 16: Explore Stornoway

This morning after breakfast we will start our journey.

Visit Callanish Standing Stones

Erected over 5,000 years ago is the extraordinary Calanais cross shaped standing stones. This Neolithic monument is the best preserved, the area inside the circle was levelled and the site gradually became covered with peat between 1000 and 500 BC and wasn't revealed to us until 1857.

Continue to visit Garrannan Blackhouse Village

Garrannan Blackhouse Village is a coastal crofting village situated in a secluded bay within the district of Carloway on the west coast of the Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides / Western Isles of Scotland. Since 1989 the local community trust Urras nan Garrannan (the Garenin Trust) has been painstakingly restoring the once derelict properties and croft land to recreate an authentic settlement offering visitors modern facilities within the surroundings of times gone by. Traditional methods have been used to recreate the drystone masonry and thatched roofing of the original croft houses with the discreet integration of modern conveniences.

Visit Dun Carloway

Dun Carloway Broch is one of the best-preserved examples of a broch – a type of fortification found only in Scotland. There are well over 500 of them across the country, the majority in northern and western Scotland and the islands. Brochs emerged in the Iron Age around 2,300 years ago. They stopped being built in the early centuries AD.

Enjoy photo stop **Butt of Lewis Lighthouse** and some free time in the **Port of Ness** before returning to hotel

Overnight, dinner, bed and breakfast in Stornoway or area. **(B,D)**

Wednesday, June 17: Stornoway to Thurso

This morning we will catch the early morning ferry to Ullapool – packed breakfast from hotel.

Journey to Thurso with a rest stop and visit to **Balnakeil Craft Village & Cocoa Mountain Shop**. Balnakeil Craft Village is situated next to the village of Durness which is home to some of the most spectacular scenery in the Highlands. The craft village is currently home to a range of local artists & businesses including a chocolatier, hairdresser, art galleries, paintings & prints, ceramics, woodwork, glass work & more unique crafts.

Visit the **Smoo Cave** a large combined sea cave and freshwater cave in Durness in Sutherland, Highland, Scotland. The cave name is thought to originate from the Norse 'smjugg' or 'smuga', meaning a hole or hiding-place. *Please note that this is a small cave with limited access. The cave can flood even with a relatively small amount of rain. In light of this the visit is subject to suitability.

Continue to Thurso and check into your hotel. Dinner is included this evening. **(B,D)**

Thursday, June 18: Thurso & Castle of Mey

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother first saw what was then Barrogill Castle in 1952, while mourning the death of her husband, King George VI. Falling for its isolated charm and hearing it was to be abandoned, she decided to save it. Having acquired the most northerly inhabited castle on the British mainland, The Queen Mother renovated and restored it, reinstated it to the original name **Castle Mey**, and created the beautiful gardens you see today. For almost half a century she spent many happy summers here and shorter visits at other times of the year until she gifted it to trust in 1996.

Return back to Thurso and enjoy a free afternoon. Dinner will be on your own this evening. **(B)**

Friday, June 19: Thurso to Orkney

This morning we will catch the ferry from Scabster to Stromness. Upon arrival visit **Italian Chapel**, a beautiful Roman Catholic chapel, in Lamb Holm which was constructed by Italian POWs during the Second World War.

Check into hotel and enjoy dinner at the hotel. **(B,D)**

This evening after dinner enjoy the **Folklore and Storytelling Centre - Peatfire Tales of Orkney**. Enjoy Scottish folklore and island myth as they come alive with shared traditions of Orkney.

Saturday, June 20: Orkney

This morning visit **Skara Brae** a neolithic settlement lying near the dramatic white beach of the Bay of Skail. It is the best preserved group of prehistoric houses in Western Europe. Uncovered by a storm in 1850, which blew away the sand to reveal the shapes of stone buildings, the attraction presents a remarkable picture of life around 5,000 years ago. This Neolithic village on the shores of the Bay of Skail in Orkney's west mainland is one of several stunning archaeological sites within the Heart of Neolithic Orkney UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the summer months, visitors can also access Skail House: built in 1620 by Bishop George Graham on the site of a Norse farmstead, all 12 of its Lairds have been related and all have contributed to the history and collection in the house. Inside you can see rooms with furniture and artefacts belonging to generations of Skail lairds and see a dinner service used by Captain James Cook on his final voyage.

Journey to see **Ness of Brodgar** and **Ring of Brodgar**. **Ness of Brodgar** is an archaeological site covering 6.2 acres.. Excavations at the site began in 2003. The site has provided evidence of decorated stone slabs, a stone wall 6 metres (20 ft) thick with foundations, and a large building described as a Neolithic temple. The earliest structures were built between 3,300 and 3,200 BC, and the site had been closed down and partly dismantled by 2,200 BC. **Ring of Brodgar** is a Neolithic henge and stone circle thought to be erected between 2,500 BC and 2,000 BC. It is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site known as the Heart of Neolithic Orkney.

The end of the day enjoy a visit to **Highland Park Distillery**

Highland Park is made today with the same enduring belief and integrity, to the same exacting standards, as it has been since 1798. The established attitude at Highland Park is one of custodianship rather than management, of tradition rather than novelty. That's not to say the distillery is stuck in the mud – far from it – but innovation is only used when there is a genuine benefit to the whisky not, as is often the way, a benefit to efficiency or profitability. Highland Park is arguably the most respected single malt in the world. The rich, succulent, complexity of this exceptional single malt inspires passion in single malt enthusiasts everywhere. It has balance, character and provenance and, in that, epitomises all that is great about single malt Scotch whisky.

Dinner this evening is at a local restaurant. **(B,D)**

Sunday, June 21: Orkney to Inverness

Today we will return back to the mainland via the ferry from Stromness to Scabster

Visit between Orkney yet to be confirmed.

Upon arrival to Inverness visit the **House of Fraser/Scottish Kiltmaker Visitor Centre**, Scotland's only visitor attraction devoted to Scotland's national dress. Enjoy a fascinating insight into the history, tradition and culture of the kilt - from its origins through to the present day. Set within the kiltmaking workshop, the Centre creates a colourful, authentic and memorable experience, brought to life with audio-visual, costume and tartan displays in all their brilliance. You'll see kilts being made for export all over the world and kilts being made for our own retail shops in Inverness.

Check into your hotel. Dinner is under own arrangements in Inverness. **(B)**

Monday June 22: Inverness to Edinburgh

This morning we will depart from Inverness. Enjoy the scenery as we journey through the Highlands.

Visit the **Highland Folk Museum** The Highland Folk Museum brings to life the domestic and working conditions of earlier Highland peoples. Visitors to this living history Museum can learn how Scottish Highland ancestors lived, how they built their homes, how they tilled the soil and how they dressed, in a friendly and welcoming environment. An award winning visitor attraction, the Museum not only encapsulates human endeavour and development in Highland life from the 1700s to the present day, but offers an opportunity to explore a beautiful natural setting, home to red squirrels and tree creepers, within the boundaries of the Cairngorms National Park.

Next visit **Highland Safari's** where you will learn about native Red Deer and have a hands-on demonstration in the Owl Barn. Kilted Safari Rangers will happily introduce you to their majestic Red Deer Family. From the purposely built shelter you will get to feed and stroke the Red Deer while the Safari Ranger who will tell you about their fascinating life cycle, likes, dislikes, habits and personalities. From here you will meet the centres Barn Owl, which as she demonstrates her secrets as a bird of prey.

Continue to Edinburgh and check in to your hotel. Dinner will be on your own this evening. **(B)**

Tuesday June 23: Edinburgh

This morning visit **Edinburgh Castle**. Edinburgh's Castle rock has been a stronghold for over 3000 years. In its dominating position overlooking the capital city, the grandeur and historical significance of Edinburgh Castle has made it a globally famous icon of Scotland and part of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site. Sited on top of an extinct volcano, gaining stunning views across the City of Edinburgh, the castle has witnessed many of the defining events of Scottish history and has dominated its surroundings with majesty for centuries. Captivating visitors with its ancient buildings and marvellous views, it continues to spellbound with its wonderful story.

Enjoy a free afternoon to explore Edinburgh. If you have visited Edinburgh Castle in the past you may opt to spend the full day to explore Edinburgh on your own.

This evening, **dinner and Scottish entertainment**.

Spirit of Scotland Show involves a rip roaring evening of traditional Scottish song and dance accompanied by a great selection of quality Scottish food to delight your pallet. Our resident band and traditional Scottish Dancers provide breathtaking performances for their audience and never fail to entertain.

Return back to your hotel. **(B,D)**

Wednesday June 24: Farewell to Scotland Return flight from Edinburgh to USA

(B) = Breakfast

(D) = Dinner

Price is estimated* at \$4990 per person sharing. Single Supplement \$850

Included:

- Airfare, bus to/from Airport
- 12 nights at good 3/4 star hotels, all rooms with private bath or shower
- 6 dinners

• **VISITS & ADMISSIONS:**

National Piping Centre	Tenement House	Tall Ship at Riverside
Kelvingrove Museum	Callanish Standing Stones	Garrannan Blackhouse Village
Dun Carloway Broch	Balnakeil Craft Village	Smoo Cave
Castle of Mey	Italian Chapel	Skara Brae
Ness & Ring of Brodgar	Highland Park Distillery	Highland Safari's
Scottish Kiltmaker	Highland Folk Museum	Edinburgh Castle

Also Included:

Gondola Ride in Nevis Mountain Range with tea and scones, Ferry to/from Isle of Lewis & Orkney, Folklore & Storytelling session on Orkney, breakfast daily, 6 dinners including a farewell Scottish dinner with entertainment.

- Service charges and taxes at existing rates
- Motor coach with driver
- Services of a full time tour guide

Not included:

Optional Travel Insurance \$383/\$466 if ss for CFAR \$575/ \$699 if ss
Meals not included in itinerary, Personal Expenses, Gratuity for Driver & Guide

* The price subject to change due to severe currency fluctuation, change in taxes and fees, fuel surcharge, etc. Airfare is estimated at this time. As always Harrigan Holidays will strive to give you the best tour value for your money.