



## Scotland

*Goddess and Sacred Site Tour  
with Glamourgan  
Samhuinn/ Samhain/ Halloween*

***Everything You Can Imagine Is Real***

*Journey into the World of the Goddess  
Myths and Legends, Faerie Folk, Witches, Vikings, Castles and  
Palaces, Ancients Ruins, Samhuinn Fire Festival, Ghost Tours,  
Selkies, Mermaids, Sea Monsters, the Pics, Clans and Jacobites,  
Saints - Sinners and Mary Queen of Scots.  
Harry Potter, DaVinci Code - Outlander TV Series Filming Locations*



**Journey with Glamourgan through Scotland, the Land of the Goddess**



Visit some of the most ancient and sacred sites in Edinburgh, the Highlands, and the Scottish borders. Witchery hot spots and haunted places, graveyards, and The Real Mary King's Close. Samhuinn Fire Festival.

At Holyrood Palace stroll through the majestic royal gardens, the Queen's Gallery, Mary Queen of Scots chambers, and the

Abbey ruins.

While touring the Edinburgh Castle view the crown jewels of Scotland, the "Stone of Destiny," The Great Hall, and The Royal Palace. St. Margaret's Chapel.

Through the Scottish borderlands, explore locations featured in Dan Brown's novel, "The Da Vinci Code" such as Melrose Abbey and Rosslyn Chapel, and hear intriguing tales of Cistercian monks, the Knights Templar, and the connection to Mary Magdalene.

Crossing the edge of the North Sea travel into the action-packed world of Outlander! Explore the villages of Culross and Falkland, and cinematic landmarks like Castle Leoch, the real Medieval Doune Castle. Along the way, enjoy insider stories and trivia about the series, cast and crew. Gain insight into the Highlands of the early 1740s, a volatile period before the Jacobite rising.

Walk the land to fairy dwellings like Calton Hill famous for its' Beltane celebrations, or Arthurs Seat rich in Arthurian myth and lore.



**Map with all our journey locations!**



## Day 1

**Arrive in Edinburgh, Scotland. From the airport, taxi to your hotel and explore Edinburgh. In the evening, we will enjoy our first group dinner together.**

This picture is Princes Street. Enjoy the skyline of spires and towers along Princes Street Edinburgh, the so-called Athens of the North.

## Day 2

- Edinburgh Castle: The Great Hall, The Royal Palace, The Stone of Destiny, Crown Jewels, St. Margaret's Chapel, Mons Meg, One o'clock gun, Half Moon Battery, Military Museums
- Greyfriars Bobbie Kirkyard (Thomas Riddell's Grave)
- St. Giles Cathedral
- The Witches Well
- Walking Ghost Tour

At Edinburgh Castle, you will find the Crown Jewels, The Famous Stone of Destiny, The Great Hall, The Royal Palace. St. Margaret's Chapel.

Standing on its great rock, Edinburgh Castle Scotland's capital. Great events have taken place within its wall and it has witnessed many sieges.

To control the castle was to hold the keys to the kingdom.



Balmoral Clock - Edinburgh Skyline

Iron Age warriors understood the rock's military potential and built a hill fort here. Our oldest poetry tells of a war band that feasted here for a year before riding to death in battle.

During the Wars of Independence, the castle changed hands many times. In 1314, it was retaken from the English in a daring night raid by Thomas Randolph, nephew of Robert the Bruce.

The castle was home to kings and queens. Queen Margaret (later St Margaret) died here in 1093, and Mary Queen of Scots gave birth to James VI in the royal palace in 1566.

Her great-great-great grandson Charles Edward Stuart - Bonnie Prince Charlie - captured Edinburgh but couldn't take the castle during the 1745-6 Jacobite rising.

In 1996, the Stone of Destiny, on which kings were enthroned for centuries, was returned to Scotland and is displayed in the Crown Room.

From the 1600s onwards the castle was a military base with a large garrison. Later it also held prisoners of war.



**Edinburgh Castle**

Parts are still a military base, but the castle is now a world-famous visitor attraction and a key element of the Edinburgh World Heritage Site.

**Stone of Destiny, Scepter and Royal Crown. Crown Jewels of Scotland in Edinburg Castle** are a breathtaking sight.

Known as The Honors of Scotland they are displayed in



**Crown Jewels of Scotland**



the Crown Room and are surrounded by a special exhibition.

The scepter was presented to James IV by Pope Alexander VI in 1494 while the crown was first worn for the coronation of James V's wife Mary of Guise in 1540.

They were first used together for the coronation of Mary Queen of Scots in 1543.

Their past has been turbulent. They were removed and hidden from 1651-60 to keep them from Cromwell's Parliamentary army.

In 1707, they were locked in a chest and sealed away after the Treaty of Union between England and Scotland.

In 1818, they were rediscovered by the novelist Sir Walter Scott, and with them a mysterious silver wand.



**Sir Walter Scott**

**The Stone of Destiny in Edinburgh Castle** is a powerful and ancient symbol of Scottish monarchy, witnessing the coronation of its kings for hundreds of years.

In legend, it was used as a pillow by the Patriarch Jacob when he dreamed of Jacob's Ladder.

Seen as a sacred object it was believed to have been brought first to Ireland, then Scotland. In 1296 Edward I of England took the stone from Scone, near Perth, and had it built into his own throne. Since then, it has been used in the

coronation ceremonies for the monarchs of England and then Great Britain.



**Stone of Destiny**

On Christmas Day 1950, four Scottish students removed the stone from Westminster Abbey in London. Three months later it turned up 500 miles away – at the front door of Arbroath Abbey.

In 1996, the stone was returned to Scotland and is now in the Crown Room where it is seen by hundreds of thousands of visitors a year.

The stone will only leave Scotland again when there is a coronation in Westminster Abbey.

**St. Margaret's Chapel** Scotland's royals once knelt to worship in this serene private chapel. It was built around 1130 by David I and dedicated to his mother Queen Margaret.

St Margaret was a member of the English royal family who fled the Norman invasion and married Malcolm III.

Reputed to have performed many acts of charity she was canonized by Pope Innocent IV in 1250.

The decorated chancel arch is original, while other features, such as the stained-glass windows, are more recent.

In the 16th century, the chapel was used as a gunpowder store and was later given bomb-proof vaulting.



St. Margaret Stained  
Glass Window

Its origins were forgotten and only rediscovered by the antiquary Sir Daniel Wilson in 1845.

There are always fresh flowers in the chapel. These are provided by St Margaret's Chapel Guild whose members all share the name Margaret and live in Scotland.



Picture to the left is St. Margaret's Chapel. The chapel is still used for christenings and weddings.



St. Margaret's Chapel

### The Witches Well

The Witches' Well is a monument to accused witches burned at the stake in Edinburgh, Scotland, and is the only one of its kind in the city. The memorial drinking fountain is attached to a wall at the lower end of the Castle Esplanade, below Edinburgh Castle, and located close to where many witches were burned at the stake. During the high point of witch hunting in the early modern period, 32% of accused witches came from the Lothian area.

The well was commissioned by Sir Patrick Geddes in 1894, and designed by Geddes' friend John Duncan.[4][5] The bronze relief features a foxglove plant, a snake curled around the heads of Hygeia, the Greek goddess of good health, and her father Aesculapius, god of medicine. Other parts of the well feature



The Witches Well

trees, healing hands, and the evil eye. The water spout, now dry, is located beneath the snake's head. In the top left and bottom right are the Roman numerals for the years 1479 and 1722 respectively, the time period during which most witches were persecuted in Scotland



### **Lunch at The Witchery Restaurant**

**Lunch is not included in the price of the tour,**

### **The Witchery**

### **St. Giles Cathedral**

For more than 600 years, the crowned spire of St. Giles' Cathedral has been a prominent feature of Edinburgh's skyline.

St. Giles' was founded as a Catholic place of worship in 1120 and switched to Protestantism after the Scottish church severed ties with Rome and the pope in 1560. It was recognized as a cathedral from the 17th century. The landmark spire was a late 15th-century addition.

St Giles' Cathedral is the official Church of Scotland and the Mother Church of Presbyterianism. It's named after the patron saint of beggars and disabled people.



**St. Giles Cathedral**



The most elaborate part of the cathedral is the Thistle Chapel, the spiritual home of The Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle. This is an order of chivalry with roots in the Middle Ages. Take your time to study the decorative and highly detailed interior with its oak carvings, ornate stonework and distinctly Scottish features such as angels with bagpipes.

The cathedral has many memorials to distinguished Scots and Scottish soldiers. They include a bronze memorial to the writer Robert Louis Stevenson and a statue to the Protestant reformer John Knox.

### **The Real Mary King's Close**

**At Night!** Explore Edinburgh's dark history underground with a special Halloween tour.

**A lantern Led Tour.** Step beneath the Royal Mile and shine a light on the past by joining an atmospheric lantern led tour in Edinburgh this October. Descend the historic steps leading down from The Royal Mile onto Mary King's Close.

Learn about the lives and deaths of real people who used to roam the streets of Edinburgh. You'll also meet a rather insidious character from the 17th century along the way; one that used to strike terror into people's hearts at the very sight of them. A truly immersive experience in near-darkness. **Lanterns Provided:** Every guest carries their own light—your only means of navigating the shadows.

**Exclusive Characters:** Interact with your character guide and two additional mysterious figures who bring the dark past of Edinburgh to life.



## Day 3

- Da Vinci Code and Scottish Borders Day Trip from Edinburgh to the Rosslyn Chapel and Melrose Abbey.

Experience the legend and mystery of Rosslyn Chapel and the Holy Grail on this 6-hour 'Da Vinci Code' tour from Edinburgh. In a small group, travel to the charming town of Melrose and through the Scottish borderlands. Explore Melrose Abbey and Rosslyn Chapel, and hear intriguing tales of Cistercian monks, the Knights Templar and Robert the Bruce. Highlights include Melrose, Rosslyn Abbey and the Scottish Borders from Edinburgh Visit locations featured in Dan Brown's novel The Da Vinci Code Hear the true history of Rosslyn Abbey.

**Rosslyn Chapel** was founded in 1446 as a place of worship and services continue to be held here weekly. The Chapel has also been a popular destination for visitors for generations. By the late 18th-century, it was starting to appear on itineraries and its profile greatly increased after the publication of Dan Brown's novel, *The Da Vinci Code*, in 2003, and the subsequent film. Rosslyn Chapel Trust was established in 1995 to care for the Chapel and oversee its conservation and public access.



*Rosslyn Chapel*



## Apprentice Pillar

Inside the Chapel is the famous, “**Apprentice Pillar**”. It is the most elaborately decorated pillar in the Chapel



This pillar contains one of the most famous and fascinating riddles of the building. An apprentice mason is said to have carved the pillar, inspired by a dream, in his master's absence. On seeing the magnificent achievement on his return, the master mason flew into a jealous rage and struck the apprentice, killing him outright.

## Musical Cubes

Carved cubes that protrude from the arches of the Lady Chapel

Each one of these cubes is unique, carved with individual symbols made up of lines and dots. Various theories suggest that these may represent keys to a secret code or be musical notes. The Rosslyn Motet has recently been composed as one 'solution' to the code.



## Green Man Deity

One of the best examples of over 100 'Green Man' carvings in the Chapel



*DaVinci Code scene in Rosslyn Chapel*

**Melrose Chapel** at St Mary's Abbey, Melrose is a partly ruined monastery of the Cistercian order in Melrose, Roxburghshire, in the Scottish Borders. It was founded in 1136 by Cistercian monks at the request of King David I of Scotland, and was the chief house of that order in the country until the Reformation. It was headed by the Abbot or Commendator of Melrose. Today the abbey is maintained by Historic Scotland.



*Melrose Chapel Ruins*



## Day 4

- Holyrood: The Palace: The State Apartments, Mary Queen of Scots Chambers, The Royal Collection, The Great Gallery. The Holyrood Abbey.
- Arthurs Seat: Walk the land
- Canongate Kirkyard
- Calton Hill
- Samhuinn Fire Festival

**The Palace**, commonly referred to as Holyrood Palace, is the official residence of the British monarch in Scotland. Located at the bottom of the Royal Mile in Edinburgh, at the opposite end to Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood Palace has served as the principal

residence of the Kings and Queens of Scots since the 16th century, and is a setting for state occasions and official entertaining. The now deceased, Royal Queen Elizabeth use to spend one week in residence at Holyrood Palace at the beginning of each summer, where she carries out a range of official engagements and ceremonies. The 16th



Holyrood Palace

century Historic Apartments of Mary, Queen of Scots and the State Apartments, used for official and state entertaining, are open to the public throughout the year, except when members of the Royal Family are in residence.

**Holyrood Palace Gardens and Abbey.** The 4-hectare Palace gardens are encircled by the Queen's park and set against the spectacular backdrop of Arthur's Seat.

The first gardens associated with the site were granted in Holyrood Abbey's foundation charter and belonged to the community of canons. They were established at the foot of Edinburgh Castle, where Princes Street Gardens are today. Over time several more gardens and orchards were created around the Abbey.



Holyrood Abbey offered the right of sanctuary for those who could not pay their debts. The debtors, known as 'Abbey lairds', found shelter from their creditors within the Abbey boundaries, which included Holyrood Park. As the debtors were only allowed to leave the sanctuary on Sundays, tradesmen saw the opportunity to set up

### **Holyrood Abbey and Gardens**

business in the vicinity. Several of them occupied buildings that still survive today in the Abbey Strand.

In 1503, James IV built the first royal palace on the site, and Holyrood house became the main royal residence in Scotland. The gardens provided the setting for tournaments, hunting, hawking and archery, and there was a tennis court to the west, near the Abbey Strand buildings.

The area around the north wall of Holyrood Abbey was the site of the Palace menagerie, a common feature at European courts. Tigers (in the reign of James IV), lynx, bears, gamecocks, an ape (given to James V in 1535) and a camel (in the reign of James VI) were housed here. A lion yard and stone lion house were built in 1512.



By the time Mary, Queen of Scots was resident at the Palace, there was a series of enclosed gardens, including a walled Privy Garden to the north, and areas for cultivation and recreation. Mary practiced archery, hawking, hunting (for which wild boars were brought from France), bowls and tennis in the garden. A young sycamore that she brought with her from France was planted by the Abbey cloister. It grew here until 1819, when it was blown down and its wood made into trinkets. A Scottish sycamore grows in this part of the garden today.

One of the garden's earliest features is Queen Mary's Sundial, made by John Mylne in 1633 for Charles I's coronation in the Abbey. It carries the insignias of Charles I and his grandmother, Mary, Queen of Scots. Sundials were popular in 16th- and 17th-century Scotland – it is thought that they were more common in Scotland at this time than in any other country in Europe.

Charles II's expansion of the Palace in the 1670s originally included a new Privy Garden with gravel walks and statuary. The newly created State Apartments would have overlooked the garden, but the plans were never carried out.

A small physic garden was established at the Palace in 1670 and became the origins of Edinburgh's Royal Botanic Garden. Its purpose was to teach students the rudiments of botany and the medicinal properties of plants, and to provide pharmacists with fresh material. The garden was still flourishing in the early 18th century, when Daniel Defoe described it as 'tolerably well stored with simples, and some exotics of value' and having 'a rhubarb tree, or plant...which thrive very well' (A Tour Through the Whole Island of Great Britain of 1724).

At the height of its occupation as a sanctuary, Holyrood sheltered around 6,500 debtors, including members of the aristocracy. Among them was the Comte d'Artois, younger brother of the French king, Louis XVI. In exile since the beginning of the French Revolution, the Comte led an army against the French revolutionary troops. Defeated and unable to pay his soldiers, he arrived at Holyrood in 1796, having been granted refuge by the British government.



### *Holyrood Abbey Ruins*

In 1830-32 he returned to the Palace, this time as the deposed Charles X of France and accompanied by his two grandchildren. His grandson, the Duc de Bordeaux practiced archery in the gardens, irritating locals by shooting on a Sunday. Before he left Edinburgh for good,

Charles X was seen taking seeds from the flower garden that he had tended for two years. Although imprisonment for debt was abolished in 1880, the ancient right of sanctuary within the grounds of Holyrood has never been repealed.

By the time Queen Victoria, Prince Albert and their family stayed at the Palace, the gardens were overgrown, and the surrounding area consisted of slums and industrial buildings. Prince Albert created a new carriage approach to the north of the Palace, sweeping away the Privy Garden in the process, and established new planting areas to the north and south. A garden wall to the east provided the same effect as the original 18th-century ha-ha, or hidden ditch, giving the impression that the Palace garden flowed into the expanse of Holyrood Park beyond.

The Palace gardens have been improved and updated during the present reign. The Jubilee Border was originally planted with silver flowers and plants to mark The Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. In 2002 the planting



scheme was changed to celebrate the Golden Jubilee and now includes yellow roses, potentillas, coreopsis and ~~verbascum~~.

Every year 8,000 guests attended The Queen's Garden Party (now King Charles) at the Palace of Holyrood house, a tradition established by King George V and Queen Mary. On such occasions, The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh are accompanied by the Royal Company of Archers, which since 1822 has served as the Sovereign's bodyguard in Scotland. The Royal Company was originally formed as an Archery Club in 1676, and the longbow is still its principal weapon. They practice archery in the Palace gardens three times a week during the summer months and compete for The Queen's Prize each year before the Garden Party.

During The Queen's Garden Party, the bandmaster stands on the garden's famous mound to conduct the band. The mound was always thought to be a manmade landscape feature, until an archaeological dig by Channel 4's 'Time Team' in 2006 revealed it to be the remains of a 17th-century kitchen midden.

Today seven greenhouses supply the Palace of Holyrood house with flowers for the visits of Duke of Rothesay and the Lord High Commissioner, for Royal Week and for many other official events that take place throughout the year.

Holyrood Abbey, which lies adjacent to the Palace in the spectacular setting of Arthur's Seat. Escorted by Wardens dressed in their ancient hunting Stewart tartan, you will learn about the building's extraordinary history.

The Abbey was founded in 1128 by King David I of Scotland for the Augustinian Canons.

According to medieval legend, a vision of a stag with a cross glowing between its antlers came to David while hunting in the area. Interpreting this as an act of God, the King declared that an abbey should be built on the same spot. Holy Rood, the name of the abbey and subsequently the Palace, means 'Holy Cross', a fragment of which had been brought to Scotland by David I's mother, St Margaret, and kept at the Abbey until the 14th century.

The picturesque remains of the Abbey have influenced numerous artists and writers, among them Felix Mendelssohn. Their melancholy grandeur inspired the composer's great Scottish symphony.

**Arthur's Seat** is the main peak of the group of mountains in Edinburgh, United Kingdom which form most of Holyrood Park, described by Robert Louis Stevenson as "a hill for magnitude, a mountain in virtue of its bold design". It is situated in the center of the city of Edinburgh, about 1 mile (1.6 km) to the east of Edinburgh Castle. The hill rises above the city to a height of 250.5 m (822 ft.), provides excellent panoramic views of the city, is relatively easy to climb, and is popular for hillwalking. Though it can be climbed from almost any direction, the easiest and simplest ascent is from



the east, where a grassy slope rises above Dunsapie Loch. At a spur of the hill, Salisbury Crags has historically been a rock climbing venue with routes of various degrees of difficulty; however due to hazards rock climbing is now restricted to the South Quarry and a free permit is required.

### **Arthur's Seat and St. Anthony's Tower**

Many claim that its name is derived from the myriad legends pertaining to **King Arthur**. Some support for this theory may be provided by several other hilltop and mountaintop features in Britain which bear the same or similar names, such as the peak of Ben Arthur (The Cobbler) in the western highlands, sometimes known as Arthur's Seat, and Arthur's Chair on the ridge called Stone Arthur in the Cumbrian Lake District.

### **Calton Hill**

Calton Hill, Edinburgh is the location of a fairy dwelling located inside the hill. Faeries gathered for dancing and feasting every Thursday. In the 17th century, a 10-year-old boy was interviewed by George Burton, as the boy claimed he met the fairies in the hill and played for them on his drum.



He entered the hill through a pair of faery gates, that opened only for him and no one else could see. He said there were brave large room in the hill and he spent many musical nights celebrating with the faeries. Sometimes the faeries use to take him for France, or Holland at in a single night. He believed the faeries had bestowed upon him his psychic abilities.

Calton Hill is the venue for several events throughout the year. The largest of these is the Beltane Fire Festival held on 30 April each year, attended by over 12,000 people.

Look out for the variety of characters on show too, like the magisterial May Queen and the red men, who give the event a wholly otherworldly feel. Then once their majestic story is played out, a



**Calton Hill**

bonfire is lit and the dancing commences, gleefully ensuring a mass celebration of the death of spring and the birth of summer.

Calton Hill is a hill in central Edinburgh, Scotland, situated beyond the east end of Princes Street and included in the city's UNESCO World Heritage Site. Views of, and from, the hill are often used in photographs and paintings of the city.

Calton Hill is the headquarters of the Scottish Government, which is based at St Andrew's House, on the steep southern slope of the hill; with the Scottish Parliament Building, and other notable buildings, for example, Holyrood Palace, lying near the foot of the hill. The hill is also the location of several iconic monuments and buildings: the National Monument, the Nelson Monument, the Dugald Stewart Monument, the old Royal High School, the Robert Burns Monument, the Political Martyrs' Monument, and the City Observatory.



### **Calton Hill National Monument at the Fire Festival**

The National Monument of Scotland, on Calton Hill in Edinburgh, is Scotland's national memorial to the Scottish soldiers and sailors who died fighting in the Napoleonic Wars. It was intended, according to the inscription, to be "A Memorial of the Past and Incentive to the Future Heroism of the Men of Scotland".

The monument dominates the top of Calton Hill, just to the east of Princes Street. It was designed during 1823-6 by Charles Robert Cockerell and William Henry Playfair and is modelled upon the Parthenon in Athens. Construction started in 1826 and, due to the lack of funds, was left unfinished in 1829. This circumstance gave rise to various nicknames such as "Scotland's Disgrace", "Edinburgh's Disgrace", "the Pride and Poverty of Scotland" and "Edinburgh's Folly".

Originally, the building was planned to have extensive catacombs in the area supporting the main structure, to provide a burial place for significant figures, intended as a "Scottish Valhalla". A minute of the Royal Association in 1826 stated that the building was: "to adopt the Temple of Minerva or Parthenon of Athens, as the model of the Monument, and to restore to the civilized world that celebrated and justly admired edifice,



without any deviation whatever, excepting the adaptation of the sculpture to the events and achievements of the Scottish Heroes, whose prowess and glory it is destined to commemorate and perpetuate, and part of which monument or building must, in terms of the said Act, be appropriated as a church or place of Divine worship, to be maintained in all time coming by the said Association."

### **Samhuinn/Samhain - Halloween Celebrations**

We return for the evening to Holyrood Park for the Samhuinn Fire Festival. As the colder months settle in with the turning of the wheel, that familiar crescendo of drums and sparks of flames will burst upon Holyrood Park once again! Samhuinn is ready to bring the fire!

Join us for Edinburgh's immersive Samhuinn Fire Festival for a night of magnificent fire-play and acrobatics, amidst a cavalcade of otherworld creatures as we bring in the changing of seasons in Edinburgh and witness the epic battle between Summer and Winter.



Samhuinn Fire Festival is a cultural staple of Edinburgh, inspired by the Celtic tales of the turning of the wheel. Witness the epic battle between the Summer and Winter Queens unfold as the Cailleach prepares for transition into winter.

## Day 5

- Outlander TV Locations Day Trip from Edinburgh to Falkland, Blackness Castle, Midhope Castle, Doune Castle, and Culcross.
- Note: Entry tickets to town events, meals, entrance fees are not included in the cost of tour.

Travel back to the action-packed world of Outlander on a coach trip to Scotland's TV filming locations. Enjoy a guided tour from Edinburgh to the Highland areas featured in the popular program like the villages of Culross



and Falkland – which represents Inverness in the series – and cinematic landmarks like Castle Leoch (Doune Castle).

Along the way, enjoy insider stories and trivia about the series, cast and crew. Highlights our day trip of Scotland's Outlander filming locations from Edinburgh

Visit the village of Falkland and hear how it was transformed into Inverness of 1947 for filming Explore the medieval Doune Castle, the real-life setting of Castle Leoch See the home of Geillis Duncan in the rural village of Culross and visit Lallybroch, Jamie Fraser's childhood home Gain insight into the Highlands of the early 1740s, a volatile period

Lallybroch or Broch Tuarach/ Midhope Castle



before the Jacobite rising Hear insider stories about the cast, crew and filming locations.

The charming village of Falkland nestled in the Lomond Hills. Stroll through the town that served as the setting of 1947 Inverness to see the church that represented Danleigh Parish Church and stop for a photo outside of Campbells Café.

Following the guided tour, take some time to independently explore the town – where the young Mary Queen of Scots spent her happiest childhood days! – and grab some lunch (own expense).

The medieval Doune Castle – Outlander's fictional Castle Leoch. Hear about the area's gruesome 18th-century battles that took place during the Jacobite rising, both fictional renditions and real-life warfare. Snap some photos of the castle from the outside or take an optional interior tour (own expense).

Culross (aka Cranesmuir), where characters Geillis and Arthur Duncan live, and on to Jamie Fraser's home in Lallybroch. Bonus! Your private tour grants exclusive access to the closed filming location in Lallybroch.

As you travel, enjoy little-known stories about the show's production. Test yourself with entertaining trivia about clans, warfare, Scottish history and signature Outlander characters! Your 9-hour tour concludes with an early evening return to your Edinburgh.

## **Doune Castle**

Doune Castle holds a special place in their hearts as Castle Leoch, the seat of Clan MacKenzie. This 14th-century fortress located near Stirling, Scotland, served as an iconic backdrop in the early part of the series, bringing the fictional world of Jamie and Claire to life.

Doune Castle actually played a large role during the Jacobite uprisings in 1745! It was a strategic base that backed Charles Edward



Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie) in his quest to reclaim the British throne. While it wasn't a major battlefield, its proximity to the action made it a key spot for Jacobite supporters to gather.

Over the years, Doune Castle has seen various owners and purposes, including serving as a royal residence and a military garrison. Despite its long history, the castle remains incredibly well-preserved, allowing visitors to step back in time and imagine life within its ancient walls.

## Blackness Castle

Blackness Castle, Scotland! Blackness Castle was used as the filming location for Fort William in the TV programme Outlander, where Jamie receives a whipping from Black Jack Randal

The castle was decommissioned after the First World War and passed into state care as a visitor attraction.

The ship that never sailed Blackness is often called 'the ship that never sailed'. From the seaward side it looks just like a great stone ship run aground.

Its pointed stem projects into the water, while the square stern stands beached on dry land.

The castle's three towers add to the effect:

1. the small 'stem' tower at the prow
2. its tall, central 'main mast' tower
3. the solid 'stern' tower at the rear



Blackness Castle





### **Blackness Castle**

A formidable artillery fortification. In 1537, James V began to convert the castle into a state prison and artillery fortification. His ambitious project was driven by the looming threat from Henry VIII's Protestant England. Work completed in 1542, just before the Wars of the Rough Wooing.

Mighty Blackness wasn't subtle like the great Italianate artillery fortifications. Instead, enemies approaching from the land met with a brute mass of masonry (the 'stern' tower) and cannons fired through great gunholes positioned to give all-round firepower.

Falkland is a picturesque town in Fife, famous for its royal palace. Falkland nestles between the two Lomond Hills in the Howe of Fife. It is most well-known for Falkland Palace. This royal dwelling was once the country residence of the Stewart kings and queens as they hunted deer and wild boar in the forests of Fife. Built between 1501 and 1541 by James IV and James V, the palace has some of the most exceptional architecture of its time in Britain. It is also home to one of only two 16th century tennis courts in Britain (the other is at Hampton Court in England).

**Culross** According to the 2006 estimate, the village has a population of 395. Originally, Culross served as a port city on the Firth of Forth and is believed to have been founded by Saint Serf during the 6th century. The civil parish had a population of 4,348 in 2011

A legend states that when the British princess (and future saint) Teneu, daughter of the king of Lothian, became pregnant before marriage, her family threw her from a cliff. She survived the fall unharmed, and was soon met by



**Culross Cobblestone Road**

an unmanned boat. She knew she had no home to go to, so she got into the boat; it sailed her across the Firth of Forth to land at Culross where she was cared for by Saint Serf; he became foster-father of her son, Saint Kentigern or Mungo

Several motion pictures have used Culross as a filming location, including Kidnapped (1971), The Little Vampire (2000), A Dying Breed (2007), The 39 Steps (2008), and Captain America: The First Avenger (2011). In September 2013, the Starz television series, Outlander, started filming in Culross for its premiere in August 2014.

Culross Palace and Royal Burgh Optional Tickets, at own expense approx. £10.50

Historic Culross is one of Scotland's most picturesque towns. It is believed that Culross was founded by St Serf, and is located in the south west of Fife, overlooking the Firth of Forth.

Wandering around this charming town is about as close to stepping back in time to the 16th century as possible. The whitewashed, red-tiled buildings are well preserved, such as the Town House, where witches were tried and held while awaiting execution.





### **Culross Palace Royal Burgh**

The nearby ochre-colored Culross Palace, built by wealthy coal merchant George Bruce in the late 16th century, is in fact not a palace but a grand and impressive house. You can explore the small rooms and connecting passageways, with wonderful painted ceilings, pine paneling, antique furniture and curios.

Culross Palace is not really a palace nor indeed even royal, this attractive house was built between 1597 and 1611, by Sir George Bruce, and is an outstanding example of 17th century domestic architecture. The interiors are fascinating, with colorfully painted pine paneling depicting Biblical scenes, plus Dutch tiles, and authentic 17th and 18th century furniture.

The north wing is a separate building dating from 1611. It has a stables, byre and hayloft on the ground floor, and above these are apartments with rich paneling decorated with still more ceiling and wall paintings.

Among the rooms open to the public is The Laird's Room, leading to a stone-vaulted strongroom, where Sir George's valuable documents were stored for safe-keeping. Documents like royal charters were just as valuable as actual cash, and Sir George needed a safe, fireproof place for storage.

The most impressive room, however, is The Painted Chamber, an amazing room, probably created in the early 17th century. The painted wood paneling is a marvel; with panels depicting Biblical scenes, with a Latin moral maxim above and a rhyming couplet below each scene.

The garden is planted with grasses, herbs and vegetables of the period.

Take a stroll up a cobbled alleyway known as Back Causeway, which is complete with a raised central aisle that was formerly used by noblemen to separate them from the 'commoners'. This leads up behind the magnificent Town House to the Study, a restored house, built in 1610, that takes its name from the small room at the top of the corbelled projecting tower.

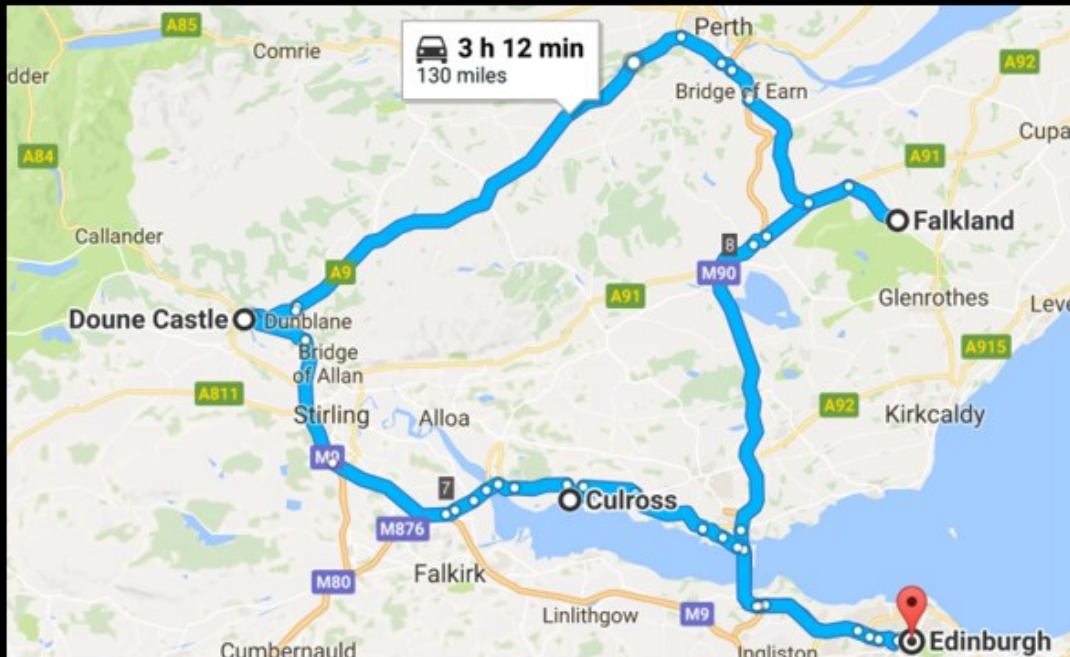
Behind the Palace is a recreation of a 17th century garden, with terraced beds mixing produce for the kitchen with fragrant and colorful places to relax, with covered walkways leading to secluded arbors and an excedra. The effect in season is a sensual feast.



## Scenes from Outlander - Places we will see.



Claire's vase at Farrell's General Store, Cobblestones Causway to the Mercat Cross, Mercat Cross where young boy was nailed to the pillory and Geilless was accused of witchcraft, Mrs. Baird's Bed and Breakfast, Culross Palace – Claire and Geilless Duncan collecting herbs.



Journey Map for Highland Outlander Trip

## Day 6

Taxi back to Edinburgh Airport (your own arrangements) suggested Taxi service available.

### Transportation Around Edinburgh

Enjoy riding the Hop On and Off bus to get around the following stops in Edinburgh.





### **Other Places to see in Edinburgh in your free time**

Royal Botanic Garden  
Mermaid: Ross Fountain in Edinburgh  
Royal Yacht Britannia  
Waverley Bridge  
John Knox House  
Hard Rock Cafe of Edinburgh  
National Museum of Scotland  
Scottish National Gallery  
Greyfriars Kirkyard: Greyfriars Bobbie grave/statue and Thomas Riddell's Grave from Harry Potter  
Scottish Parliament  
Scotch Whiskey Heritage Center  
Murder and Mystery Walking Tour  
Edinburgh Zoo  
Underground Vaults Walking Tour  
Princes Street Gardens  
Museum of Edinburgh  
Writers Museum  
Scottish Story Telling Center  
Museum of Magic and Fortune Telling  
Shop: Potions and Cauldrons, The Enchanted Galaxy, Museum Context  
Official Harry Potter Shop  
Frankenstein & Bier Keller Theme Bar/Restaurant - for night life and music.  
The Elephant House – Café where J.K. Rowling wrote some of the first Harry Potter book.

## **Pricing for the Scotland Goddess and Sacred Site Tour!**



### ***Payments and Costs***

***Registration Price***  
***See website for pricing [www.glamourgan.uk](http://www.glamourgan.uk)***

**Only 4 Spots Available**



## **Inclusions and Exclusions Scotland Goddess and Sacred Site Tour**

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**Includes:** Hotel accommodation. Entrance fees to: Rosslyn Chapel, Melrose Abbey, Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood Abbey, Holyrood The Royal Palace, Holyrood Gardens, Doune Castle and Arthur Seat. Transportation: Minibus for Outlander Highland tour to Culross, Falkland, Lallybroch, Blackness Castle, and Doune Castle; and Minibus for DaVinci Tour to Rosslyn and Melrose. Tour Guides. Double Occupancy: Rooms are shared with a group member. 2 beds per room.

Upgraded private rooms are sometimes available upon request.

**Not Included:** Airfare to Edinburgh, Scotland is not included. Shuttle to and from airport. Meals are not included. Taxis, "Hop On and Off Bus" not included. The Queens Gallery not included. You will need to purchase a two-day ticket for the Hop on and Hop Off bus approx. £30. Free Day Events and Tickets Not included. Falkland Palace approx. £18.50, Culcross Palace approx. £14.50. Tipping not included. Travel insurance is highly recommended for medical emergencies and unexpected cancellations. Please contact a provider. Travel insurance is not included. Glamourgan will be using <http://www.allianztravelinsurance.com/>

**Payments/Deposits:** Initial deposits are non-refundable. Payments are made through PayPal. PayPal accepts all forms of payment credit, checking and debit. Payment plan arrangements may be made with approval.

**Transportation to and from airport will be recommended. The airport is approximately 20 min. to Edinburgh and is easy to get to by taxi service.**

**Cancellation Policy: No refunds on initial deposits. No refunds on tour after 7 days of purchase.**

See terms and policies for more information  
<https://glamourgan.uk/travel-terms-and-policies>

## ***Your Hostess and Guide***



### ***Glamourgan***

***Glamourgan*** is an International Psychic, Spiritual Advisor and Inspirational Coach with a worldwide client base at [www.glamougan.uk](http://www.glamougan.uk). She has hosted Goddess and Sacred Site Tours since 2010. She is a published author, book publisher, and owner of House of Glamourgan Radio.

[www.houseofglamourgan.com](http://www.houseofglamourgan.com)

Journey into the world of the Goddess with Glamourgan as provides a one to three year, online, *Priestess of the Goddess Study and Certification Program* for women who wish to learn more about the Goddess.

She is the author of *Goddess Scopes Horoscopes*, sun sign based monthly horoscopes interpreted through the eyes of the Goddess since 2009.

Explore the world of the Goddess with Glamourgan as she hosts many Goddess and Sacred Site Tours to England, Ireland, France, Scotland and Greece.

Glamourgan owns House of Glamourgan Radio and has been a radio host for many years on and a special guest featured on many radio shows such as, CBS Radio and Hayhouse Radio.

Do you have more questions? Ready

[www.glamougan.uk](http://www.glamougan.uk)



## ***Pagan Mythology and Scotland***

### **Pagan Festivals**

**Samhain or Calan Gaeaf**

**Imbolc or Gŵyl Fair**

**Beltane or Calan Mai**

**Lughnasadh or Calan Awst**

**Rivers:** The rivers in Scotland were considered the dwelling places of Goddesses with their characteristic denoting the nature of the river, such as the River Forth being called "deaf or soundless river" on account of its silent flow conditions, and the River Clyde called as "the purifying river" as it caused scouring and cleansing, carrying "mud and clay" during the flood season.



**We cross the River Forth on our journey through the Highlands.**

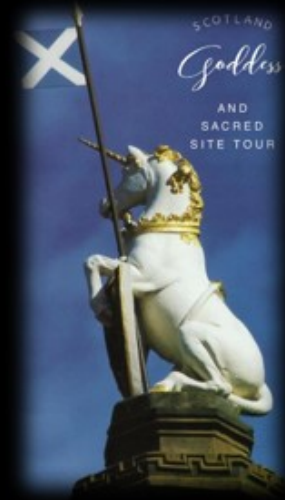
**Goddess Cailleach The Hag:** The "hag", the Goddess, the Gaelic Cailleach, and the Giantess, a divine being, a "healer" and helpful during childbirth and is divine and said to have "long ancestry and incredible longevity". She is also known as "at once creator and destroyer, gentle and fierce, mother and nurturer".

**Goddess Brigit:** In Scotland her name is spelled: Bhrìghde, Brighid, Bride. She is the Goddess of poetry, healing, smith craft, fire and a triple Goddess.

**Selkies:** Selkies are said to live as seals in the sea but shed their skin to become human on land.

**Mermaids:** is a legendary aquatic creature with the head and upper body of a female human and the tail of a fish. Mermaid sightings have occurred of the coasts, river and lakes of Scotland. In Scotland, a Ceasg is a fresh-water mermaid.

**Unicorn:** is the national symbol of Scotland. It is regarded as a symbol of purity, joy, innocence, and grace, and as a creature with mystic powers that can heal sickness and pain by virtue of its magical horn. Only virgins have the capability to capture a unicorn, as these freedom-loving creatures become so enthralled by the virtue of a virgin maiden that one will surrender itself to the maiden, and willingly fall asleep in her lap



**Kelpie:** Kelpie, or water kelpie, is the Scots name given to a shape-shifting water spirit inhabiting the lochs and pools of Scotland. It has usually been described as appearing as a horse, but is able to adopt human form. Some accounts state that the kelpie retains its hooves when appearing as a human, leading to its association with the Christian idea of Satan as alluded to by Robert Burns in his 1786 poem "Address to the Deil".

Almost every sizeable body of water in Scotland has an associated kelpie story, but the most extensively reported is that of Loch Ness.



**Finfolk:** are sorcerous shapeshifters of the sea, the dark mysterious race from Finfolkaheem who regularly make an amphibious journey from the depths of the Finfolk ocean home to the Orkney Islands. They wade, swim or sometimes row upon the Orkney shores in the spring and summer months, searching for human captives. The Finfolk



**Tuatha Dé Danann**, the faery folk or “Peoples of the Goddess Dana” are a race of supernatural beings in the native mythological and folkloric traditions of Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man.

**Lock Ness Monster:** The Loch Ness Monster, or Nessie, is an aquatic being which reputedly inhabits Loch Ness in the Scottish Highlands. It is similar to other supposed lake monsters in Scotland and elsewhere, and is often described as being large in size, with a long neck and one or more humps protruding from the water. Popular interest and belief in the creature has varied since it was brought to worldwide attention in 1933.

