
GEEO ITINERARY

SCOTLAND FAMILY 6/29/2022 - Summer

Day 1: Edinburgh Arrive at any time. Attend a welcome meeting in the evening.

Arrive at any time. We recommend arriving a day early to fully explore this lively city. There are no planned activities until an evening welcome meeting. Check the notice boards or ask at reception for the exact time and location of the group meeting, typically 6:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. After the meeting, you might like to take the option of heading out for a meal in a nearby local restaurant to further get to know your tour leader and travel companions. Please make every effort to arrive on time for this welcome meeting. If you are delayed and will arrive late, please inform us. Your tour leader will then leave you a message at the front desk informing you of where and when to meet up.

Day 2: Edinburgh/Inverness (B) Enjoy an orientation walk of Edinburgh ending in the heart of the city, Royal Mile road. Opt to visit Edinburgh Castle, or explore the city on your own. In the afternoon, hop on a private transfer to the Highlands.

Enjoy an orientation walk of Edinburgh ending in the heart of the city, Royal Mile road. After the orientation walk, we highly recommend visiting Edinburgh Castle. This historic fortress dominates the skyline of the city from its position on Castle Rock. It is the home of the Crown Jewels of Scotland, the Stone of Destiny, and the National War Museum. The entrance fee of 20 GBP includes entrance to all attractions within Edinburgh Castle. Please note that to visit Edinburgh Castle, you'll need to reserve a ticket. To guarantee entrance, we advise pre-purchasing your ticket on their website. In the afternoon, hop on a private transfer to the Highlands. Approximate travel time: 4 hrs by private vehicle

Day 3: Inverness (B) Welcome to the Highlands of Scotland. This morning, options include hiking in Glenmore Forest, kayaking, or a visit to a reindeer farm. After lunch, board an educational cruise on the Loch Ness. Explore Urquhart Castle and Culloden Moor.

Welcome to the Highlands of Scotland. This morning, opt to visit Cairngorms National Park. Hike in Glenmore Forest, ending in Loch Morlich Beach. Or instead, consider a kayaking excursion. Another option is a visit to a reindeer farm with a ranger. You will only have time for one of these activities. After lunch, enjoy a relaxing cruise (2-3hrs) along Loch Ness lake. This freshwater loch in the Scottish Highlands is best known for alleged sightings of Nessie, the fabled Loch Ness Monster. Visit Urquhart Castle, one of Scotland's largest castles at the center of great conflict during its 500 years as a medieval fortress. Explore the history of this strategic fortress and the stories revolving around the power struggles between the Scots and the English amidst the Wars of Independence. Then we visit the infamous Culloden battlefield, site of the Battle of Culloden, known as the final confrontation of the Jacobite rising of 1745. Here, Jacobite forces of Charles Edward Stuart were decisively defeated by Hanoverian forces commanded by William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland which therefore put an end to the Jacobite rising. Explore the battlefield and moor at your own pace, or opt to join a guided tour. Approximate travel time: 2 hrs by private vehicle

Day 4: Inverness/Fort William (B) Discover the beautiful Isle of Skye. Stop at Eilean Castle, visit Sligachan, where you can spot the Black Cullin mountains in the background. Visit Dunvegan Castle and its Gardens. Take a ferry from Armadale to Mallaig and enjoy time in Fort William.

Discover the beautiful Isle of Skye. Enjoy a scenic drive to the Isle, stopping at the iconic Eilean Castle while en route for a snap of the old fortress. Once on the Isle, visit Sligachan, where you can spot the Black Cullin mountains in the background. Head north to visit Dunvegan Castle and its Gardens. Dunvegan Castle is the oldest continuously inhabited castle in Scotland and has been the ancestral home

of the Chiefs of clan MacLeod for 800 years. Visit this castle originally designed as a defensive fortress and learn the history behind Scotland's clan system. Afterward, explore the five acres of the Castle's formal gardens on the property. Explore the stark contrast to the barren moorland and mountains that dominate Skye's landscape by getting lost in a hidden oasis of an eclectic mix of plants, woodland glades, and shimmering pools fed by waterfalls and streams flowing down to the sea. In the evening, take a ferry from Armadale to Mallaig and enjoy some free time in Fort William. Approximate travel time: 2.5 hrs by private vehicle

Day 5: Fort William (B) Visit the Glenfinnan Viaduct made famous by Harry Potter. Watch the Jacobite Steam train cross over the viaduct. Stretch your legs with a forest walk followed by a distillery tour and whisky tasting at Ben Nevis Distillery. Explore Glencoe and learn about its importance in Scotland's history.

Start the day by visiting the Glenfinnan Viaduct. Glenfinnan attracts many thousands of visitors from around the world to experience the stunning scenery but also to catch a glimpse of the famous Jacobite steam train, also known as the Hogwart's Express in the Harry Potter novels and films, travel across the Glenfinnan viaduct. The viaduct carries the railway to Glenfinnan Station across an impressive 1,000 ft (305m) span, 100 ft (30m) above the ground. While in the area, raise your bonnet to the lone highlander on top of the Glenfinnan Monument. Framed by spectacular Highland scenery at the head of Loch Shiel, the Glenfinnan Monument is a striking tribute to those who fought in the Jacobite Risings. It commemorates the Jacobite clansmen who fought and gave their lives in support of Charles Edward Stuart, often called "Bonnie Prince Charlie". Afterward, stretch your legs with a forest walk (1.5-2 hrs, 3km). Ben Nevis is the highest mountain in the British Isles. Standing at 1,345 meters (4,412 feet 8¾ inches) above sea level, it is at the western end of the Grampian Mountains in the Lochaber area of the Scottish Highlands. Set off an easy hike through Achriabhach Forest beginning initially uphill and then continuing through tree-lined paths, passing a waterfall and reaching superb views across Glen Nevis. Next, we visit Ben Nevis Distillery, known for its location at the base of Ben Nevis and for its exceptional whisky. Tour the distillery and enjoy a whisky tasting. Continue on to explore Glencoe. Scotland's most famous and most scenic Highland glen, Glencoe is also steeped in history. Known as the weeping valley, it was the site of the 1692 massacre of the MacDonald clan. Visit Rannoch Moor and the Black Mount and learn about the intricate history of this natural paradise. Approximate travel time: 5 to 6 hrs by private vehicle

Day 6 Fort William/Glasgow City (B) Head south towards Glasgow. Enjoy some free time to explore Scotland's largest city. Visit its museums, join a brewery tour or jump on a bike tour of the city.

Head south towards Glasgow. Enjoy some free time to explore Scotland's largest city. Glasgow is a port city on the River Clyde in Scotland's western Lowlands. It's famed for its Victorian and art nouveau architecture, a rich legacy of the city's 18th-20th-century prosperity due to trade and shipbuilding. Today it's a national cultural hub, home to institutions including the Scottish Opera, Scottish Ballet and National Theatre of Scotland, as well as acclaimed museums and a thriving music scene. Approximate travel time: 3 hrs by private vehicle

Day 7: Glasgow City (B) Depart Glasgow at any time.

Depart Glasgow at any time. Want more adventure? Book two or more GEEO trips in the same year and receive a discount! GEEO will give you 10% off of the lesser value program(s) (up to 3 programs). If you don't see a program that interests you that pairs with this trip, but still would like to extend your time abroad, let us know. We will work with you to find a non-teacher trip from our tour operator's much larger catalog. Even better, if you are an educator, we can still offer you a discounted price on the trip you choose!