

Oban Bay, from McCaig's Tower

# **'Argyll & Bute' Tour, 2020** *'Men of Worth'* James Keigher & Donnie Macdonald

10 Nights: Fri 5 – Sun 14, June (Dispersing morning of 15<sup>th</sup>June) Featuring

Mount Stuart; Kilmartin Glen; Auchindrain Township; Inveraray Castle; Oban Distillery; Crinan Canal; Church at Kilmun; Cruise on Loch Lomond

<u>The Holiday Inn</u> at Glasgow Airport <u>Stonefield Castle Hotel</u>, Tarbert, Argyll & Bute <u>Loch Fyne Hotel & Spa</u>, Inveraray, Argyll & Bute The Holiday Inn at Glasgow Airport 1 Night 3 Nights 5 Nights 1 Night

\$2,950 Per/Person (Sharing room, Double or Twin))
\$3,450 Per/Person (Single)
(Note: Limited Single space. Please check availability)

Payment by check or money order only, payable to Minch Music.

Minch Music, 8034 Avalos Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610

Includes:10 nights Dinner, B&B — Coach — Ferries — Activities/Visits — Meal-tips.Excludes:Air Travel — Lunches — Driver-tip — and Insurance.

Contact:Donnie Macdonaldhm (916)723-6320mob(916)214-4776E-mail:minchmusic@comcast.netMen of Worth Web-site:www.menofworth.com

#### **Proposed Itinerary**

#### Day 1 Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

Activity As tour members arrive independently at Glasgow Airport, cross the road to the Holiday Inn, and check in under MINCH MUSIC TOUR. Gather in the Bar for a Welcome Drink at 6.00pm, then Dinner at 7.00p
 Evening After Dinner, Evening free to relax, and prepare for morning departure. Holiday Inn, Glasgow Airport. (D. B.)

#### Day 2 Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

Activity Depart Holiday Inn driving west and south to the terminal at Wemyss Bay for the ferry crossing to Rothesay on the <u>Isle of Bute</u>. Our main purpose is a guided tour of <u>Mount Stuart</u>, built by the Marquis of Bute.
 We depart Bute on the short 5-minute crossing to the Cowal Peninsula. An

abundance of scenery is visible on the drive to **Portavadie**, where we board the third and final ferry of the day across **Loch Fyne** to **Tarbert**. Our destination is **Stonefield Castle Hotel**.

(Independent Lunch at Mount Stuart)

**Evening** After **Dinner**, Entertainment with **Men of Worth** 

Hotel Stonefield Castle Hotel, Tarbert, Loch Fyne, Argyll & Bute (D. B.)

#### Day 3 Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

Activity Depart for Kilmartin Glen, the richest concentrations of Neolithic monuments and historical sites on mainland Scotland. Other than time to browse in the Kilmartin Museum, we will arrange a guided walk which should last 2.5 hours. FYI: Dunadd lies a few miles to the south. This is where kings were crowned back when the area was known as Dalriada. (Google Dunadd)(Google Dalriada) (Independent Lunch in Kilmartin. Obvious choice is Kilmartin Hotel)
 Evening Hotel Stonefield Castle Hotel, Tarbert, Loch Fyne, Argyll & Bute (D. B.)

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### Day 4 Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

- Activity A free day to enjoy <u>Tarbert</u>, a charming fishing village with a storied history. Ex Archivist with Argyll & Bute Council, Murdo Macdonald, will open the passages of local history for us. There are Published Walks available, as well as the ruins of <u>Tarbert Castle</u> which dominate the town. We will offer time in the company of Castle Guide, Robert MacPhail.
   FYI: Author, Neil Munro, wrote *Para Handy Tales*, first published 1931 Although dated, we get a feel for the waterways of Argyll & Bute through the antics of the comedic crew of the puffer, The Vital Spark. (Independent Lunch wherever you are)
   Evening After Dinner, Entertainment with Men of Worth, and Guest singers from the Tarbert & District Gaelic Choir
- Hotel Stonefield Castle Hotel, Tarbert, Loch Fyne, Argyll & Bute (D. B.)

## Day 5 Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

Day 5	Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020
Activity	We bid farewell to Stonefield Castle Hotel and drive north towards Adrishaig.
	Our first stop is at <u>Cairnbaan</u> to view Lock #5 of the <u>Crinan Canal</u> . Opened in
	1801, the canal is still active today as it links the inner waters of the greater Clyde
	Estuary with the more southerly islands of the Hebrides, and indeed, the Atlantic
	Ocean.
	(Independent Lunch at Cairnbaan Inn)
	We continue north along the shores of Loch Fyne to Auchindrain Township.
	The visit will include an introductory welcome, refreshments, and self-guided
	time around the old houses, barns, and tools etc. The buildings are in good
	condition and their close proximity to each other is typical of an earlier time.
	Later we depart for the short drive north to the Loch Fyne Hotel in Inveraray.
	(FYI: bookings for the Spa can be made in advance of our visit)
Evening	After Dinner, Entertainment with Men of Worth
Hotel	Loch Fyne Hotel & Spa, Inveraray, Argyll & Bute (D. B.)
Day 6	Wednesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020
Activity	Driver rest day. We are free to explore <b>Inveraray</b> , traditional county town of
	Argyll, and ancestral home of the <b>Dukes of Argyll</b> , one of whom founded the
	town in 1745, alongside his new dwelling, Inveraray Castle.
	Much of the town, including the church, was designed and built by Robert Mylne,
	the Edinburgh-born architect, between 1772 and 1800.
	You will find the Woolen Shop, and two Whisky Shops, among many interesting
	aspects of Inveraray. One of the popular attractions is the Old Inveraray Jail,
	available to us for a self-guided tour.
	A good physical activity would be to hike up to <b>Dùn na Cuaiche</b> for the view
	over the town, and down the reaches of Loch Fyne.
	(Independent Lunch, wherever you are)
Evening	After <b>Dinner</b> , Free time
Hotel	Loch Fyne Hotel & Spa, Inveraray, Argyll & Bute (D. B.)
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Day 7	Thursday, 11 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020

Activity To the eastern area of the county lies Loch Lomond. We drive by Loch Fyne and Loch Long to Tarbet where we board a Cruise Loch Lomond vessel to fully enjoy the famous loch. This will include berthing on the far shore at Inversnaid which offers spectacular views of Arklet Falls, the muse of Wordsworth and Sir Walter Scott, with un-spoiled surroundings and peaceful tranquility. (Provided Lunch on board)
 Evening Hotel
 Kotel Loch Fyne Hotel & Spa, Inveraray, Argyll & Bute (D. B.)

### Day 8 Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

Activity A day trip to Oban, the largest town in the county, and an important ferry terminal. An opportunity to enjoy leisurely shopping, and all else there is to offer. The population is just over 8,000, which can be tripled during the summer months. Today we will organize a visit to Oban Distillery. Also, a brief stop at St. Conan's Church, which is well worth a look. (Independent Lunch in Oban, or wherever you are)
 Evening Hotel
 After Dinner, Entertainment with Men of Worth Loch Fyne Hotel & Spa, Inveraray, Argyll & Bute (D. B.)

#### Day 9 Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

Activity Morning at leisure. Afternoon visit to <u>Inveraray Castle</u>. We will have a guided tour of the castle, the home of the **Duke of Argyll**, who is also the **Chief of the Clan Campbell**. An Inveraray Castle has been standing on the shores of Loch Fyne since the 1400s, although none as impressive as the castle we know today. (Independent Lunch in Inveraray)

**Evening** After **Dinner**, Entertainment with **Men of Worth** 

Hotel Loch Fyne Hotel & Spa, Inveraray, Argyll & Bute (D. B.)

#### Day 10 Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

Activity We depart Inveraray and return to the Holiday Inn at Glasgow Airport for our final evening. After a stop at Loch Fyne Oysters, the route takes us into the Cowal Peninsula, stopping in Strachur, for Lunch at Creggans Inn. Then south along the shore of Loch Eck to the Argyll Mausoleum at Kilmun Church. A talk by staff member explains the historical importance of this area. Midafternoon departure on the Car-Ferry from Dunoon to Gourock, and a fairly short drive past the famous ship-building towns of Greenock and Port Glasgow en route to the Holiday Inn at Glasgow Airport for our final night. (Provided Lunch at Creggans Inn)
 Evening Hotel Holiday Inn, Glasgow Airport. (D. B.)

# Day 11 Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

Activity Breakfast is included. This is the morning we all disperse. This is the Official End of the Tour! Thank You!

> Additional night, or nights, at the Holiday Inn before or after the tour? We can make your reservation. This arrangement is booked through Donnie. Call Donnie with queries (916) 723-6320 (916) 214-4776 (cell) <u>minchmusic@comcast.net</u> (Donnie's E-mail) <u>www.menofworth.com</u>

Note: Also, if you would like input relating to flights, and/or any additional time you plan to spend in Scotland, contact Donnie.