



## 'Inverness & Orkney' Tour, 2019

(Orkney; Kirkwall; Scara Brae; Culloden; Clava Cairns; Blair Castle; Loch Ness Cruise)

10 Nights: Sat 28 Sep – Mon 7 Oct  
(Dispersing morning of 8<sup>th</sup> Oct)

<a href="#">The Holiday Inn</a> @ GLA	1 night
<a href="#">Kingsmills Hotel</a> , Inverness	1 night
<a href="#">Orkney Hotel</a> , Kirkwall	4 nights
<a href="#">Kingsmills Hotel</a> , Inverness	3 nights
The Holiday Inn @ GLA	1 night

\$2,850 Per/Person (Sharing room, Double or Twin)

\$3,150 Per/Person (Single)

**(Note: Limited Single space. Please check availability)**

**Check or money order only, payable to Minch Music. (No credit card, sorry)**

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

**Includes: 10 nights Dinner, B&B — Coach — Ferries — Activities/Visits — Meal-tips.**

**Excludes: Air Travel — Lunches — Driver-tip — Insurance.**

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**E-mail: [minchmusic@comcast.net](mailto:minchmusic@comcast.net)**

## Proposed Itinerary

### Day 1 Saturday, 28 Sept, 2019

**Activity** As tour members arrive independently at Glasgow Airport, cross the road to the **Holiday Inn**, and check in under **MINCH MUSIC TOUR**.  
(Note: The Holiday Inn, and NOT the Holiday Inn Express)  
Gather in the bar for a **Welcome Drink** at **6.00pm**, prior to **Dinner** at **7.00pm**.

**Evening Hotel** After **Dinner**, Evening free to relax, and prepare for morning departure.  
**Holiday Inn, Glasgow Airport (D. B.)**

### Day 2 Sunday, 29 Sept, 2019

**Activity** Drive north by way of the A-9 road passing Stirling, Perth, Pitlochry en route.  
Stop at [Blair Castle](#), by [Blair Atholl](#), for a self-guided tour of the castle, garden and deer park. This is the ancestral home of the Clan Murray.  
Independent Lunch at Blair Castle.  
We arrive at the **Kingsmills Hotel** in **Inverness** late afternoon.

**Evening Hotel** After **Dinner**, Entertainment with **Men of Worth**  
**Kingsmills Hotel, Inverness, Inverness-shire (D. B.)**

### Day 3 Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2019

**Activity** At 8.30am... We depart Inverness, northbound on the A9 through the counties of [Sutherland and Caithness](#) to the ferry terminal at [Gills Bay](#).  
(Independent Lunch in the Café at Gills Bay Terminal)  
Ferry departs at 1.30pm for the 1 hour crossing to [St Margaret's Hope](#), on South Ronaldsay, then we drive to the **Orkney Hotel** in **Kirkwall**.

**Evening Hotel** After **Dinner**, Entertainment with **Men of Worth**  
**Orkney Hotel, Kirkwall, Orkney (D. B.)**

### Day 4 Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> Oct, 2019

**Activity** Depart 10.00am for a relaxed day of sight-seeing! Our guide is **Marita Luck**.  
Today we stop at the [Standing Stones of Stenness](#), and the [Ring of Brodgar](#) a Neolithic henge and stone circle. Most henges do not contain stone circles; Brodgar is a striking exception, ranking with Avebury (and to a lesser extent Stonehenge) among the greatest of such sites. After lunch, we drive by the [Brough of Birsay](#), followed by a visit to the popular [Corrigall Farm Museum](#), a traditional Orkney farmhouse in Victorian/late 19th century period. The site has a working barn, grain kiln, horse-drawn machinery and livestock. A traditional peat fire helps to recreate the atmosphere of times gone by.  
(Provided Lunch at Smithfield Restaurant, in Dounby)

**Evening Hotel** After **Dinner**, Entertainment with **Men of Worth**  
**Orkney Hotel, Kirkwall, Orkney (D. B.)**

## Day 5 Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct, 2019

### Activity

Depart 9.30am with Marita Luck to visit the [Italian Chapel](#) and drive by [Scapa Flow](#) (Aspects from WW11 relating to the Italian Prisoners of War, the Churchill Barriers, and the sinking of HMS Royal Oak on October 14, 1939).

Then on to the second largest town of [Stromness](#) for a lunch stop. In the afternoon we take in [Skara Brae](#), and [Skaill House](#). Skara Brae is a stone-built Neolithic settlement, located on the Bay of Skaill on the west coast of Mainland, the largest island in the Orkney archipelago of Scotland. Consisting of eight clustered houses, it was occupied from roughly 3180 BC to about 2500 BC.

Europe's most complete Neolithic village.

(Provided Lunch at Ferry Inn, Stromness)

### Evening Hotel

After **Dinner**, Entertainment with **Men of Worth**  
**Orkney Hotel, Kirkwall, Orkney (D. B.)**

## Day 6 Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct, 2019

### Activity

In the morning, we will take a **Walking Tour of Kirkwall** with Marita. This will include Britain's most northerly Cathedral, [St. Magnus Cathedral](#), the **Earl's Palace**, and the **Bishop's Palace**. St Magnus Cathedral, known as the 'Light in the North' was founded in 1137 by the Viking, Earl Rognvald, in honour of his uncle St Magnus.

Free time this afternoon. An opportunity to pursue an activity of choice!

(Independent Lunch wherever you are)

### Evening Hotel

After **Dinner**, Entertainment with **Men of Worth**  
**Orkney Hotel, Kirkwall, Orkney (D. B.)**

## Day 7 Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2019

### Activity

Depart hotel at 9.30am for ferry terminal at **St. Margaret's Hope**. Additional commentary on the coach from Marita, including a brief stop in the village, before we depart Orkney at 11.50am on the ferry back to Gills Bay. We pull into [John O'Groats](#) for a break and lunch/snack before proceeding south. We should reach **Inverness** around 6.00pm.

(Independent Lunch at John O'Groats)

### Evening Hotel

After **Dinner**, Free time  
**Kingsmills Hotel, Inverness (D. B.)**

## Day 8 Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2019

### Activity

Relaxed morning - 11.00am sail on the [Jacobite Cruise](#) from the Clansman Pier to the spectacular ruins of [Urquhart Castle](#), which lies just south of [Drumnadrochit](#) on the western shore of [Loch Ness](#). The Castle tour is self-guided, an audio-visual presentation in the Visitor Centre tells the story.

Afternoon is at leisure in Inverness. Bus drop-off 2.00pm, and pick-up 5.00pm.

(Independent Lunch at Urquhart Castle, or in Inverness)

### Evening Hotel

After **Dinner**, Entertainment with **Men of Worth**  
**Kingsmills Hotel, Inverness (D. B.)**

## **Day 9**      **Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2019**

### **Activity**

Morning free. We depart 12.30pm for the [Culloden Battlefield Centre](#), the scene of the 1746 disaster in Scottish history; A powerfully moving site where the Jacobite Rising came to its tragic end.

We have time to stop at the field at Balnuaran to visit the Bronze Age circular chamber tombs known as the [Clava Cairns](#) before returning to our hotel.

(Independent Lunch, at Culloden)

### **Evening**

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

### **Hotel**

**Kingsmills Hotel, Inverness (D. B.)**

## **Day 10**      **Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2019**

### **Activity**

We depart Inverness to return south by way of the A-82. We are planning a brief stop in [Fort Augustus](#), and a longer stay in [Fort William](#), on the shores of Loch Linnhe. It's known as a gateway to Ben Nevis, the U.K.'s highest peak, and Glen Nevis valley. Then, by way of [Loch Lomond](#), we arrive late afternoon back at the Holiday Inn.

(Independent Lunch in Fort William)

### **Evening**

We can enjoy a final **Dinner** together.

### **Hotel**

**Holiday Inn, Glasgow Airport (D. B.)**

## **Day 11**      **Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2019**

### **Activity**

Breakfast is included. This is the morning we all disperse.

**This is the Official End of the Tour! Thank You!**

**You could plan to fly out this morning...or make other plans.**

Call Donnie with questions (916) 723-6320 (916) 214-4776 (cell)

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