

Discover Liverpool & Scotland

Friendship Force Post-Conference Tour

5 Days / 4 Nights

Aug 28 - Sep 01, 2017

Price : 820,- GBP per person

(base 30 participants, sharing a double room)



DAY 1: Monday, August 28, 2017 Arrive in Liverpool

Depart the Midland Hotel in Manchester after the conference and head west on an hour-long drive to Liverpool where The Beatles were born and rose to fame. An afternoon check-in is called for at your hotel; following dinner you are free to explore the lively nightlife of Liverpool at your own pace.

Overnight: Liverpool

Meals: Dinner

DAY 2: Tuesday, August 29 - Liverpool City Tour, Lake District, Grasmere, Edinburgh

This morning a Liverpool city tour will take you to some of the notable sights made famous in song by the Beatles - such as Penny Lane and the Strawberry Fields. View the legendary Cavern Club where the Beatles began their journey to fame and Liverpool's stunning Albert

Dock complex, a reminder of Liverpool's history as a great and prosperous port. Heading out of town you will travel north along the shores of Windermere, the largest lake in England at the heart of the rolling hills of the picturesque Lake District. Continue toward the charming village of Grasmere, the 19th century home of the poet William Wordsworth. You then cross into Scotland at the border town of Gretna Green, famous for its "runaway" weddings, stopping for Afternoon Tea and fresh-baked scones at a local farmhouse. Arrive in Edinburgh, Scotland's capital city, with its exquisite Georgian and Victorian architecture and winding medieval streets. During your stay, discover the city's rich heritage and historic buildings. Its Old and New Town are listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Overnight: Edinburgh

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 3: Wednesday, August 30 - Edinburgh City Tour

This morning's tour of Edinburgh takes you past the Scottish Parliament and the baroque Palace of Holyrood house, the Queen's official residence in Scotland, once home of Mary, Queen of Scots. View the Museum of Scotland, and 12th century Edinburgh Castle, perched high above the city on volcanic rock at the top of the Royal Mile. Spend the balance of the day at leisure to discover this royal city independently. Perhaps, a stroll along Princes Street, the city's main thoroughfare with its many shops and cafes, or, stop at Princes Gardens, a lovely park in the center of the city.

Overnight: Edinburgh

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4: Thursday, August 31 - Full Day Braveheart Tour

Today you will depart Edinburgh headed northwest en route to Dunfermline Abbey, the final resting place of King Robert the Bruce. It was this celebrated king who was the victorious leader of the Scottish army during the Wars of Independence with England. In addition to King Robert the Bruce, seven other Kings of Scotland are also buried in the Abbey.

Touring resumes with your arrival at The National Wallace Monument that commemorates Sir William Wallace, the man immortalized in the movie *Braveheart*. Here you will climb some 246 steps to the top of this remarkable 19th century tower. Your visit features a chance to see Wallace's mighty broadsword and learn more about the Scottish independence movement. This vantage point from atop the tower is among the great panoramas in all of Scotland, overlooking the site of Wallace's famous victory at Stirling Bridge. One can also gaze to the west and view Ben Lomond, a distinctive mountain in the Scottish Highlands.

After a short drive, discover Stirling Castle, one of the largest and most important castles, both historically and architecturally, in Scotland.

Lunch will be provided in the castle's restaurant before taking a short drive through the nearby city center.

The final stop of the day is the Battle of Bannockburn Visitor Centre. It was here in June 1314 that the fate of Scotland was about to change forever when Robert the Bruce planted his standard and gathered his men to take on the might of the English army led by King Edward II. Your tour will include a walk the battleground and visit to Bannock Burn, a stretch of water that proved decisive in the battle. Your visit also includes a state-of-the-art and award-winning 3D battle simulation that furthers our understanding of how Bruce's victory at Bannockburn resonated with Scots throughout the centuries and indeed today!

A late afternoon return is planned back to Edinburgh where the evening will be free.

Overnight: Edinburgh

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 5: Friday, September 1 - Depart Scotland

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight home.

Optional: Airport transfer

Meals: Breakfast

PLEASE NOTE: This tour involves climbing 246 steps up into a tower

TOUR INCLUDES :

- 4 nights hotel accommodation. All rooms double occupancy with private bathrooms.
- Suggested properties are:
 - o Liverpool: [Feathers Hotel](#) (1 night)
 - o Edinburgh: [Holiday Inn City Centre](#) (3 nights)
- Breakfast daily
- 1 hotel dinner
- 1 lunch in Stirling
- Traditional Cream Tea at Gretna Green
- Tour manager throughout
- Private air conditioned luxury touring motorcoach for all transfers, touring and activities
- Local guide Edinburgh
- Admission costs or donations for visits where applicable.

NOT INCLUDED

- Flights
- Airport Transfers
- Health, trip cancellation/interruption or baggage insurance. All are strongly recommended.
- Passport & visa costs.
- Items of a personal nature (hotel extras, laundry, phone calls etc.).
- Items not specifically mentioned above.

IMPORTANT NOTE :

Generally FFI makes airport transfer arrangements for pre- and post-conference tours, however, we are leaving this open this year so you can be flexible to continue your travels throughout Europe or take advantage of all the great budget airline offers available in Europe (the earlier you book, the better the price!)

The train goes directly from Edinburgh to the airport throughout the day for approximately 6.00GBP per person You can buy your ticket directly at the station.