

## **Scotland & London**

### **Day 1**



*Welcome to Edinburgh, the hilly capital. With its medieval Old Town and elegant Georgian New Town with gardens and neoclassical buildings. Looming over the city is Edinburgh Castle, home to Scotland's crown jewels and the Stone of Destiny, used in the coronation of Scottish rulers. Arthur's Seat is an imposing peak in Holyrood Park with sweeping views, and Calton Hill is topped with monuments and memorials.*

*Upon arrival you will be meet in the arrivals hall by your driver and taken to your hotel.*

*The rest of day will at your leisure.*

### **Day 2**

*Edinburgh and half day guided panoramic tour experience a small taste of centuries of history and architecture in and around Scotland's Capital.*

*See the Castle, dating back to the Iron Age, home of several Monarchs and to the Scottish Crown Jewels & Stone of Destiny.*

*Drive down the Royal Mile and experience ancient Edinburgh. At the bottom of The Royal Mile sits The Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official Scottish residence of the Monarch which was built in the 16th Century. Your tour will take you past the Scottish Parliament and round Edinburgh's extinct volcano, "Arthur's Seat" and then into the "New Town" to see the difference between the old medieval and "New" Georgian cities*

*Before returning to your hotel.*

### **Day 3**



*Departing Edinburgh you will travel past Linlithgow palace and Stirling Castle. To the north is the National Wallace Monument, which commemorates Scotland's great hero, William Wallace.*

*You will pass close to the location where William Wallace defeated the English army in 1297, and after this take a short stop for coffee at Callander.*

*The scenery changes dramatically as you venture further into the Highlands. The flat plains of the lowlands transform into shimmering lochs, rugged mountains, and forest-filled glens. The alluring beauty makes it easy to forget this was once a battleground of the fiercely territorial Highland clans.*

*You then head down to Scotland's most famous valley, Glencoe, where you'll be mesmerised by the beautiful cliff faces and steep slopes.*



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*After Glencoe, you enter a deep glacial valley, known as the Great Glen. Passing through the town of Fort William you travel in the shadow of Britain's highest mountain, Ben Nevis, before arriving at Fort Augustus on the shore of Loch Ness.*

*At 23 miles long and over 700ft deep, Loch Ness is the largest loch by volume in Scotland. The loch is best known for the legendary Loch Ness Monster ("Nessie"), and you can take the opportunity to go in search of the monster on a fantastic boat cruise. Or you can simply enjoy the beautiful scenery on the banks.*

*Fort Augustus boasts the Caledonian Canal, which is a great spot to relax and watch the boats sail by. You stop here with time to eat lunch and take in the scenery around Scotland's most famous loch.*

*From Loch Ness, you head south through the mountains of the Cairngorms National Park. Your route travels alongside Loch Laggan (the setting for the BBC series 'Monarch of the Glen'), over the Drumochter Pass and past 13th century Blair Castle.*

*You continue south through the forests of Perthshire and make a short refreshment stop on the way. South of Perth you drive past Loch Leven. Then it's over the Queensferry Crossing before returning to Edinburgh.*

#### **Day 4**

*Leaving Edinburgh behind you will head to Manchester, a major city in the northwest of England with a rich industrial heritage. The Castlefield conservation area's 18th-century canal system recalls the city's days as a textile powerhouse, and visitors can trace this history at the interactive Museum of Science & Industry. The revitalised Salford Quays dockyards now house the Daniel Libeskind-designed Imperial War Museum North and the Lowry cultural centre.*



*On route to Manchester you will take a tour of the Lake District, also known as the Lakes or Lakeland, is a mountainous region in North West England. A popular holiday destination, it is famous for its lakes, forests and mountains (or fells), and its associations with William Wordsworth and other Lake Poets and also with Beatrix Potter and John Ruskin. The National Park was established in 1951 and covers an area of 2,362 square kilometres. It was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2017.*

#### **Day 5**



*Today you are the capital of capital of England and the United Kingdom is your destination. London is a 21st-century city with history stretching back to Roman times. At its centre stand the imposing Houses of Parliament, the iconic 'Big Ben' clock tower and Westminster Abbey, site of British monarch coronations. Across the Thames River, the London Eye observation wheel provides panoramic views of the South Bank cultural complex, and the entire city.*

*But before reaching London a visit to the market town with more than 800 years of history, William Shakespeare's hometown of Stratford-upon-Avon, where you will be able to see the half-timbered house where the brilliant playwright was born! Explore the inspiring surroundings that spurred him to become the incredible playwright that we now know him as!*



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## Day 6



After breakfast you will make your way to the meeting point to explore London and the sights. The morning part of the tour begins with a visit to St Paul's Cathedral where we enter as their doors open. We will explore the masterpiece designed by Wren in 1673 with a professional guide, taking time to listen to the 1695 organ that Mendelssohn once played and visit the tombs of Nelson and Wellington.

Next a photo stop outside Westminster Abbey before we head for the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace.

Buckingham Palace is the official Royal residence of Her Majesty the Queen. Watch the world famous changing of the Guard ceremony as the Queen's soldiers, dressed in their fabulous tunics and busbies march to military music.

In the afternoon arriving at the Tower of London built in 1066 by William the Conqueror, our guide will regale you with fascinating insights into the history of this Royal Palace and fortress. Ample time will be given to view the Crown Jewels and the White Tower and to wander around this imposing fortress.

Finally you will take a boat trip on the River Thames Enjoy excellent views of Tower Bridge, The Shard, St. Paul's Cathedral, Shakespeare's Globe and of the Houses of Parliament from the river whilst being entertained by our tour guide.

Standing at an amazing 135 metres above the centre of London, the London Eye is the world's highest observation wheel and offers magnificent panoramic views. Tour will finish at London-eye.

*\*Please note: St Paul's Cathedral - on Sundays there will be no guiding inside the cathedral due to church services.*

*\*Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace - subject to availability and scheduling which is not known to nearer the date.*

## Day 7

Stardom awaits you! Step into the spotlight as you accept your exclusive invitation to Madame Tussauds London, the home of famous fun in the capital. Join your favourite celebs at the ULTIMATE A-list party, including Tom Hardy and Eddie Redmayne, strut your stuff on the catwalk with Cara, take the hot seat alongside will.i.am in The Voice Experience or join the Royal Family for an official photoshoot.



The afternoon will be spent at your leisure, why not visit, bustling Oxford Street, the heart of London shopping with more than 300 shops, designer outlets and landmark stores: here you can find some of the best shopping in London. Home to the legendary Selfridges, it also boasts a range of famous department stores.

## Day 8

Sadly today is departure day, your driver will pick you up in plenty of time you transfer them to the airport, ready for their flight home.



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