

keen BANK

invites you to join us as we explore...

Hidden Gems of Scotland & Ireland

May 5-21, 2025



Edinburgh Castle, Scotland



St Andrews, Scotland



Giant Causeway, Ireland



Sliabh Liag Cliffs, Scotland

Explore the Hidden Gems of Scotland & Ireland

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Explore the diverse, stunning landscapes, rich history, vibrant local culture and warm hospitality as you tour the hidden gems of Scotland and Ireland.

The expansive allure of beautiful countryside and dramatic coastlines, paired with local flavors, endless pubs, restaurants and live music, makes for a unforgettable adventure.

Included Features:

- Local Transfers from/to Waseca & Owatonna
- Roundtrip Airfare from/to Minneapolis
- Luxury Motorcoach Transportation
- Professional Local Tour Director
- Local Guides
- Superior First Class Hotels & Lodges, as listed
- Breakfast Daily
- Lunch & Dinners, as listed



Highlights and Places You'll Visit:

- Edinburgh City Tour & Castle
- Walking tour of St Andrews
- Blair Castle & Atholl Distillery
- Culloden Battlefield
- Cruise on Loch Ness
- McDonald Battlefield
- Isle of Mull
- Isle of Iona & Iona Abbey
- Loch Lomond
- Glasgow, Belfast & Dublin city tours
- Giants Causeway & Glens of Antrim
- Walking tour of Derry
- Sliabh Liag Cliffs
- Achill Island tour & Sea Salt Visitor Centre

Flight Schedule:

May 5

Leave Minneapolis 5:35 pm via Amsterdam arriving in Edinburgh at 12:40 pm, next day.

May 21

Leave Dublin 12:00 pm arriving in Minneapolis at 2:45 pm.

Flight schedule and times subject to change at airline's discretion.

Day to Day Itinerary

May 5-6: Overnight Flight to Scotland

Enjoy an overnight flight to Scotland and be greeted by your Scottish tour guide and travel to the city of Edinburgh. During a panoramic tour of the city you will hear tales from the body snatchers about Edinburgh, its subterranean city and the Greyfriars Bobby. The remainder of the afternoon will be free to explore. Edinburgh is Scotland's compact, hilly capital, offering a medieval Old Town and elegant Georgian New Town with gardens and neoclassical buildings. This evening you will meet up with fellow travelers for dinner.

Overnight, Hotel Indigo Edinburgh, dinner included

May 7: Edinburgh

Explore the highlights of Edinburgh this morning. Visit the bustling Princes Street through the gracious, wide streets of the 200-year-old Georgian "New Town". Walk along part of the Royal Mile where compact medieval houses reach several stories tall. Visit Edinburgh Castle perched high above the city on volcanic rock, home to the Scottish Crown Jewels. The afternoon will be free to explore the local culture of bars and restaurants along the Royal Mile or visit the shops, boutiques and historic landmarks around Princes Street.

Overnight, Hotel Indigo Edinburgh

May 8: St Andrews & Dunkeld

Leaving Edinburgh cross the Forth Bridge and continue on to St Andrews, a town rich in medieval history and also known as the "home of golf". After a walking tour with your local guide, enjoy some free time in the town. Continue on to Dunkeld, known as the Gateway to the Highlands, located on the River Tay and home to historic Dunkeld Cathedral.

Overnight, Dunkeld House Hotel, dinner included

May 9: Blair Castle & Pitlochry

The morning's excursion includes the entrance to Blair Castle, the ancestral home of the Duke of Atholl and Britain's only private army, Atholl Highlanders. Take a guided tour and enjoy whiskey tasting at Blair Atholl Distillery. The afternoon is free to explore the town of Pitlochry or enjoy a round of golf at a local course (additional cost).

Overnight, Dunkeld House Hotel, dinner included

May 10: Culloden & Inverness

Travel through the Cairngorms National Park to Culloden and visit the scene of the Battle of Culloden, where the Jacobite rising was brought to an end as well as Bonnie Prince Charlie's claim to the Throne of England. This battle forever changed the course of Scottish history. Continue on to Inverness, the heart of the Highlands, with time to explore the town before traveling along the river Ness and your hotel located on the Loch Ness. Keep your eye out for Nessie.

Overnight, Loch Ness Lodge Hotel, dinner included

May 11: Loch Ness, Glencoe & Isle of Mull

Today you will drive along the banks of Loch Ness to Oban. View Urquart Castle before joining a cruise on Loch Ness. Hear tales of Nessie and learn about the origins and history of the Loch.

Continue south through Spean Bridge and Fort William which has stunning views of Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in the UK. On then to Glencoe, the scene of the treacherous massacre of the McDonald clan in 1692, with a visit to the Glencoe Visitor Centre. Travel west to the coast and board a Ferry for your two night stay on the Isle of Mull.

Overnight, Isle of Mull Hotel & Spa, dinner included

May 12: Isle of Iona

The Isles of Mull and Iona are great places to experience the natural beauty of the rugged cliffs, silver-sand beaches, dramatic mountains, ancient forests and flowering machair. Combined with sparkling lochs, rivers and waterfalls, the Isle of Mull and Iona are simply breathtaking places to visit. Today you'll have the opportunity to explore both Isle Mull and Iona. Spend the afternoon exploring this unique Island with a visit to the Iona Abbey, famous as a holy island and the birthplace of Christianity in Scotland. Enjoy free time to shop the many boutiques, enjoy a walk along it's spectacular shoreline or explore the sites.

Overnight, Isle of Mull Hotel & Spa, dinner included



May 13: Loch Lomond & Glasgow

After breakfast, head out along the banks of Loch Lomond to Glasgow. Join your local guide for a tour of Glasgow's many highlights along with a drive around George Square with its ornate City Chambers. During the Victorian times Glasgow flourished as the center of shipbuilding and trade. Spend the afternoon with free time to explore on your own.

Overnight, Maldron Hotel Glasgow City

May 14: Depart Scotland to Ireland

Travel this morning through the lowlands to Carinryan where you will bid farewell to your Scottish guide and hop a ferry to Belfast, Ireland. Meet your Irish guide for a panoramic tour of Belfast before checking in to your hotel and gather with new members of your group for a welcome to Ireland dinner.

Overnight, Belfast Europa Hotel, dinner included

Day to Day Itinerary (cont.)

May 15: Belfast

Join your local guide for a city tour of Belfast. See the famous murals on the Falls and Shankill Road and learn about the history and strife of this city. Visit the Titanic Visitor Centre and learn about the construction and fate of the luxury liner. Later this afternoon join a local culinary guide for a dine around town experience on a gentle walking tour, stopping at various venues for food and drinks. The evening is free to explore the city and nightlife.

Overnight, Belfast Europa Hotel, Dine Around Town Experience included

May 16: The Giants Causeway & Derry

As you leave Belfast, you will travel through the Glens of Antrim to the Giants Causeway—an area of about 40,000 interlocking basalt columns—a result of an ancient volcano. This is one of the most spectacular natural wonders of the world. Continue on to Derry City where you will join a walking tour and hear about the history of the city and see many of the locations used for filming the TV series, Derry Girls. Dine at the Walled City Brewery before returning to your hotel.

Overnight, Derry Everglades Hotel, dinner included

May 17: Sliabh Liag & Sligo

Leaving Derry, you will head west to Donegal and on through the Glengesh Pass to Sliabh Liag. These impressive sea cliffs are three times the height of the Cliffs of Moher—a coastal wall and geological marvel extending five miles along the coast. From there, watch a weaving demonstration at Triona Design and stop in at Nancy's Bar. After lunch, travel on to Sligo for a visit to a local craft brewery. Continue on to Westport for your next two nights. Westport is a bustling town full of traditional bars and restaurants, many of which have music in the evening including the famous Matt Malloy's Pub.

Overnight, Westport Castlecourt Hotel, dinner included

May 18: Achill Island

After enjoying breakfast, explore along the coast of Achill Island. Achill was the base for many movies scenes from The Banshee's of Inisherin. While on the island, visit Achill Island Sea Salt Visitor Centre with a unique experience along the wild Atlantic Way. Lunch at Gielty's Bar is included in this tour. Return to Westport for a free evening to explore the town and find some more pubs and meet the locals.

Overnight, Westport Castlecourt Hotel, lunch and dinner included

May 19: Athlone & Dublin

Today, you head to Dublin, the Emerald Isle's capital city. Along the way, you will make a stop at The Shed Distillery where they make Gunpowder Gin for a tour and tasting. Stop in the historic town of Athlone and visit Ireland's oldest pub, Sean's Bar, which dates back to 900 AD and still has some of the original wall which has been carbon dated to prove the authenticity of their claim to be the country's oldest pub. Arrive in Dublin for a rousing night of song, dance and storytelling while you have dinner at the Merry Ploughboy.

Overnight, Ashling Hotel Dublin, dinner included

May 20: Dublin

After breakfast, explore the highlights and history of Dublin with its elegant Georgian buildings, Christ Church Cathedral, the River Liffey and more. Also tour Trinity College Library, if available. The rest of the day is yours to explore Dublin and Grafton Street, Ireland's premier shopping street, surrounded by many bars and restaurants. Grafton Street delivers a lively, busking scene.

Overnight, Ashling Hotel Dublin

May 21: Return to USA

Depart this morning for your return flight home with wonderful memories of your Scotland and Ireland adventure.

For More Information Contact:

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