

**Times of Worship:** This is a custom tour for a church group. At your leader's discretion we aim to include time for –

- a service of welcome
- morning prayers on the coach
- Sunday service (Church of Scotland)
- closing worship

**Contact Us:**

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Matt Rich and Kathryn McGregor

*Retreat, Renewal and Pilgrimage are spiritual practices at the heart of Christian community. We invite you to participate in a travel pilgrimage to Scotland in the Spring of 2026. Such a journey encourages us to be more than tourists, intentionally engaging with what we see and do in holy places, with people we are bound to in this community of faith, while also learning about the faith of those who have gone before us. We look forward to walking with you as we explore Unity's spiritual roots from Edinburgh to St Andrews, to Iona, and points in between, as pilgrims together.*

*Matt and Kathryn*



*Dear Fellow Traveler,*

*People are always telling me they would love to visit Scotland. Whether it is the majestic scenery of the highlands which attracts them; or our castles, churches and cities steeped in history; or maybe our proud tradition of hospitality – all these and more combine to make a trip to Scotland an unforgettable experience.*

*For people of faith Scotland also has much to offer. Christianity came to these shores no later than the sixth century. And the impact of the Reformation has extended far around the world.*

*I'm a native Scot and minister of the Church of Scotland. I've also served in the PC(USA). So I am delighted to be offering this tour. I want you to enjoy an outstanding trip; to see the real Scotland; to discover, in particular, our sacred heritage. And I run Scotus Tours to make that possible.*

*Jim*



Jim Wallace  
on tour at Loch Lomond

Scotustours.com

## DISCOVERING SCOTLAND

Friday, April 17 – Saturday, April 25, 2026

A tour arranged for Unity Presbyterian Church, Fort Mill, SC

Group Leaders: Dr. Matt Rich and Kathryn McGregor



Iona Abbey

### Some Tour Highlights

Edinburgh – **Scotland's historic capital**

Iona – **Christian beginnings**

St Andrews – **place of pilgrimage**

St John's Kirk of Perth – **Knox and the Reformation**

Inverness                      Stirling Castle

Haggis Ceremony          Distillery Visit

### Your Tour Price Includes

Coach Travel	Ferries and Tolls
Entrance Fees	Porterage
Tour Manager	Professional Guides
Tipping (waitstaff)	VAT (UK sales tax at 20%)
8 Hotel Nights	8 Breakfasts
6 Dinners	(incl. welcome and closing celebration)

**Not included:** Flights; airport transfers; beverages; personal items; driver tip (discretionary)

### Prices

Group Size	Earlybird Rate	Regular Rate
	Deposit by May 21, 2025	Deposit after May 21, 2025
24	\$4495	\$4595
34	\$4395	\$4495
44	\$4295	\$4395

Rates are land only, per person, sharing twin/double  
Single supplement - \$1165 (due at same time as deposit)

**Prices subject to changes in exchange rates, govt tax rates, fuel/energy surcharges**



### Arrival in Scotland and Tour Departure:

This is a "land only" tour and begins on Friday, April 17, 2026. Travel arrangements prior to that are at your own discretion. Flights into Edinburgh from the US mostly arrive in the morning. Our Day 1 program begins mid-afternoon with orientation and a welcome dinner. You may, of course, arrive a day or two early or choose to stay on after the tour.

### Registration and Payment Details: To reserve your place –

#### At the Earlybird rate

- Part 1 deposit - \$200 by May 21, 2025
- Part 2 deposit - \$995 by July 2, 2025 (single supplements must also be paid in full)

*Please note: Earlybird booking provides a discount of \$100. It also allows the deposit to be made in two payments. The total Earlybird deposit is \$1195.*

#### At the Regular rate

- Deposit - \$1295 at date of booking (single supplements must also be paid in full)

Then installments to be paid by everyone - One half of balance by October 15, 2025

- Remaining balance by January 14, 2026

Registrations made after January 14, 2026– payment in full required at time of booking - subject to additional charge and availability

#### To register

Please register and pay the deposit on REALM (using the QR code) OR  
Send a booking form and check payable to *Unity Presbyterian Church* to:  
Church Office (Attn: Scotland Trip), 303 Tom Hall Street, Fort Mill, SC 29175

*Reservations made on first come, first served basis.*



**Covid-19 and Infectious Diseases:** Anyone joining the tour agrees to comply with all government regulations and requirements put in place by Scotus Tours to reduce the risk of infection. These could include being required to isolate or leave the tour.

**Cancellation:** Refunds made only in line with this policy – no exceptions.

*Time prior to departure:* *Cancellation Fees:*

Up to 91 days.....deposit

61 – 90 days.....50% of tour cost

31 – 60 days.....75% of tour cost

30 days or less.....100% of tour cost

Up to the date of the second installment (Jan 14, 2026) like-for-like exchanges may be made. If someone who has registered is unable to go they can find someone else to take their place. Such exchanges must be for the same room type – e.g. a couple who had booked a double room could only substitute another 2 people who want a double room. Every such exchange will incur a fee of \$250 per person. After Jan 14, 2026 exchanges will no longer be possible.

### How Active is the Tour?

We don't take long country hikes. We try to use hotels which have elevators and portage for luggage where possible. But you must be in good enough health to travel. Among other things you must be able to –

Stand or walk with our guides, inside and outdoors, sometimes in inclement weather; manage coach steps several times a day; manage your own luggage; climb stairs in some hotels; walk city streets (Edinburgh has some steep hills and steps)

**Accommodations:** in good 3 or 4 star hotels

**Insurance:** We strongly recommend that you obtain adequate insurance coverage

## Our Itinerary

**Day 1: Friday, April 17 - Welcome to Scotland!** Group members will make their own flight arrangements. Arrive Edinburgh this morning. Spend the day as you wish in this lovely city and check in to your hotel. Meet your tour manager mid-afternoon. We'll pause for a service of welcome, a short act of worship in the Celtic tradition, followed by dinner. *Meals included – welcome dinner Overnight: Edinburgh City Center*

**Day 2: Saturday, April 18 – Let's Go!** Our coach takes us to Stirling, a city rich in history. Stirling Castle, sitting high on a volcanic crag, provides a fascinating visit. In the afternoon we move on to Perth and the magnificent St John's Kirk. John Knox preached here in 1559, setting light to the Reformation in Scotland. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight: Dundee/Stirling*

**Day 3: Sunday, April 19 – St Andrews, the Auld Grey Toon** We join a local Church of Scotland congregation for worship in the charming little town of St Andrews. While it is famous for golf today, this has also been a place of pilgrimage and is an important site for Reformation history. One of our excellent guides will lead a walking tour. Dinner tonight begins with a haggis ceremony, complete with bagpipes and the poetry of Robert Burns. And, of course, you can taste a little. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight: Dundee/Stirling*

**Day 4: Monday, April 20 – I will lift mine eyes unto the hills** We travel north through the majesty of the Scottish Highlands. Near Aviemore we'll ride the Cairngorm Mountain railway to enjoy spectacular views. Then we'll spend some time at the Culloden Battlefield where we can learn about Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobites. Our hotel is by the river in the center of Inverness. You are free to enjoy the evening as you wish. *Meals included – breakfast Overnight: Inverness*

**Day 5: Tuesday, April 21 – To the Isles!** We journey on through the breathtaking scenery of the Great Glen and alongside Loch Ness. We'll pass by Glen Coe, the location of an infamous event in Scotland's history. A distillery visit is also on our agenda. We catch the ferry to the Isle of Mull, arriving at our hotel overlooking lovely Tobermory Bay in time for dinner. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight – Tobermory, Isle of Mull*

**Day 6: Wednesday, April 22 – Iona...a Thin Place** We drive across the single track road to Fionnphort where another short ferry ride brings us to the Isle of Iona. St Columba arrived here in the year 563, establishing the Christian faith in this land. In Celtic spirituality Iona is sometimes described as a "thin place" – where the veil between earth and heaven seems almost transparent. We visit the Abbey, learn some of this island's history and hear about the present day Iona Community. We return to Tobermory for the night. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight – Tobermory, Isle of Mull*

**Day 7: Thursday, April 23 – The Mainland again** The ferry takes us back to the mainland where the delightful west coast port of Oban makes an ideal stop for lunch. We drive by the *Bonnie Banks* of Loch Lomond and past the great city of Glasgow. Our journey has come full circle as we return to Edinburgh. You'll be free to choose dinner on your own this evening in one of the capital's many excellent restaurants. *Meals included – breakfast Overnight – Edinburgh City Center*

**Day 8: Friday, April 24 – Edinburgh, Athens of the North** This morning we'll weave stories of Scotland's Presbyterian heritage into a guided walk in the Old Town area. Our route will include the Royal Mile and Greyfriars Kirkyard. We'll finish in time to participate in the noon prayer service at St Giles' Cathedral. The afternoon is free for you to explore. Perhaps you'll visit the Castle or Holyrood Palace. Or you might want to relax over coffee and watch the city go by. Tonight we will share in worship and close with a celebration dinner. *Meals included – breakfast, celebration dinner Overnight – Edinburgh City Center*

**Day 9: Saturday, April 25 – Departures** Haste ye back! *Meals included – breakfast*

*The above is a fair representation of the proposed tour but is subject to change at the discretion of Scotus Tours.*