# Scotland



MAP LOCATION	PAGE NO		
1 Hebridean Experience	25	C	5 6
2 Lewis & Skye Hebridean Highlights	25		
3 Orkney & the Castle of Mey	26		
4 Highlands, Railways & Dolphins	26		19 mary 18 / 20
5 Jacobite Steam & Cruise	27		8
6 Great Highland Railways & the Jacobite	e 27		0
7 Famous Loch Cruises & Distilleries	28		EDINBURGH
8 Firth of Forth Steam & Cruise	28		9
9 Isle of Arran & the Ayrshire Coast	29		
10 Edinburgh Tattoo	29		
11 Scottish Borders Scenic Discovery	30		12
12 Dumfries & Galloway and the 'Devil's Porridge'	30		

## Hebridean Experience



Marvel at a striking mix of landscapes from golden sands to mountains and moonscapes on the wonderful Outer Hebrides.

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Head into Scotland to your overnight hotel.

**Day 2:** Take the ferry from Ullapool to Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis and if time, explore Stornoway's town, harbour, marina and Lews Castle, before continuing to the Cabarfeidh Hotel for a 2 night stay.

Day 3: Explore the Isle of Lewis, home to the Callanish Stones, one of the finest prehistoric sites in Scotland, the historic Broch at Carloway and the Gearrannan Blackhouse Village, which consists of traditional thatched croft houses. A local guide and/or coach hire on Lewis can be arranged, if required.

Day 4: Harris beckons today with its ever-changing kaleidoscope of striking landscapes. Visit **Tarbert**, home to the Harris Tweed Shop and a distillery. Travel via stunning coastal beaches to the 16th century **St Clement's Church at Rodel**, before boarding the ferry from Leverburgh to Berneray and continue to the Dark Island Hotel for a 2 night stay.

**Day 5:** Explore the islands of **Benbecula and Uist**, home to 'Our Lady of the Isles' 30ft high statue and call in at the Kildonan Craft Shop and Museum for a tantalising insight into island life. Alternatively, you could

head to Eriskay, of 'Whisky Galore' fame for the ferry across to **Barra** and experience the beauty of this small island, where the BBC TV series 'Tales of an Island Parish' was filmed. A local guide on Uist can be arranged, if required.

Day 6: Board the ferry from Lochmaddy to Uig on the Isle of Skye and continue onwards to your overnight hotel in Fort William.

Day 7: Homeward bound.



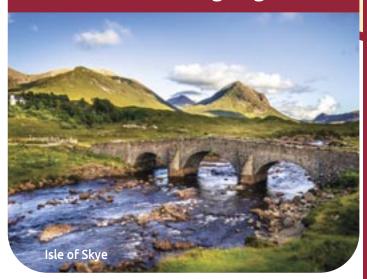
Cabarfeidh Hotel ★★★★
Rightly known as 'Stornoway's
finest hotel', experience a
genuine warm island welcome.

- 46 Bedrooms Lift
- Coach parking

#### **Tour Includes:**

- > 6 nights DBB
- All ferry crossings

# Lewis & Skye Hebridean Highlights



Enjoy some of the most spectacular coastal scenery imaginable on the Hebridean islands of Lewis and Skye and their unique heritage.

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Head into Scotland to your overnight hotel.

Day 2: Take the ferry from Ullapool to Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis and if time, explore Stornoway's town, harbour, marina and Lews Castle, before continuing to the Cabarfeidh Hotel for a 2 night stay.

Day 3: Explore the Isle of Lewis, home to the Callanish Stones, one of the finest prehistoric sites in Scotland, the historic Broch at Carloway and the Gearrannan Blackhouse Village, which consists of traditional thatched croft houses. A local guide and/or coach hire on Lewis can be arranged, if required.

Day 4: Head south into Harris to Tarbert for the ferry to Uig on the Isle of Skye. Depending on the ferry time, you could either explore Tarbert with its Harris Tweed Shop and distillery or the Skye Museum of Island Life, a preserved township of thatched cottages, before continuing via the Trotternish Peninsula, famous for its spectacular geological features and past the Old Man of Storr on your way to the Dunollie Hotel at Broadford for a 2 night stay.

Day 5: Travel via the Cuillin Hills into the heart of the Isle of Skye and enjoy a visit to Dunvegan Castle & Gardens, the seat of the Clan Macleod and the oldest continually occupied castle in Scotland. This afternoon, you could visit the island's 'capital', Portree, with its Aros Centre and picturesque natural harbour or enjoy a wee dram at Talisker Distillery.

Day 6: Don't miss a photo opportunity at Eileen Donan Castle, before reluctantly heading for home.



**Dunollie Hotel** ★★★
Set by the waterside of
Broadford Bay on Skye, with
wonderful sea views.

- 84 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking

#### Tour Includes:

- > 5 nights DBB
- > All ferry crossings
- > Dunvegan Castle & Gardens

May to Sep: Prices from: £531

# Orkney & the Castle of Mey



Discover the hidden gems of this magical and mystical region, with awe-inspiring visits to Orkney and the Castle of Mey.

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Head North into Scotland to your overnight hotel.

Day 2: Marvel at spectacular Highland scenery before arriving in Thurso, Britain's most northerly mainland town, for a 3 night stay. If time allows, why not include a visit to the spectacular setting at Dunrobin Castle en route.

Day 3: Enjoy the highlight of the tour, a voyage of discovery through time itself on a coach guided tour of the magical Orkney Islands. Here, you will have the chance to see the World Heritage sites of Skara Brae, the Standing Stones of Stenness and the Ring of Brodgar, plus Scapa Flow, the Churchill Barriers, the Italian Chapel and the Island's capital, Kirkwall, with its magnificent Cathedral.

Day 4: Explore Thurso, home to Caithness Horizons, a fascinating museum that tells the story of this region's past and present, before continuing to the Castle and Gardens of Mey, once the much-adored home of the Queen Mother, who saved it from ruin in 1952. With glorious views across the Pentland Firth towards Orkney, the castle is kept as it was when the Queen Mother was in residence. No visit to this region would be complete without a visit to the famous landmark, John O'Groats.

Day 5: Relax and enjoy the stunning Highland scenery en route to your overnight hotel.

Day 6: Time for home.

Please note that entrance fees to attractions on Orkney, are not included in the prices shown below.

#### Pentland Hotel \*\*

Located in the heart of Thurso, this popular family-run hotel uses the freshest local Caithness produce.

• 41 Bedrooms

Castletown Hotel ★★★ Family-run hotel in the centre of Castletown, it is ideally located for your visit to the Far North.

28 Bedrooms

# Highlands, Railways & Dolphins



A wonderful Scottish Highlands tour with spectacular scenery, a memorable rail journey and a chance to see dolphins!

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Beauly for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Enjoy a memorable trip on one of the world's most scenic rail journeys on the Kyle Line, the 'Great Highland Railway Journey'. The train weaves its way through the Highlands and down to the Kyle of Lochalsh, close to the Isle of Skye. Crystal clear lochs mirror the forests and mountains on this wonderful journey. The views from the carriage windows are worth the fare alone, but the experience is thankfully repeated on the return to Beauly by coach.

Day 3: The choice is yours. Head over the Cromarty and Dornoch Firths to Dornoch, with its 13th century cathedral, and onto the spectacular **Dunrobin Castle** with its fairytale spires, turrets and one of Britain's oldest continuously inhabited houses. Alternatively, enjoy a wonderful circular tour of Wester Ross to the harbour village of Gairloch and **Inverewe Garden,** a historic botanical garden famous for its exotic plants and one of the most beautiful gardens in Scotland. If a day of rest is required, explore Beauly and head to Inverness on the local train.

Day 4: Experience an unforgettable boat cruise on the Moray Firth to

see the world's most northerly population of Bottlenose Dolphins, along with other marine wildlife including seals and otters. Visit **Inverness,** the 'Capital of the Highlands', a thriving city with its historic Old Town, bustling centre and riverside setting, or if you prefer, head to the leafy Victorian spa town of Strathpeffer or enjoy a wee dram and tour at the Glen Ord Distillery.

Day 5: Time for home.



The Priory Hotel \*\* Experience true Highland hospitality at this lovely hotel situated in the village square of Beauly.

• 39 Bedrooms • Lift

#### Tour Includes:

- > 5 nights DBB > Return Ferry to Orkney
- > Guided Tour of Orkney
- > Castle & Gardens of Mey

#### Tour Includes:

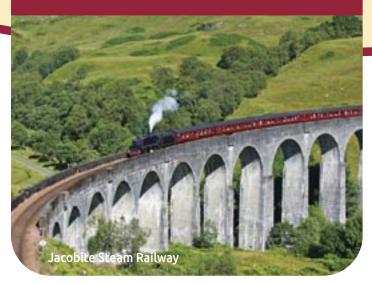
- > 4 nights DBB > Kyle Line rail journey
- > Moray Firth boat cruise
- > Dunrobin Castle or Inverewe Garden

May to Sep: Prices from: £433

May to Oct: Prices from: £329

# 27 • SCOTLAND

#### Jacobite Steam & Cruise



Spectacular Highland scenery awaits on one of the world's most famous rail journeys and along the most infamous of Lochs.

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Fort William for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: All aboard the Jacobite Steam Train, regarded as one of the world's greatest rail journeys, for a return journey between Fort William and Mallaig and follow in the footsteps of Harry Potter along the route used by the Hogwarts Express. From views of mighty Ben Nevis, your memorable journey leads past the deepest freshwater loch in Britain, Loch Morar, and over the famous 21 arch Glenfinnan viaduct - a truly magical experience!

Day 3: Excursion to Inverness, the 'Capital of the Highlands' with its host of historic buildings or Fort Augustus, a lovely town where the Caledonian Canal meets Loch Ness, before a wonderfully relaxing one hour cruise on Loch Ness (longer cruise options available) under the shadow of the ruins of Urquhart Castle and maybe catch a glimpse of Nessie! If time allows, why not visit the Commando Memorial at Spean Bridge

Day 4: The choice is yours. Relax and explore Fort William, enjoy a cruise along Loch Linnhe, experience stunning views on Nevis Range,

Britain's only Mountain Gondola or venture further afield and travel to the lovely resort of Oban. If you wanted to incorporate another scenic rail journey, then why not include a trip on the Kyle line between Dingwall and the Kyle of Lochalsh, as the views from the windows are worth the fare alone!

**Day 5:** Time to reluctantly head for home



Alexandra Hotel \*\*\*
Traditional and characterful
Victorian hotel in the heart of
Fort William.

• 93 Bedrooms • Lift

# Great Highland Railways & the Jacobite



Enjoy the beautiful Spey Valley and rail journeys on the Jacobite Steam Train and the heritage Strathspey Railway.

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Kingussie for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Head to Aviemore, which is surrounded by beautiful Highland scenery in the majestic Cairngorms National Park. Towering mountains, sparkling lochs and magical forests surround this bustling town, making it a popular year-round destination. This afternoon, enjoy a heritage railway journey and travel back in time to a bygone era of steam on the Strathspey Railway.

Day 3: All aboard the Jacobite Steam Train, regarded as one of the world's greatest rail journeys, on a return journey between Fort William and Mallaig and follow in the footsteps of Harry Potter along the route used by the Hogwarts Express. From views of mighty Ben Nevis, your memorable journey leads past the deepest freshwater loch in Britain, Loch Morar, and over the famous 21 arch Glenfinnan viaduct - a truly magical experience!

**Day 4:** The choice is yours. Relax and explore **Kingussie;** 'Monarch of the Glen' country which was filmed entirely in the upper Spey Valley;

the Highland Folk Museum (free admission) at Newtonmore, which gives an insight into Highland life from the 1700's to the 1950's or head to the lovely town of Grantown-on-Spey and onto the Speyside Malt Whisky Trail or enjoy another rail journey on the Keith & Dufftown Railway. Alternatively, head to Inverness, the 'Capital of the Highlands' and experience dolphins on an unforgettable boat cruise on the Moray Firth.

**Day 5:** Time to reluctantly head for home.



**Duke of Gordon Hotel** \*\*
A historic Victorian hotel with a true Highland welcome in the heart of Kingussie.

- 68 Bedrooms Lift
- Coach parking

#### Tour Includes:

- > 4 nights DBB > Loch Ness Cruise
- > Jacobite Steam Train return journey
- > Entertainment on 2 nights

# Apr & Oct: Prices from: £322

May to Sep: Prices from: £419

#### Tour Includes:

- > 4 nights DBB > Strathspey Railway
- > Jacobite Steam Train return journey
- > Entertainment on 2 nights

May to Sep: Prices from: £375 Oct: Prices from: £331

## Famous Loch Cruises & Distilleries



Be inspired, discover breathtaking views, relax on loch cruises and enjoy wee drams, in the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park.

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Aberfoyle for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Head into the charming village of Aberfoyle, and be sure to visit the Scottish Wool Centre, with its outdoor free animal shows, luxury clothing and whisky & food hall. Callander is home to the Rob Roy and Trossachs Visitor Centre and a fascinating toy museum. Continue to **Loch Katrine** for a wonderful one hour **cruise aboard the famous** steamship 'Sir Walter Scott', which itself has been a landmark here for over 100 years, and enjoy the lovely scenery over Duke's Pass and through the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park.

Day 3: Loch Lomond is quite simply one of Scotland's most inspiring lochs. Visit Balloch, an enchanting town on the southern shores of the loch, home to the Loch Lomond Shores Visitor Centre. Sit back and relax on a wonderfully scenic one hour Loch Lomond cruise, before heading to the lovely village of Luss, which was famously the location in the Scottish TV series 'Take the High Road'. This afternoon, enjoy a wee dram and tour at the 'picture postcard' Glengoyne Distillery.

Day 4: Explore the city of Stirling, once the ancient capital of Scotland, its Old Town and its castle, which is considered to be one of the grandest of all Scotland's castles, or if you prefer, head to **Dunblane** and visit the town's medieval Cathedral. This afternoon, head north into Perthshire to the historic tourist town of Crieff, where we include a visit to **Scotland's oldest working** distillery, the Glenturret, for a tour and tastings. Return to Aberfoyle via Loch Earn and Loch Lubnaig.

Day 5: Return home.



Rob Roy Hotel ★★★ This relaxed and informal hotel in Aberfoyle, has been welcoming groups for many vears.

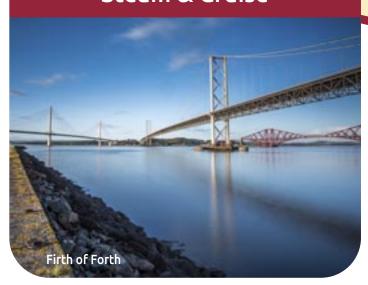
- 103 Bedrooms Lift
- Coach parking

#### Tour Includes:

- > 4 nights DBB > Loch Katrine Cruise > Loch Lomond Cruise
- > Glengoyne Distillery Tour > Glenturret Distillery Tour
- > Entertainment on 2 nights > 5 singles no supplement

May to Sep: Prices from: £232 Oct: Prices from: £219

## Firth of Forth Steam & Cruise



Experience a nostalgic rail journey, a Firth of Forth boat trip, the unique Falkirk Wheel and the inspiring city of Edinburgh.

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Cumbernauld for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Enjoy an unforgettable boat cruise on the Firth of Forth with spectacular views of the road and rail bridges, before heading to Scotland's historic capital city of Edinburgh with time to explore its imposing Castle, Royal Mile, Princes Street and the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official Scottish residence of the Queen. For a panoramic snapshot view of the city, why not hop on one of the many open top sightseeing buses.

Day 3: Step back in time and enjoy a truly memorable journey along the shores of the River Forth on the Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway. Take time out to visit the gift shop and the Museum of Scottish Railways. Well worth a visit, are the Kelpies, the world's largest equine sculptures, which tower 100 feet over the Forth & Clyde Canal, before enjoying an afternoon trip on the unique Falkirk Wheel, an amazing feat of engineering and the world's first

Day 4: Visit the historic city of **Stirling**, with its Old Town and Castle, which was once the residence of Scottish Kings. This afternoon, you could tour through the Trossachs National Park, visit Callander which is home to the Rob Rov & Trossachs Visitor Centre and enjoy a wonderful Loch Katrine cruise aboard the famous steamship 'Sir Walter Scott'. Alternatively, you could head to the Perthshire town of Crieff and enjoy a wee dram at Glenturret, Scotland's oldest working distillery.

and only rotating boat lift.

Day 5: Time for home.



#### Doubletree by Hilton Glasgow Westerwood Hotel \*

This prestigious hotel, near Cumbernauld, has its own indoor pool, spa facilities and golf course.

- 148 Bedrooms Lift
- Coach parking

#### Tour Includes:

- > 4 nights DBB > Firth of Forth boat cruise
- > Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway > Falkirk Wheel
- > Leisure & spa facilities

May to Sep: Prices from: £293

# 29 · SCOTLAND

# Isle of Arran & the Ayrshire Coast



Visit Arran - 'Scotland in Miniature', which is one of Scotland's most beautiful islands, and the wonderful Ayrshire Coast.

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Irvine or Troon for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: It is easy to see why the Isle of Arran is often referred to as 'Scotland in Miniature', with its constantly changing landscape of highland glens and rugged mountains alongside sweeping sandy bays and picturesque coastal villages. Enjoy a scenic excursion around the island, experience some of Arran's many unique and independent retailers, enjoy a wee dram at the island's distillery or visit Brodick Castle & Gardens, before the late afternoon return ferry.

Day 3: Enjoy the Ayrshire Coast at its best with a visit to the spectacular coastal setting of Culzean Castle, a Robert Adam 18th century masterpiece, before spending time in the lovely resort of Troon. Alternatively, visit Alloway and the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum, which consists of Burns Cottage, where the poet was born, a collection of his life and works, Burns Monument, Statue House & Gardens, the Auld Kirk and the Brig o' Doon bridge.

Day 4: The choice is yours. You could visit the Isle of Bute, a beautiful

and peaceful island haven, which is home to the Victorian resort of Rothesay and Mount Stuart, Britain's most spectacular Victorian Gothic Mansion with its stunning and mysterious interiors and 300 acres of gloriously maintained gardens and grounds. Alternatively, you could visit Dumfries House, one of Britain's best kept heritage secrets or head to the cosmopolitan city of Glasgow.

Day 5: Time to head for home.

### Riverside Lodge Hotel

This modern hotel near Irvine, offers a contemporary feel.

- 128 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking

**South Beach Hotel** ★★★ Family-run hotel, close to the beach in the seaside town of Troon.

- 32 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking

#### Tour Includes:

→ 4 nights DBB → Return Ferry to the Isle of Arran → Culzean Castle or Robert Burns Birthplace Museum → Entertainment on 2 nights

May to Sep: Prices from: £256

> Tea/coffee & shortbread on arrival (Irvine)

### Edinburgh Tattoo



Experience one of the world's most spectacular shows, the Edinburgh Tattoo, which is staged at the aweinspiring Edinburgh Castle.

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to your hotel in Scotland for a 3 night stay.

Day 2: Full day to explore Scotland's majestic capital, before the evening performance of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, to give it its full title, which is a truly remarkable and internationally acclaimed event. This thrilling and moving experience, against the world famous backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, will incorporate the unforgettable music of the massed pipes and drums, the massed military bands, as well as imaginative graphics, state-of-the-art lighting, singers, dancers and many other performers from around the world. The show is finally brought to an emotional and poignant close each evening, as the Lone Piper, high on the castle ramparts,

plays a haunting lament.

Day 3: The choice is yours! You could explore the Scottish Borders; the beautifully restored UNESCO World Heritage Site of New Lanark; the historic city of Stirling and enjoy a wonderful cruise on Loch Katrine or take a nostalgic ride on the Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway, before visiting the Kelpies and enjoying a unique trip on the Falkirk Wheel.

Day 4: Sadly, it's time for home.

Tattoo tickets are based on the yellow seating areas in 2-5 or 12-15 and are subject to availability.

#### Tinto Hotel ★★★

Traditional hotel set in 5 acres of grounds, near Biggar.

- 39 Bedrooms
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Coach parking

Barony Castle Hotel \*\*\*
Manor House hotel with an indoor pool, near Peebles.

- 78 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

Doubletree by Hilton Glasgow Westerwood Hotel \*\*\*\*

Luxury hotel with an indoor pool, near Cumbernauld.

- 148 Bedrooms
- Lift
- Coach parking

#### Tour Includes:

- > 2 nights DBB + 1 night BB
- > Admission to Edinburgh Tattoo
- Leisure facilities (Barony Castle + Westerwood)

Aug: Prices from: £275

## Scottish Borders Scenic Discovery



Discover a rich cultural heritage with stately homes, historic castles and picturesque villages in the wonderfully scenic Scottish Borders.

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to the Scottish Borders for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: You will soon discover that lovely little towns on the banks of the River Tweed are not an unusual occurrence in the glorious Scottish Borders, so why not visit the lovely, artsy and genteel Borders town of Peebles. After time for lunch, head to the wonderfully picturesque setting of Abbotsford House and Gardens, which was the inspirational home of Sir Walter Scott, or if you prefer, visit Traquair House, Scotland's oldest inhabited house.

Day 3: Head to Scotland's capital city of Edinburgh, which is steeped in history and seamlessly blends old and new, with time to explore the imposing Castle, Royal Mile, Princes Street and the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official Scottish residence of the Queen. Alternatively, visit the mysterious 15th century Rosslyn Chapel or travel to the impressive cotton mill village of New Lanark, which is now a beautifully restored UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day 4: Visit the picturesque town of Kelso, full of architectural and historic interest and regarded as one of the region's most charming towns with its cobbled streets, elegant Georgian buildings and French-styled cobbled market square. This afternoon enjoy a visit to the stately home of Floors Castle, the largest inhabited castle in Scotland with its collection of fine art, porcelain, tapestries, grand rooms and wonderful gardens.

Day 5: Time to head for home.



Barony Castle Hotel \*\*\*\*
Set in a 25 acre estate, near
Peebles, this striking hotel
certainly makes you feel you're
in Scotland.

- 78 Bedrooms Lift
- Coach parking

#### Tour Includes:

- > 4 nights DBB > Abbotsford House & Gardens or Traquair House
- > Floors Castle & Gardens > Tea/coffee & shortbread on arrival
- > Leisure & spa facilities

Apr & Oct: Prices from: £258 May to Sep: Prices from: £268

# Dumfries & Galloway and the 'Devil's Porridge'



Explore this often overlooked corner of Scotland, with its rugged coastline, tranquil lochs, picturesque harbours, beautiful gardens and stately homes.

#### Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Travel to Dumfries for a 4 night stay.

Day 2: Visit Dumfries House at Cumnock, one of Britain's best kept heritage secrets. Designed in the 1750's by the Adam Brothers and saved for the nation in 2007 by HRH Prince Charles, it has sumptuous interiors and a unique collection of Thomas Chippendale furniture, or alternatively, visit Drumlanrig Castle & Gardens, where you can discover over 600 years of family history and the many treasures on display. Take time to discover Dumfries, home to Robert Burns Centre located in the town's 18th century watermill and Burns House, where Scotland's national poet, spent the last years of his life.

Day 3: Head to the Devil's Porridge Museum, an 'explosive' wartime experience, for an amazing and remarkable story of the people who worked during the First World War in the biggest munitions factory in the world, which was an incredible nine miles long! Gretna Green is well worth a visit, even if you're not thinking of getting married, and is still home to the Famous Blacksmiths Shop, along with a food hall, gift shops and a museum. If you prefer a wee dram or two, then a visit to the Annandale Distillery will warm the cockles!

Day 4: Excursion past Sweetheart Abbey and along the coast with views over the Solway Firth, before arriving in the picturesque harbour town of Kirkcudbright, with a colourful blend of medieval, Georgian and Victorian buildings and now home to some lovely artists' galleries and studios. Head north and travel round the shores of Loch Ken, before returning to Dumfries or alternatively, why not visit the spectacular gardens at Threave.

Day 5: Time for home.



Cairndale Hotel ★★★
A characterful hotel with
leisure facilities, a short stroll
from Dumfries town centre.

- 91 Bedrooms Lift
- Coach parking

#### Tour Includes:

- > 4 nights DBB > Dumfries House or Drumlanrig Castle
- > Devil's Porridge Museum
- > Leisure facilities

May to Sep: Prices from: £275