



Scotland

June 16-25, 2018



Morris Arboretum
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

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Introduction

Join Paul W. Meyer, *the F. Otto Haas Executive Director* of the Morris Arboretum, on a spectacular garden tour of Scotland. From our base at Aigas Field Centre in the Scottish Highlands, we will explore the region's stunning scenery, rich natural history, beautiful gardens, and grand old castles. Our tour also includes excursions to the West Coast and to Edinburgh.

For more than 40 years, Aigas has been offering fully inclusive, small-group learning holidays, and study courses exploring the stunning wildlife, habitats, and landscapes of the Scottish Highlands and Islands.

Aigas accommodations include comfortable and spacious timber lodges dotted around the gardens and wooded grounds of the House of Aigas. The lodges are cozy and friendly, warm, and entirely self-contained. The grounds are dedicated to wildlife; it's not at all unusual to see roe deer from your window, hear a red squirrel scuttling around on the roof, or glimpse a pine marten running along your balcony rail.

For more information about Aigas, please visit www.aigas.co.uk





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After lunch, we will proceed to the House of Aigas, award-winning field centre, and home of Sir John and Lady Lister-Kaye, where the rest of the afternoon will be spent familiarizing ourselves with the Aigas grounds and settling into our accommodations before dinner in the Baronial Hall of the house.

Sunday - Aigas

This morning, after a continental breakfast, we will enjoy an presentation from Sir John Lister-Kaye, which will give an overview of the history of the Highlands and its clans. This will give context to our exploration of various

sites over the coming days. Following this, we will enjoy coffee and a tour of the House.

After a delicious buffet lunch, Lady Lucy will show us around her garden—a 25-year labor of love, that is now much admired locally. Following this will be a walking tour of the estate where we will see Victorian infrastructure dating back to the mid-19th century, Bronze Age archaeological remains, and the Aigas restoration ecology projects. We will also enjoy a trail through woodlands and around the Aigas Loch. After this, there will be afternoon tea, followed by a few hours of free time and, later, a three-course dinner in the Baronial Hall.

Saturday - Arrival

Following our arrival at Glasgow Airport, we will be met by Aigas group leader and garden enthusiast Sue Pomeroy, and a coach which will take us to Aigas. En route, we will stop at the private gardens of Glenkyllachy Lodge in Tomatin where a tour and delicious buffet lunch will be hosted by owners, Emma, daughter of Mrs. Binny of Kiftsgate Court Gardens, and her husband, Philip Mackenzie.





Cawdor Castle

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Wednesday - West Coast Gardens

After breakfast at The Ceilidh Place, we will visit Leckmelm Arboretum, a woodland garden planted in 1870 where, due to high rainfall and a mild climate, many exotic plants thrive. A packed lunch from the locally famed West Coast Deli will be provided, after which we will visit the walled garden of Dundonnell House, home to Lady Rice, where head gardener Will Soos, will show us around. After this, Will, and Sue Pomeroy will take us to their own home at Durnamuck to see their wonderful coastal garden on Little Loch Broom. We will then return to Aigas for dinner. After dinner, there will be an opportunity to visit one of the wildlife hides (blinds) on the estate to hopefully see pine martens and badgers.

Monday - Historical Day

After breakfast, we will explore the rich history of the Scottish Highlands, visiting the Neolithic Clava Cairns, an ancient burial site, and then Culloden Battlefield, where in 1746, Jacobite forces met bitter defeat in a bloody battle lasting under 45 minutes. We will have a gourmet packed lunch with hot tea and coffee. After this, we will head to Cawdor Castle and gardens, seat of the Earls of Cawdor, near Nairn. Following this, we will return to Aigas for afternoon tea, some free time, and later, dinner. After dinner, there will be an opportunity to visit one of the wildlife hides (blinds) on the estate to hopefully see pine martens and badgers.

Tuesday - West Coast Gardens

After breakfast, we will travel to the mountainous West Coast of the Highlands of Scotland, enjoying breathtaking views over Loch Maree on the way. Our first stop is the world famous Inverewe Gardens. After a gourmet packed lunch with hot tea and coffee, we will visit the House of Gruinard, home of the Hon. Mrs Maclay that features a hidden and delightfully unexpected garden on the shore of Gruinard Bay. Gardener Fiona Clark will show us around, before we travel on to the picturesque harbor village of Ullapool where we will stay overnight in The Ceilidh Place, a charming hotel renowned for live music and hearty food.



Durnamuck

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Thursday - The Black Isle

After a continental breakfast at Aigas, the first visit of the day will be to The Lookout. This garden was planted on the steep coastal banks of the Moray Firth in nearby North Kessock by owners Pam and David Veitch who will give us a tour and provide tea and coffee. Afterward, we will visit Old Allangrange, the home of local brewers Jay and David Gladwin. This wildlife garden surrounds a 17th century lime-washed house and includes a wildflower bee garden, a bio-dynamically grown vegetable garden, and a grove of ancient yew trees. We will return to Aigas for a buffet lunch, after which there will be an option to visit a local whiskey distillery, the local shops of Beaulieu—including the famous Campbell's Tweed House, Abriachan Nursery, or to spend free time at Aigas. After dinner, a local ceilidh band will perform traditional Scottish folk music.

Friday - Attadale Gardens

After breakfast, we will board a small train from Beaulieu to take us to Attadale Gardens. On the journey through the mountains we will pass scenic views of Loch Luichart and Strathcarron. Set on 20 acres surrounding an 18th century house, Attadale's outstanding water gardens, old rhododendrons, and fern collection take advantage of the mild microclimate enabled by the North Atlantic Drift (Gulf Stream). At the garden's private train station, we will be met by owners Mr. and Mrs. Ewen and Nicky Macpherson and their daughter, Joanna, who will host tea and coffee before taking us on a tour of the garden. We will return to Aigas by

train in time for afternoon tea, some free time, and dinner. After dinner there will be the option to listen to Sir John Lister-Kaye read in the drawing room.

Saturday - Perthshire

After a relaxed breakfast at Aigas, a coach will meet us at 10am to take us back to Edinburgh, stopping at the Explorer's Garden in Pitlochry, where we will have lunch, and Branklyn Gardens in Perth. On arrival in Edinburgh, we will have free time to explore the city and settle into our hotel, The Principal, ideally located in the center of Edinburgh's Georgian New Town, before enjoying dinner at a local restaurant.



Attadale Gardens

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Sunday - Edinburgh

After breakfast, we will visit Shepherd House, home to Sir Charles and Lady Fraser who bought the house in 1957 and transformed the gardens from a playground into one of the best small gardens in Scotland. Then we will head to Restoration Yard at nearby Dalkeith Palace, ancestral home of the Dukes of Buccleuch, to visit the gift shops and have lunch. In the afternoon, we will visit the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh. On our last evening, a special farewell dinner will be held at the Gardener's Cottage.

Monday - Departure

After breakfast at the hotel, a coach will meet us at the hotel to take us to Glasgow Airport from where we will depart.





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If you would like to make flight arrangements through University of Pennsylvania Travel Services, please contact World Travel at (888) 641-9112 during normal business hours. Please let the agent know that you are calling for more information about the Morris Arboretum Scotland trip in June 2018. Travelers who book through World Travel will incur a \$24 travel fee per person. You may also make your flight arrangements through your own travel agent.

All travelers are asked to meet at Glasgow Airport at the Arrivals Entrance by no later than 9:00am on June 16, 2018, at which time the coach will collect everyone to begin our group tour of Scotland.

If you are arriving separately, please be sure to make arrangements to arrive in Glasgow early, as flight delays can occur.

To Register or For More Information: Registration is limited to 22 travelers. If you wish to register for this trip, or if you have any questions, please contact Mira Zergani, Director of Development, at (215) 247-5777, ext. 102 or via email at mzergani@upenn.edu.

Cost and Booking Details

Tour Pricing

The cost for the Scotland excursion is \$6,646, not including airfare. Current tour pricing is based on the exchange rate of one British pound = 1.3147 U.S. dollars. There may be cost adjustments depending on currency values at the time of payment.

Price Includes:

- All accommodations for nine nights
- Exclusive itinerary, including tours of private and public gardens, private homes, historic sites, and natural landscapes
- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner per itinerary
- All coach and train travel throughout the excursion
- All activities and admissions as listed in the itinerary
- A \$500 donation to the Morris Arboretum

Price does not include:

- Transportation costs to and from Scotland
- Meals, items, or activities not listed on the itinerary

Recommended Flights:

Travelers are responsible for making their own flight arrangements. For individuals traveling from Philadelphia, we recommend purchasing a round-trip ticket on the following non-stop flights:

- American Airlines, Flight #24, departing Philadelphia at 7:05pm on June 15, 2018, arriving in Glasgow at 7:05am on June 16, 2018
- American Airlines, Flight #25, departing Glasgow at 10:45am on June 25, 2018, arriving in Philadelphia at 1:20pm on June 25, 2018

The current cost for this round-trip airfare is \$1,740. Fares are subject to change and may increase or decrease depending on demand.