

# holy highlands

A CATHOLIC HISTORY AND WHISKY PILGRIMAGE  
with Daniel & Haley Stewart, Fr. Harrison Ayre, & Fr. Ryan Higdon  
JULY 20-30, 2022



Including sites related to William Wallace,  
Mary, Queen of Scots, & and the  
best distilleries in Scotland!

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A CATHOLIC HISTORY AND WHISKY PILGRIMAGE

## TRAVELING WITH YOU...



**Haley Stewart** is a Catholic writer, speaker, and a fellow of the Word on Fire Institute. Haley is the author of *The Grace of Enough* and *Jane Austen's Genius Guide to Life*. She also co-hosts the Fountains of Carrots Podcast. Haley also writes children's fiction. You can follow her on Instagram or Twitter where she is @haleycarrots.



**Daniel Stewart** is a distiller at Balcones Distilling. You can follow him on Instagram or Twitter where he is @slowdrams. The Stewarts have four children and live in Waco, Texas.



**Fr. Ryan Higdon** is pastor of St. Louis Catholic Church in Waco, TX. He is a beer and scotch enthusiast (and home-brew creator of the Ale Mary beer sold in stores). He loves camping, hiking, and running marathons.



**Fr. Harrison Ayre** is an author and the pastor of St Peter's in Nanaimo, BC. He co-hosts the Clerically Speaking podcast.

## ITINERARY

(B-BREAKFAST, L-LUNCH, D-DINNER)

**Day 1, Wednesday, July 20:**

**Depart USA for Scotland**

We set out for our adventure in Scotland on an overnight flight to Edinburgh.

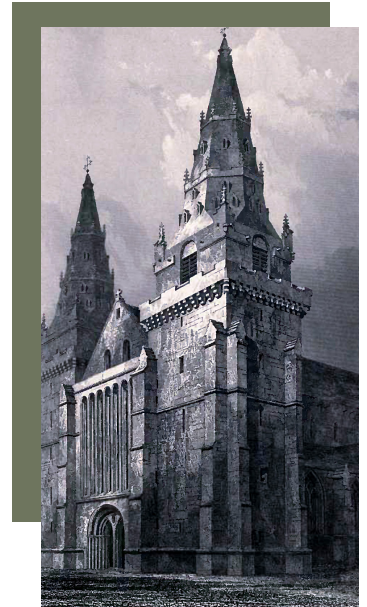
(Dinner and breakfast are served on the flight.)

# ITINERARY

## Day 2, Thursday, July 21:

### St. Andrews, St. Machar's Cathedral, Perth

Our trip leaders Daniel and Haley Stewart & chaplain Fr. Ryan Higdon meet us at Edinburgh airport. We will then travel north to St. Andrews where the remains of apostle Andrew—patron saint of Scotland—are believed to be buried. The cathedral is the largest in Scotland although only the ruins remain. We'll see the nearby castle and celebrate Mass at St. Machar's Cathedral, where legend tells us the arm of William Wallace is buried in the walls. Dinner and overnight in Perth. (L.D.)



## Day 3, Friday, July 22:

### Balmoral Castle, Braemar Castle, Blair Athol Distillery

We visit Balmoral Castle, the Scottish holiday home to the royal family and the nearby Braemar Castle\*, historic home of the Catholic Farquharson Clan. We tour Blair Athol Distillery, founded in 1798. Return to Perth for dinner and overnight. Mass will be celebrated. (B.D.) \*Note Braemar castle is accessed via a steep stone staircase, so not accessible for anyone with severe mobility issues.

## Day 4, Saturday, July 23:

### Pluscarden Abbey, Glenlivet, Glenfiddich Distillery, Aberdeen.



We visit Pluscarden Abbey, a Catholic Benedictine monastery situated in the glen of the Black Burn. Founded in 1230 by Alexander II for the Valliscaulian Order, in 1454 it became a Benedictine house. Mass will be celebrated. We will stop at the site of the Battle of Glenlivet fought on October 3, 1594 where the Catholics won a decisive victory. We finish our day with a tour of one of Scotland's oldest family-owned whisky distilleries, Glenfiddich. Dinner and overnight in Aberdeen. (B.D.)

# ITINERARY



## **Day 5, Sunday, July 24:**

### **Loch Ness, Culloden, Inverness**

We set out for the Highlands to see wooded lochs and tucked-away villages as we drive toward Loch Ness for a boat ride (and monster-sighting opportunity!). Explore the historic Culloden battlefield where Bonnie Prince Charlie's Jacobite forces were defeated in 1746. We end the day in the Inverness area with an opportunity for pub hopping to hear great local music. Mass will be celebrated. Dinner is at leisure. (B.)

## **Day 6, Monday, July 25:**

### **Stirling Castle, National Wallace Memorial, Bannockburn**

We approach Stirling Castle, home of the Stewart Kings and Queens including Mary Queen of Scots. We tour the castle and see to the north the 220-foot high tower of the National Wallace Monument, commemorating Scotland's great hero William Wallace. To the south are the battlefields of Bannockburn, where Robert the Bruce led his armies to victory over Edward II and his men. We visit the Bannockburn Visitor Center to learn about the famous battle. Mass will be celebrated. Overnight in the area. (B.D.)

## **Day 7, Tuesday, July 26:**

### **Island of Islay**

Today we celebrate Mass before departing for the west coast of Scotland via Kilmartin Glen, where we catch a ferry from Kennacraig to Port Allen on the island of Islay. Our first stop will be one of the legendary distilleries on Islay. We settle into our hotel and enjoy watching a sunset from an Islay beach while sipping whisky accompanied by shortbread and chocolate. Dinner and overnight on Islay. (B.D.)



# ITINERARY

## **Day 8, Wednesday, July 27:**

### **Island of Islay, Laphroig Distillery,**

### **Ardbeg Distillery, Kildaton Cross Islay, Finlaggen**

Islay is the home of one of Scotland's distinctive whisky types - peaty, smoky-flavored single malts. We may get a chance to dig peat, learn about whisky making or have our own privately labeled bottling. Our full-day tour of Islay includes a visit to two whisky distilleries, Laphroaig and Ardbeg. A visit to the Kildalton Cross transports us back in time more than 1200 years and we discover the ancient seat of the Lords of the Isles at Finlaggan. Wildlife abounds on Islay, so keep your eyes open for golden eagles, seals, otters, whales, dolphins, wild geese, red deer, and much more. Discover traditional villages clinging to the rough Atlantic coastline, ruined castles, golden beaches, and a proud Gaelic culture as we explore the most amazing of Hebridean Islands. Lunch is at a restaurant featuring locally sourced products. This evening at the hotel enjoy a whisky tasting master class, sampling a number of the best known brands and comparing whiskies produced in different parts of the country. Mass will be celebrated. Overnight in Islay (B.L.D.)



## **Day 9, Thursday, July 28:**

### **Edinburgh**

Today we take the ferry back to the mainland and drive to Edinburgh where we settle into our hotel and have an afternoon and evening at leisure to explore the beautiful city on our own. Mass will be celebrated. Overnight in Edinburgh. (B.)

**Day 10, Friday, July 29:**

**St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh Castle,**

**St. Margaret's Chapel, Glenkinchie Distillery**

Today we celebrate Mass at St Mary's Catholic Cathedral and visit Edinburgh Castle, towering over the Royal Mile. Our visit includes St Margaret's Chapel, the oldest building in the city. We end our time in Scotland with a visit to a whisky distillery. Glenkinchie, the Lowland Home of Johnnie Walker, distills the Edinburgh malt enjoyed worldwide. Tonight we have a farewell dinner at the Sheep Heid Inn, a historic pub that was a favorite of past monarchs and poets. Overnight in Edinburgh. (B. Special dinner)

**July 30, Saturday, Day 11: Depart for USA.**

Following breakfast, we transfer to Edinburgh airport for our return flight back home. (B.)\*

**Exact hotels and air will be confirmed 90 days prior to departure.**

## YOUR DESIRED & COMPREHENSIVE TOUR INCLUDES. . .

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| † Roundtrip airfare from Newark or JFK to Edinburgh   | † Professional English speaking tour director throughout   |
| † Airport taxes and fuel surcharges   | † Sightseeing tours as per itinerary   |
| † First-class hotels for 9 nights   | † Entrance fees included to sites specifically listed (outside view means no entrance is included) |
| † Service charges and hotel taxes   | † Luggage handling at hotels (one piece per person in / out)                                       |
| † Buffet breakfast daily  | † Select International Tours Travel Portfolio  |
| † 2 lunches in a restaurant or pub  | † Confirmation of daily Mass   |
| † 6 hotel dinners at the hotels (standard 3-course menu, beverages available at an additional cost) | † Whisper sets for groups of 30 or more passengers   |
| † Farewell dinner in a restaurant   |  |
| † All transfers with a private A/C motor coach as per itinerary                                     |  |

## RATES DO NOT INCLUDE. . .

- † Personal expenses
- † Medical Insurance
- † Any items not explicitly mentioned in the listed inclusions
- † Beverages at meals unless otherwise noted
- † Gratuities for the guide(s), driver, and wait staff in the amount of \$200.00 per person will be added to each invoice as a line item
- † Church donations

**We recommend you consider purchasing CFAR Travel Protection.**

## BAGGAGE CHARGES NOT INCLUDED IN TRIP COST:

- † Any airline baggage charges.
- † Baggage handling at train stations, airports, and hotels in excess of one suitcase per person.
- † Any charges incurred due to excessive luggage, including the cost of an additional baggage vehicle or portage charges.

## COST

- † Land only: \$4595
- † Land and air: \$5495

**\*Please note that sightseeing details may be amended or eliminated according to facilitate the best arrangement for our group.**

**Deposits and final payment:** A deposit of \$750.00 per person by check should accompany the registration form along with your optional travel protection payment and a copy of your passport picture page by **April 15, 2022. Final payment is due by May 20, 2022. A late payment fee of \$100 will be charged per person for all payments received after the final payment date.** Please mail your payment to: **Select International Tours, 85 Park Ave., Flemington, NJ 08822 Attn: Rebecca Stoker, 800-842-4842, rebecca@select-intl.com.**

**Your passport must be valid through January 30, 2023. Reservations will not be processed until we have passport copies.** Prices quoted are based on cash payments. Cash prices \$5,495.00 for the complete package; \$4,595.00 land only (air not included); \$895.00 single supplement (in room by yourself). For credit card payments add 4%.

**Pilgrimage prices:** Prices are based on minimum 20 passengers. Prices may be adjusted in the event of fewer than 20 passengers, changes in currency conversion rates, or amendments in local government taxes and/or fuel surcharges. Prices are in US dollars.

**Solo Travel:** A limited number of single rooms are available. Prices are based on two people per room. We do not guarantee roommates but will do our best to connect you with a someone willing to share.

**Land Only Option:** Land only services start and end at the hotels and do not include any airfare. You are welcome to transfer from the airport with the group if you arrive at the same time, otherwise, transfers are not included.

**Tour Cancellation Policy:** Individual deposits are refundable except for a \$500.00 per person handling fee for cancellations made 90 days or more before departure. A \$750.00 non-refundable fee will be assessed if the reservation is canceled between 90 and 60 days prior to departure. Within 60 days of departure all payments are non-refundable regardless of reason for cancellations. All airline tickets are non-refundable once issued. All cancellations must be in writing. Unused portions of the trip are not refundable. If a roommate cancels, the cost of a solo supplement will be added to your invoice. You may be eligible for a refund through your travel protection. Refer to the U.S. Policy by State on our website.

**Trip Cancellation Protection:** We strongly encourage you to purchase a **Travel Protection Plan** for the protection of your travel investment. Please consider purchasing this plan at the time of initial deposit in order to be covered for pre-existing conditions. Visit our website, [www.selectinternationaltours.com](http://www.selectinternationaltours.com), for details and costs, per person, for the Group Deluxe and Cancel for Any Reason (CFAR) plans. Please note that CFAR is not available in NY State. The plans contain insurance benefits underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. The plans also contain non-insurance Travel Assistance Services that are provided by an independent organization.

**Airline, seating and special requests:** To best accommodate our pilgrims, we often utilize Group Air Reservations. These allow more predictable transfer and tour schedules. However, when booking Group Air, the airline (not Select International Tours) controls seating assignments. If you require very specific seats, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options. You may communicate directly with the air-

line to request seating changes, provide mileage program information, or change passenger contact information once you receive ticket numbers—approximately three (3) weeks prior to departure. We work with instant purchase airline tickets and/or group rates. **If you switch from air and land to land only within 90 days from departure you will be charged a \$100 service fee in addition to any airline charges.** All special needs and requests due to medical or dietary restrictions must be requested in writing at least 60 days prior to departure. Business class and Premium Coach seats are available upon written request; as are add-ons from your hometown airport. If you require very specific airlines or schedules, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options.

**Walking:** Our trips require daily walking, sometimes up or down slopes, steps, and uneven terrain. We recommend preparing oneself, by walking before the trip. Anyone needing assistance is required to be accompanied by a qualified and physically-able travel companion. We are not responsible for any medical condition that occurs prior, during or after the trip.

**Safety Procedures:** Select International Tours has undertaken a reasonable inquiry, with all the suppliers (including airlines, hotels, bus companies and other service providers) used on our trips to ensure they have instigated the best available procedures regarding the pandemic- protective policies advised by local government and health authorities. The client understands and agrees that the supplier(s) may not apply those policies as diligently as the policies suggest. In addition even if the supplier makes a good faith effort to enforce its good practices, some travelers may simply refuse to cooperate. Therefore the client agrees not to hold Select International Tours or group leaders responsible should they or anyone on the trip contract COVID-19 or any other illness during or after the trip.

**Baggage:** Each participant is permitted to check (1) suitcase weighing no more than 50 lbs., and one small "carry-on" bag on the plane. Airline baggage fees are not included. Please check the websites of your air carrier for specific size and weight restrictions and baggage fees.

**Responsibility:** By accepting this confirmation, you agree that the Group Leaders and Select International Tours, Inc. have no responsibility for any acts or omission of the travel suppliers in your itinerary and during your trip. We have no special knowledge regarding the financial conditions of the suppliers, unsafe travel conditions, health hazards, or weather hazards at locations traveled. We are not responsible for flight delays or cancellations or any charges incurred due to unforeseen circumstances. Unused portions of the trip are non-refundable. For information about destination climate, risks, and safety please consult the appropriate on-line resources. For health information consult the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. You are responsible for checking passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements of your destinations. Itineraries are subject to change. We are not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen articles. We are not responsible for any sickness, injury, or death during or after the trip. Travel documents will be mailed out approximately three (3) weeks before departure. Please review them carefully for any errors.

**Shipping & Handling:** \$15.00—not included in package price—will be added to each invoice. Your invoice will confirm the trip registration.

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#### REGISTRATION/CONSENT FORM:

### A Catholic History and Whisky Tour of Scotland with Haley and Daniel Stewart July 20-30, 2022

Please complete this form and mail it to Select International Tours, along with your deposit, travel protection payment (if purchasing), and a copy of your passport picture page.



Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell/Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Cell for Airline While Traveling \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Land only : ☐ ☐ Need help with flights from \_\_\_\_\_

Medical/Dietary Needs \_\_\_\_\_  
*No airfare or airport transfers*

*Updates about your trip will be sent by email only. Please be sure that your settings allow for electronic communication originating from rebecca@select-intl.com*

Room: (check one) Single (1 Bed) \_\_\_\_\_ Double (1 Bed, 2 People) \_\_\_\_\_ Twin (2 Beds, 2 People) \_\_\_\_\_ Triple (3 Beds) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Roommate(s): \_\_\_\_\_ If single: ☐ Match me with a roommate ☐ Solo (in room by myself)

Emergency Contact (Name and Phone): \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check/money order in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for my initial deposit.

I am purchasing travel protection: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No, I decline. Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Group Deluxe Plan ☐ or Cancel For Any Reason Plan ☐ Check detailed rates and policy at [www.selectinternationaltours.com](http://www.selectinternationaltours.com)

*Rates: Trip Cost \$5,001.00 - \$5,500.00 (\$424.00 Deluxe or \$582.00 with Cancel For Any Reason CFAR)*

*\* Note: CFAR coverage is 90% of the nonrefundable trip cost. Trip cancellation must be 48 hours or more prior to scheduled departure. CFAR must be purchased at the time of plan purchase and within 14 days of your initial trip deposit. This benefit is not available to residents of NY.*

By signing below I consent to any necessary itinerary changes and price adjustments and agree with all Select International Tours & Cruises' TERMS AND CONDITIONS as outlined on this page and on the company website: [www.selectinternationaltours.com/terms-conditions/](http://www.selectinternationaltours.com/terms-conditions/). I also understand that (SITC) highly encourages the purchase of travel protection and that any fees associated with this trip cannot be waived for any reason. By declining to purchase travel protection I assume all financial losses associated with this trip which otherwise may be covered by travel protection. I also agree not to contest charges associated with the trip cost as outlined in this brochure. I understand that S.I. does not arrange specific seats on the flights.

Signature : \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Not responsible for changes in group air.*