

# Celtic Classic Tour Scotland and Ireland September 3 to 18, 2025

## Day 1 – September 3, 2025

Today we are picked up at our homes and brought to Pearson airport for our overnight flight to Glasgow.

## Day 2 – September 4, 2025

Welcome to Scotland! Meet your tour guide at your designated pickup point before undertaking a panoramic tour of Glasgow. You will see Glasgow's highlights including red sandstone Victorian buildings, delightful parks, and the River Clyde, once important for shipbuilding. We will visit Glasgow Cathedral, one of Scotland's most magnificent medieval buildings, Glasgow Cathedral is the only one on the Scottish mainland to survive the Reformation of 1560 intact. There will also be time to visit the extensive and varied art collections in Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum. Tonight, we enjoy a welcome dinner at our hotel.

## Day 3 – September 05, 2025

Depart for Rabbie Burns Country, where the first stop of the day is Burns National Heritage Park. The museum is the focal point of this beautifully landscaped park where visitors can cross the Brig o'Doon and visit the poet's birthplace. Later, continue to Culzean Castle in Ayrshire. Culzean is surrounded by surging seas, lush forests, and secret gardens.

## Day 4– September 06, 2025

Depart Glasgow for Inverness travelling along Scotland's West Coast and Loch Ness. Highlights of the day include Loch Lomond, dramatic Glencoe, a visit to Urquhart Castle and a cruise on Loch Ness in search of Nessie, the Loch Ness Monster. Tonight we will dine at our hotel.

## Day 5 – September 07, 2025

Today a day trip to the Isle of Skye, one of Scotland's most beautiful islands. First stop is Portree, capital of the island. You can enjoy some free time here, exploring the multi-coloured harbour, or warming up by a fire in a local pub. On our return to Inverness, you will visit Eilean Donan Castle. This evening you may wish to dine at a local establishment in Inverness. The Mustard Seed and Café 1 are excellent options, or for a more casual atmosphere check out Coyote Burgers or The Black Isle Brewery for their wood-oven pizza!



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# Day 6 – September 08, 2025

Today we head to Perthshire via Culloden Moor, site of the 1746 Battle of Culloden where we undertake a guided tour. Before leaving Speyside, stop at Kincraig for an impressive display from the Working Sheepdogs. Continue to Dundee, for a group dinner at our hotel.

## Day 7 – September 09, 2025

We will travel to St. Andrews, home of Scotland's oldest university and capital of golf. Next, a tour and tasting of The Kingsbarns Distillery. We undertake a panoramic tour of Edinburgh which features the "New" and the "Old" towns before arriving at our hotel.

## Day 8 – September 10, 2025

Today you are free to discover Edinburgh. We suggest places of interest include Edinburgh Castle, The Royal Yacht Britannia, The Palace of Holyrood House and the National Gallery of Scotland. For an extra special experience, why not treat yourself to a traditional 'high tea' at the Balmoral Hotel or in the Colonnades Room at the Signet Library. Tonight, you will attend the Spirit of Scotland Show, an evening of traditional entertainment and dinner.

## Day 9 – September 11, 2025

This morning, we depart for Belfast where we are met by our driver and guide before undertaking a panoramic tour of the city, including the Catholic Falls and Protestant Shankhill Roads. We visit Crumlin Road Gaol for a guided tour where we learn the history of the prison that held women, children, and Republican and Loyalist prisoners. Tonight, we dine at our hotel.

## Day 10 – September 12, 2025

First on today's agenda is a guided tour of one of Belfast's most iconic buildings, Belfast City Hall. After, we visit the Harland and Wolff Shipyard and one of Europe's top visitor attractions, The Titanic Experience. The remainder of the day you are free to roam the city. Tonight, you may wish to dine in Belfast's Cathedral Quarter, a vibrant part of town that is known for its fabulous restaurants, bistros, and pubs.

## Day 11 – September 13, 2025

This morning, we take the scenic Causeway Coastal Route through the Glens of Antrim to The Giant's Causeway, a UNESCO world heritage site where we will undertake a privately guided tour. Onward to Derry, where you will be led on a fascinating walking tour of this walled city. This evening we dine at our hotel.



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## Day 12 – September 14, 2025

Today we travel to Donegal Town for some free time, and to visit the home of Donegal Tweed, Triona Design. Here you will enjoy an Irish Coffee while learning the history of Donegal Tweed, including a weaving demonstration on a 200-year-old Hand Loom. Then we visit Belleek, home of the world- famous porcelain where we can see craftsmen hard at work. We enter the romantic domain of W.B. Yeats where we will see sites associated with the poet before arriving in Westport. There will be time to refresh and unwind before enjoy dinner at our hotel.

## Day 13 – September 15, 2025

This morning, we depart for Connemara, one of the most scenic regions in Ireland and an area that has a strong association with traditional Irish Culture. Here we will visit Kylemore Abbey a monastery that was founded for Benedictine Nuns who fled Belgium in World War 1. The remainder of the day and evening is at leisure in Westport. Be sure to venture out and enjoy a live music session in a local pub while you are here!

## Day 14 – September 16, 2025

Our travels take us south to Galway, where we are met by a resident guide who will entertain us with tales of local legends and characters on a walking tour of The City of Tribes. In Doolin we will board a cruise on the Atlantic Ocean for a unique view of the mighty Cliffs of Moher. Tonight, you are treated to a medieval banquet at an Irish castle.

## Day 15 – September 17, 2025

We depart our hotel and journey through Ireland's Hidden Heartlands to Dublin. After a panoramic tour of the city the remainder of the day is at leisure to explore the town centre. Tonight, we enjoy a farewell dinner with entertainment at a Dublin venue (TBC).

## Day 16 – September 18, 2025

After a final hearty breakfast, our group will transfer to the airport and we will take our flight back to Toronto. **Welcome home!**