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## The Best of **Scotland** Escorted 2018 ~ St Andrews, Turnberry, Edinburgh & the Highlands

10 Nights | 7 Rounds including the Old Course | June 5 - 15 | WAIT LIST

### Tour **Pricing** Per Guest

Golfer: \$9,975 | Non Golfer: \$6,145 | Single Supplement: \$2,595

Building on the success of our expanding worldwide portfolio of escorted golf tours and cruises, we are delighted to now be adding an exceptional tour for a fortunate few to Scotland, the **Home of Golf**. We have delivered custom arrangements to these shores for over 30 years, and are now offering a set departure date tour which guests may simply sign up for, including guaranteed play on **The Old Course, St. Andrews**. Our 10 night fully escorted tour will also take in many of the country's other most fabled venues; the spectacular revamped **Ailsa Course** of Turnberry Resort; **Royal Troon**, host to numerous Open Championships; **North Berwick**, one of Scotland's oldest and most loved links; Magnificent **Royal Dornoch**; outstanding newcomer **Castle Stuart**, already host several times over to the European Tour's Scottish Open. And finally St Andrews Links dramatic **Castle Course**.

Our accommodations are of the highest standard. Guests can, as usual, anticipate a typical maximum of 24 golfers in the party; setting an intimate size which also allows for variety in daily golf pairings. We include caddies at all venues, plus light lunches and open bar for beer, wine, and soft drinks during all of our golf course visits. A full breakfast is included every day, as are several group dinners during the course of the tour.

Non golfing partners are, as ever of course, most welcome; with a full sightseeing program provided on golf days to ensure they are similarly well looked after and that they may enjoy all the country has to offer. For those who are golfing, our rounds are suitably spaced out giving a chance to relax and enjoy the beautiful Scottish countryside, in particular when we venture north into the Scottish Highlands.

We hope you will join us in the Home of Golf for this most special tour in the company of other like-minded guests.

## **Detailed Itinerary**

### TUESDAY, JUNE 5: TROON, SCOTLAND

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Arrive Glasgow Airport. Met on arrival where you will be transferred to relax at your hotel, **Lochgreen House**, set in thirty acres of woodlands and beautifully manicured gardens overlooking Royal Troon Golf Club and offering sensational views of the Ayrshire coast.

This evening Welcome Cocktails & Dinner.

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OVERNIGHT: **Lochgreen House** – House Deluxe Room

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## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6: TROON, SCOTLAND

GOLF: Today play the **Ailsa Course of Turnberry**. The course has undergone a redevelopment and reopened with a stunning new layout in June 2016. Lying on a spectacular curve of rockbound coast in the southern reaches of Ayrshire. The course now makes the most of the coastal scenery especially from the 4th through the 11th passing the famous landmark lighthouse at the turn, which is now a stunning halfway house. This is a demanding links course, and an ever-present wind will make for a tough examination of your golfing skills. In 2009 the Ailsa Course hosted the Open Championship for the 4th time when golfing legend Tom Watson lost out to Stewart Cink in a playoff for the Claret Jug.

SIGHTSEEING: Non-Golfers will enjoy a visit to **Culzean Castle & Country Park**. Converted by Robert Adam to include a 'Roman' viaduct and Ruined Arch to add drama to this Italianate castle in its spectacular cliff top setting. It contains a fine collection of paintings and furniture, and a display of weapons in the Armoury. The Circular Saloon has a superb panoramic view over the Firth of Clyde and the beautiful Oval Staircase is Robert Adam's final masterpiece of interior design. In 1945 the top floor was given to General Eisenhower as a token of Scotland's recognition of his role during World War II.

Later today Golfers and Non-Golfers alike have the opportunity to visit the **A D Rattray Whisky Experience** in the nearby village of Kirkoswald. They are independent bottlers and stock limited edition cask whiskies not found in regular stores. We will enjoy a private tasting illustrating how whisky is made and how over time each cask matures and develops its individual charm and unique personality. Whether you are a novice or a connoisseur, you will find your visit both interesting and engaging.

OVERNIGHT: **Lochgreen House** – House Deluxe Room

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## THURSDAY, JUNE 7: EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

GOLF: Today play **Royal Troon**. Nine time venue of the British Open, the course most recently hosted the championship in 2016. It is consistently praised for its testing but fair set up. A long and demanding links, Troon unusually boasts both the longest and the shortest holes in Open Championship golf, being the Postage Stamp 8th at 126 yards, and the 6th at 577 yards 6th named Turnberry.

SIGHTSEEING: Non-Golfers enjoy a morning visit to **Dumfries House**, one of Britain's most beautiful stately homes and best kept heritage secrets. Saved by the intervention of HRH the Prince of Wales in 2007, Dumfries House combines the architecture of Robert Adam with the furniture of Thomas Chippendale and leading 18th century Scottish cabinet makers.

Following golf and sightseeing we make the 2 hour drive to Edinburgh, beautiful capital city of Scotland.

OVERNIGHT: **Waldorf Astoria Edinburgh** – Premium Castle View Room

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## FRIDAY, JUNE 8: EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

GOLF: Today play **North Berwick**, one of Scotland's oldest golf clubs and correspondingly a very traditional links layout. The course requires unusual shotmaking, along with blind shots and play over stone walls. It features the

par three, 15th 'Redan' which is recognized as the most frequently copied short hole in the world of golf. North Berwick is a wonderful and traditional links golf experience that can be enjoyed by all standard of player with excellent views over the Firth of Forth to the Bass Rock and over to Fife.

SIGHTSEEING: Non-Golfers enjoy a tour of **Edinburgh**, famous for its **Parliament, Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood Palace**, history, architecture, festivals, and city walking. The city is divided between the Old Town and the New Town. The Old Town is where you will find the greatest gathering of historical buildings whilst the New Town is more a celebration of business, order and classical Georgian architecture. This is the terrain of the shops, offices and banks as well as many bars and cafes.

This evening enjoy dinner with your group in a local restaurant (included).

OVERNIGHT: **Waldorf Astoria Edinburgh** – Premium Castle View Room

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 9: INVERNESS, SCOTLAND**

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Enjoy a leisurely day as we drive northwards into the Scottish Highlands. Our route takes us via Glencoe and Loch Ness; a place of outstanding natural beauty, but the worldwide fame of Loch Ness owes more to the legend of its famous occupant, the Loch Ness Monster - or 'Nessie' - than the breath-taking location of the loch itself. The loch cuts a great divide along what is called Glen Mor, or The Great Glen. It is over 700 feet deep, and the nearby surrounding hills rise by about the same amount. We drive past **Castle Urquhart** once one of Scotland's biggest castles but now ruin, albeit impressive, consisting of the wall, four turrets and the keep. The position of the castle on Strone Point is dramatic and commands a wide view of Loch Ness.

Lunch enroute (included).

OVERNIGHT: **Kingsmills Hotel** – Kings Club Room

## **SUNDAY, JUNE 10: INVERNESS, SCOTLAND**

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GOLF: Today you have the opportunity to play the most northerly of the Championship courses of the British Isles. **Royal Dornoch** is perhaps more than most a thinking golfers' course where it is not enough simply to keep the ball on the fairway. The greens are generally open in the front, but they are also set on plateaux several feet above the fairway; a feature that Donald Ross took from his home course and used on many of his classic designs around the world.

SIGHTSEEING: Non-Golfers enjoy a visit to **Dunrobin Castle**; the most northerly of Scotland's great houses and certainly one of the most majestic. Dunrobin is the largest house in the Northern Highlands with 189 rooms, and is one of Britain's oldest continuously inhabited houses, dating in part from the early 1300's. We then travel to Dornoch and after a light lunch have time to explore this delightful small town. Dornoch offers visitors a wide range of shops and its fine buildings include the 13th century cathedral, a courthouse and old town jail.

This evening enjoy dinner with your group in a local restaurant (included).

OVERNIGHT: **Kingsmills Hotel** – Kings Club Room

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## MONDAY, JUNE 11: INVERNESS, SCOTLAND

GOLF: **Castle Stuart** opened in 2009 with instant honors from Golf Magazine as the 'Best New International Course' of the year. Castle Stuart is the work of Americans Mark Parsinen (Kingsbarns) and Gil Hanse. It is a meticulously maintained modern links found along Moray Firth thirty minutes from energetic Inverness and a stone's throw from the airport. Six holes hug the shoreline while the others are played overhead on an escarpment that divides the entire golf course. As such you are always looking at the sea plus it provided Mr. Parsinen with opportunities to create his 'infinity' views which produce striking photographs and shaky golf swings.

SIGHTSEEING: Non-Golfers will have the opportunity to go Dolphin watching at **Chanonry Point** (*subject to suitable tide times*). This narrow peninsula is an ideal location and with lots of fellow dolphin watchers you are unlikely to miss any sightings. Dolphins can be seen at any time and you'll often be exceptionally close as they feed in the channel. Suitable clothing and footwear are required to walk on the shingle beach. We continue around the peninsula known as the **Black Isle** to Cromarty an 18th century fishing port which got somewhat left behind by the Industrial Revolution. It is the best preserved 18th century village in the Highlands. As such it has many old buildings, including Hugh Miller's thatched cottage built in 1711 and is now in the care of the National Trust for Scotland.

OVERNIGHT: **Kingsmills Hotel** – Kings Club Room

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## TUESDAY, JUNE 12: ST. ANDREWS, SCOTLAND

Today enjoy a leisurely day as we drive south through the central Scottish Highlands to St. Andrews, the Home of Golf. We will stop enroute for lunch in **Pitlochry** (included).

Mid afternoon arrival into St Andrews.

OVERNIGHT: **Fairmont Hotel, St. Andrews** – Deluxe Room

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## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13: ST. ANDREWS, SCOTLAND

GOLF: Today you will experience the fabled **Old Course of St. Andrews** (Old Course play guaranteed but exact day of play to be confirmed). The 'Home of Golf' has played host to the greatest golfers in the world and produced many of golf's dramatic moments. Wide double fairways, seven extensive double greens, and a multitude of intimidating bunkers are just some of the unique features you will encounter.

SIGHTSEEING: Non-Golfers will today enjoy a fascinating walking tour of St. Andrews visiting **St. Andrews Castle**, parts of **St. Andrews University**, and taking in the ruins of **St. Andrews Cathedral**, once one of the most important religious sites in Europe. Old Tom Morris and his son young Tom, are buried in the Cathedral Grounds. St. Andrews also offers a wide selection of shopping within a very convenient central area.

OVERNIGHT: **Fairmont Hotel, St. Andrews** – Deluxe Room

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## THURSDAY, JUNE 14: ST. ANDREWS, SCOTLAND

GOLF: When the **Castle Course** opened in 2008 it was the first new golf course built for the St. Andrews Links

Trust in over 100 years and the first ever outside of town. Scots architect David McLay Kidd, creator of Bandon Dunes, transformed a farm along the coast 2 miles east of the city center into a 'modern links' layout comparable to Kingsbarns and Castle Stuart. The setting is striking with wonderful views of St. Andrews and St. Andrews Bay plus a collection of seaside holes played along, around, and over rugged cliffs. A caddie is well worth your employ at the Castle Course if for no other reason than your tee shots - the line you want is seldom the one you see.

SIGHTSEEING: Non-Golfers will enjoy a visit to **Glamis Castle**, childhood home of Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, and birthplace of Princess Margaret. The family home of the Earls of Strathmore and Kinghorne it has been a Royal residence since 1372 and is the legendary setting of Shakespeare's play Macbeth

This evening enjoy Farewell drinks and dinner with your group (included).

OVERNIGHT: **Fairmont Hotel, St Andrews** – Deluxe Room

## FRIDAY, JUNE 15: ST. ANDREWS, SCOTLAND

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After breakfast transfer to Edinburgh Airport for homeward flights.

## Golf Schedule

### Trump Turnberry - Ailsa Course

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You can't rush perfection, Turnberry's Ailsa Course is proof. It was established in 1902, modified in 1906, modified again in 1909, redesigned in 1938 then nearly disappeared after the Second World War when it was converted into an airbase with several holes flattened into concrete runways. It was restored and reopened in 1951 as one of Scotland's finest links to the extent it hosted The Open for the first time in 1977 when Tom Watson's 65-65 weekend beat Jack Nicklaus' 65-66. MacKenzie & Ebert made extensive alterations before The Open in 2009 then Ebert returned for a major update in 2015. The result is spectacular, particularly but by no means limited to holes 9-11 that play across and along the bay atop rock outcrops on the left; dunes, pot bunkers and high fescue on the right. The club's famous lighthouse includes an incredible two-bedroom suite and one of the most memorable halfway houses in golf.

[Click here](#) for the golf course IMAGE GALLERY

### Royal Troon

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Royal Troon is a course in the current Open rota. Arnold Palmer, Tom Watson and Tom Weiskopf (his only win in a major) have won here as did Henrik Stenson whose Sunday round of 63 outlasted Phil Mickelson's 65 to claim The 145th Open. A long links that is consistently praised for its testing but fair set up. Troon boasts the shortest hole among Open venues, being the "Postage Stamp" 8th at 126 yards. The layout gives you a chance to find your game with a gentle opening but the inward nine is considered one of the most difficult sides in major championship golf.

[Click here](#) for the golf course IMAGE GALLERY

[Click here](#) to watch how to play the Postage Stamp

[Click here](#) for the course VIDEO

## North Berwick

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Like St Andrews, this links starts and finishes in town. Golf was played in the area since at least 1672 but the club was formed in 1832 making it the thirteenth oldest in the game. It came to be in the same way as so many of the early clubs -- in stages. First it was a 6-hole layout, then a 7, then a 10 which included the famous Redan hole, then in 1877 a full 18. A renovation lengthened the course in 1895 then again in 1932. The course is a delight for many reasons not the least of which is how you are challenged by stonewalls, deep bunkers, the usual humps, hollows and burns without having to fight brutal rough. The course is normally set up to play in around 3 hours so the rough is kept playable.

**North Berwick Golf Club, Scotland by LINKS Magazine**

[Click here](#) for the golf course IMAGE GALLERY

## Royal Dornoch

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An hour north of Inverness, along a crescent shaped stretch of the Dornoch Firth is a narrow strip of softly contoured dune land rising on two distinctive levels, providing just enough room for fairways framed by heather and gorse. It is here where Royal Dornoch was founded in 1877. Old Tom Morris extended the layout to 18 holes in 1886 which has been modified over the years to produce a layout consistently ranked today among the world's top 20. MacKenzie & Ebert improved four holes and built a new 7th. The club was Donald Ross' famous inspiration for raised, domed greens.



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WEBCAST - A Greenside Chat: "The Story of Royal Dornoch" ~ Neil Hampton

Royal Dornoch Golf Club, Scotland by LINKS Magazine

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## Cabot Highlands - Castle Stuart



Once Kingsbarns opened, developer Mark Parsinen began his search for an encore. He found it in the Highlands overlooking the Moray Firth less than ten miles from Inverness where he and Gil Hanse fashioned another modern links classic. The first three holes on each nine run away from the clubhouse and along the water. The remaining six on each side play on top of the escarpment offering spectacular views on your way back to the exceptional clubhouse.

Castle Stuart is a true links course in every sense with revetted natural bunkers, waste bunkers, rumpled fairways and run-up greens. This three-time host to the Scottish Open complements any visit to the Highlands.

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## St Andrews - Old Course

This is the "Home of Golf". The Old Course has played host to the greatest golfers and produced many of golf's most dramatic moments. Wide double fairways, seven extensive double greens, and a multitude of intimidating bunkers are just some of the unique features you will encounter. Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods each hoisted the Claret Jug here on two occasions. In 1927, Bobby Jones claimed The 62nd Open six years after taking four strokes to escape the Hill Bunker at the 11th and tearing up his scorecard!

No. 17, the "Road Hole", is always an adventure as is negotiating the Valley of Sin at the short par-4 18th.



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## St Andrews - Castle Course



Located two miles from St Andrews town centre, and following the Fife coastline, the Castle Course is a wonderful addition to the St Andrews Links Courses. The designer, David McLay Kidd, creator of Bandon Dunes in Oregon, created a typical Scottish golf experience with wonderful views over the town and the North Sea. It has been designed with tradition very much in mind. Approaches will allow for bump and run as well as pitches and the heavily contoured greens are fantastic.



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## Accommodations

### Lochgreen House Hotel

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Lochgreen House is set amidst thirty acres of woodland and landscaped gardens adjacent to the famous fairways of Royal Troon and stands as a perfect reminder of a bygone era. Built by the Morton family in 1905, the house features fine wood panelling throughout with light oak in the hall and study and cherry in the dining room. Meticulous attention to detail remains the hallmark of Lochgreen House, which has developed into one of Scotland's finest country houses.

### The Caledonian, Edinburgh

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The Caledonian Edinburgh, Curio Collection by Hilton has recently undergone a luxury re-launch following a £35 million investment and renovation programme to bring this landmark Scottish property into the Curio Collection by Hilton portfolio. 'The Caley', as it is affectionately known among Edinburgh locals, has embodied the very best in Scottish hospitality for over a hundred years. Situated at the west end of Princes Street, this former Victorian railway hotel nestles in the shadow of the historic Edinburgh Castle, just two minutes' walk from the designer stores and fashionable bars of George Street. Luxurious bedrooms contain the largest bathrooms of any hotel in Edinburgh.



### Kingsmills Hotel

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Originally a Scottish mansion house, the Kingsmills Hotel is set in 4 acres of beautiful gardens and is just one mile from Inverness city centre. The hotel presents a seamless blend of style and substance, proud of a reputation for warmth of welcome, traditional values of service, yet, flexible to the needs of today's business executive. Rooms are spacious and if you need to work in your room, there's plenty of worktop space for papers and laptops and high speed wifi is available throughout. Fine foods from exciting menus sourced locally served in the restaurant or the garden conservatory are complimented by an excellent wine list and a large selection of single malt whiskies. In 2010 saw the opening of the stand alone Kingsclub and Spa. Small and very select with 37 bedrooms with a choice of Cocoon or Retreat luxury air-conditioned bedrooms, a beauty



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spa, mezzanine lounge, business centre, massage suites, relaxation area, nail salon, green space, golf course views, exclusive bar and restaurant all with a city centre location. In the club spirit the bar is exclusive to guests of The Kingsclub; informal and peaceful it's a cocktail before dinner or dissect the day's successes on the golf course. Jump on our golf buggy and relax over dinner in our Inglis Restaurant or Conservatory Brasserie in the Kingsmills Hotel.

## Fairmont St Andrews

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The 5-star Fairmont St Andrews is located on the outskirts of St Andrews along the road to Crail. Sitting on the summit of a spectacular cliff formation, the hotel and its two championship golf courses have breathtaking panoramic views of the River Tay estuary, the North Sea, the Fife countryside, and the medieval skyline of St Andrews. In addition to the two golf courses on site, you may enjoy the Spa, a haven of peace and tranquility. Enjoy a few easy lengths of the 18-metre pool, relax in the Jacuzzi, sauna or steam room. Included in your rate is full WiFi internet access in the public rooms and guest bedrooms.

