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## **St Andrews Escorted 2023** **Attend The 2023 Walker Cup at St Andrews**

**7 Nights | 4 Rounds including Royal Dornoch | August 31 – September 7**

*\*This Tour is Hosted by PerryGolf Co-Founder **Gordon Dalgleish**.*

**PerryGolf** is thrilled to offer a 7-night, 4-round Escorted Tour to the Home of Golf, including a weekend Pass to **The 2023 Walker Cup**. Experience the excitement of this unique and revered event between the finest amateurs of the United States, and Great Britain & Ireland, while spending a long weekend in St Andrews, with accommodations in the beautifully renovated Rusacks Hotel, overlooking the 18th fairway of the Old Course, the most storied location in golf. Following the Walker Cup we journey to the magical Highlands of Scotland for some outstanding golf, including the fabled Royal Dornoch.

Our golf lineup includes the highly rated **Kingsbarns** on the outskirts of **St Andrews**, plus **Nairn**, **Castle Stuart**, and **Royal Dornoch** in the Scottish Highlands.

The Walker Cup is something of a hidden gem in the field of international sporting events. Since the first match took place in 1922, played over the renowned National Golf Links of America on Long Island, and starring the great Bobby Jones, the match has been hosted at the most revered of venues, and consistently featured future stars of the game from Jack Nicklaus, Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson, Collin Morikawa and Bryson DeChambeau, to Pádraig Harrington, Justin Rose, Jordan Spieth, Dustin Johnson, and Rory McIlroy, and many others in between. Having been played over the Old Course on eight occasions already, it returns to this most special of arenas after an almost 50-year absence, in recognition of the centenary of the match. Although there will be exceptional interest, it traditionally provides a relatively intimate spectating experience, well removed from high level professional golf. The USA will be defending the trophy, having won in a closely contested match at Seminole in 2021, but GB&I will be hoping for the form which saw them beat the USA in 2015 at Royal Lytham & St Annes by their largest winning margin to date.

Rusacks Hotel, our base for the event, has undergone an extensive renovation including the creation of additional rooms. There can surely be no more prime hotel location in the world of golf, as you gaze over the hallowed links, with the 18th fairway and green located directly below you. We will host a welcome and closing party in the rooftop restaurant, and also include lunch in the hotel on both match days.

Our included golf is diverse and storied. **Kingsbarns** is a modern day classic, and is held in the highest regard in the golfing world. **Nairn** is a renowned links course and venue of many major tournaments including the 1999 Walker Cup Matches and the 2012 Curtis Cup. **Castle Stuart**, a Gil Hanse and Mark Parsinen design, opened in 2009 along the Moray Firth, which quickly entered the top 100 in the world rankings, and has played host to multiple Scottish Opens already. **Royal Dornoch** is an imperative for any Donald Ross aficionado, to face the demanding inverted saucer greens created by Old Tom Morris.

For our accompanying non-golfing guests, our carefully crafted sightseeing program, fully escorted by a qualified guide, will let them experience Scotland away from the golf course. We include a fascinating walking tour of the historic town of St Andrews, plus a visit to Culloden Moor, along with Dunrobin Castle and the Falls of Shin.

If you enjoy combining your love of golf with a passion for travel, you'll find a relaxing and highly rewarding experience on this Escorted Tour. Every aspect is fully managed from the handling of your luggage and equipment to hotel and golf course check ins. Various meals, guided sightseeing, caddies, local taxes, service charges and gratuities (excluding caddie gratuities) are included in addition to sandwiches, snacks plus an open bar for beer and wine during our time at each of the golf courses. Best of all, this PerryGolf vacation promises an ideal opportunity to join a group of like-minded new friends.

[Photo Album](#)

## Detailed Itinerary

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 31: ST ANDREWS, SCOTLAND

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Arrive Edinburgh Airport. Met on arrival where you will be transferred your hotel, **Rusacks, St Andrews**.

**St Andrews**, known worldwide as The Home of Golf, and also boasts Scotland's oldest university. The Royal and Ancient Golf Club first met here in the spiritual home of golf in 1754, though it was first played here as early as the 15th century.

St Andrews University, founded in 1410, dominates the center of town. The elegant, ivy-clad buildings and delightful quadrangles and gardens have seen a procession of famous graduates such as Prince William. One of the top universities in Britain, St Andrews is often compared to Oxford and Cambridge for its defining presence and the collegiate feel it gives to the town. The Medieval center of St Andrews consists of a series of narrow alleys and cobbled streets packed with shops, restaurants and cafés.

This evening attend our Welcome Party & Dinner in Rusacks Hotel.

OVERNIGHT: **Rusacks Hotel, St Andrews** – Rusacks King Room – Golf View upgrade available

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1: ST ANDREWS, SCOTLAND

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GOLF: Today play **Kingsbarns Golf Links**. Its sandy, linksland soils are the basis for this heritage, and produce the fine-bladed fescues which are the cornerstone of fast-and-firm playing surfaces that characterize links golf. Designed by Kyle Phillips and opened anew in 2000, its rebirth has been shared with golfers from near and far with outstanding reviews. The links features spacious rolling fairways, large greens, and exceptional sea views on every hole. A challenging yet enjoyable champion-standard traditional Scottish links course. Early starting times scheduled for this morning will allow you the opportunity to attend the Opening Ceremonies of **The 2023 Walker Cup**.

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: **Rusacks Hotel, St Andrews** – Rusacks King Room – Golf View upgrade available

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## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2: ST ANDREWS, SCOTLAND**

Today attend the Opening Day of the **Walker Cup** over the historic **Old Course of St Andrews**. The Saturday format is four morning foursomes (alternate shot) matches, followed by eight afternoon singles matches. Lunch is served between rounds for all PerryGolf guests in Rusacks Hotel.

OVERNIGHT: **Rusacks Hotel, St Andrews** – Rusacks King Room – Golf View upgrade available

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## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3: ST ANDREWS, SCOTLAND**

Today attend the Final Day of the **Walker Cup** over the historic **Old Course of St Andrews**. The Sunday format is four morning foursomes (alternate shot) matches, followed by ten afternoon singles matches. Lunch is served between rounds for all PerryGolf guests in Rusacks Hotel.

This evening join us for our Walker Cup Closing Party in Rusacks Hotel.

OVERNIGHT: Rusacks Hotel, St Andrews – Rusacks King Room – Golf View upgrade available

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## **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4: INVERNESS, SCOTLAND**

Morning drive to Inverness (3 hours 30 mins) through the beautiful Scottish countryside. Coffee stop enroute.

GOLF: This afternoon play **Castle Stuart Golf Links**. One of the newest additions to Scotland's collection of the links courses, Castle Stuart runs along the shores of the Moray Firth to the east of Inverness with wonderful views over to the Black Isle. Six holes hug the shoreline while the remaining holes are played over a terraced slope so views out to sea are ever present. It is already included among the World's Top 100.

SIGHTSEEING: Non-Golfers will visit **Culloden Moor**, site where the Jacobite uprising ended in 1746 and one of the most harrowing battles in British history. Take a tour of the battlefield where a guide will lead you around the key areas as well as visiting the memorial cairn and the restored 18th-century Leanach Cottage with its beautiful thatched roof.

OVERNIGHT: Ness Walk , Inverness – Laurel Room

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## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5: INVERNESS, SCOTLAND**

GOLF: Today play **Royal Dornoch**. The curving bay of the Dornoch Firth and its magnificent white broad beaches are backed by a narrow strip of softly contoured dune land rising in two distinctive levels, providing just enough room for parallel fairways. The ridges, hillocks, dunes and undulating links land have all the characteristics of the best of links courses, and most of the difficulties. Old Tom Morris was the architect responsible for extending the original 9 holes layout to 18 holes in 1886. He introduced the plateau greens which are the soul of the course, their uniqueness lies in their size and their inverted saucer shapes.

**SIGHTSEEING:** Non-Golfers enjoy a visit to **Dunrobin Castle** and the **Falls of Shin**. Dunrobin Castle, seat of the Earls and Dukes of Sutherland, this beautiful castle with a French influence sits looking out across the North Sea. With 189 rooms, it is the largest house in the Northern Highlands. Parts of it date back to the 1300s. There are many collections of furniture, pictures, objects d'art, uniforms, china and family memorabilia on display in the Drawing Room, Library, study, bedrooms, nurseries, etc. While Falls of Shin is perfect for those who enjoy the outdoors and wildlife. There are extensive forest walks, dramatic waterfalls and the famous salmon leap, where you can watch salmon hurl themselves up the falls. The visitor centre shop has a range of exclusive luxury gifts from Harrods Knightsbridge in London and superb quality local quality crafts, plus fresh local produce.

**OVERNIGHT:** **Ness Walk , Inverness** – Laurel Room

## **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6: INVERNESS, SCOTLAND**

**GOLF:** Play today at **Nairn**, a renowned links course and venue of many major tournaments including the 1999 Walker Cup Matches and the 2012 Curtis Cup. As usual in Scotland for an early club, Nairn was founded in 1887, it has passed through many hands beginning with Archie Simpson's original. Old Tom Morris lengthened it. James Braid took a turn, as did Ben Sayers, then Braid returned to top it off. Never content however, the club enlisted Mackenzie & Ebert recently for new greens, fairway bunkers and tees. Nairn is a traditional links played hard against Moray Firth which threatens on six of the first seven holes.

**SIGHTSEEING:** Today a chance to relax and enjoy the beautiful town of Inverness at your own pace.

This evening enjoy our Farewell Party & Dinner in Ness Walk.

**OVERNIGHT:** **Ness Walk , Inverness** – Laurel Room

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7: INVERNESS, SCOTLAND**

After breakfast transfer to **Inverness** or **Edinburgh Airport** for homeward flights.

## **Golf Schedule**

### **Kingsbarns**



Golf dates to a nine-hole layout here in 1793. It was commandeered by the military during the Second World War not to reappear until Kyle Phillips took an interest in the late 1990s. His design ushered in the era of “modern classics” when it opened in 2000 looking like it had been there for years. The terrain is links style perfection with tumbling fairways and sandy soil that produce the fine-bladed fescues which are the cornerstone of fast-and-firm playing surfaces that characterise links golf. The fairways are spacious, the greens are large, exceptional views of the North Sea are found on every hole.

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## 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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## Royal Dornoch



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.

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

**Royal Dornoch Golf Club, Scotland by LINKS Magazine**

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## Nairn

Nairn was among the first of the Highlands courses to make an international name for itself when it hosted the Walker Cup in 1999. It has gone on to host the British Amateur and the Curtis Cup. Founded in 1887 on an elevated piece of linksland overlooking the Moray Firth, an all-star collection of architects have had a hand in the layout including Old Tom Morris and James Braid. Most recently, the club commissioned MacKenzie & Ebert for a major modernization including numerous new greens, bunkers and tees. The result capitalizes on what are some of the very best turf conditions in Scotland – a Nairn trademark.



**Drone Footage: Nairn Golf Club, Scotland**

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Nairn Golf Club, Scotland by LINKS Magazine

## Accommodations

### Rusacks Hotel

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Occupying a landmark 1600's building, overlooking the iconic Old Course, the Home of Golf, the hotel is the newest offering from Marine & Lawn Hotels & Resorts. Reopened in July 2021 following a major transformation and extension housing new rooms overlooking the 18th fairway. Warm woods and antique furnishings meet luxurious materials and mystical touches to create a vivid ode to the Highlands and Linksland of Scotland. Selected rooms feature prime views of the surrounding courses and natural landscapes, and come with a wide array of fine amenities to make your stay as enjoyable as possible. A stunning destination rooftop 18 sits on the fourth floor of the new extension to the previous footprint and its full glass wall offers a panoramic view across the Old Course, West Sands and the North Sea. The ground floor will house The Bridge, for casual all-day dining option and One Under Bar, an intimate, underground bar will serve the very best pub favourites, beers, whiskies and cocktails.

### Ness Walk Hotel

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Located on the leafy banks of the River Ness in Inverness. This new addition to the city offers 48 exquisite bedrooms taking their influence from seasonal landscape with a flow of soft colours and textiles. The original Grade B listed building remains with added bedroom wings and will feature an open lounge with high ceilings and views across the lawn to the river. High corniced ceilings and lavish furnishings will warm the restaurant and bar giving guests a relaxing, rich and cosy setting. Guest bedrooms are designed with every modern comfort involved with a choice of bedrooms on the ground floor with garden patio to the first and second floors will wall to floor windows for added light.

