

ADVENTURES IN SCOTLAND:
Highlights of the Highlands, Lowlands & Islands

May 22nd – June 2nd, 2027

With Karen Chapman

THIS TOUR IS NOW FULL – but you may join the waiting list

Eilean Donnan Castle, Skye



Rugged mountains, historic castles, windswept moors, myths and legends; Scotland has so much to offer the curious traveler.

Our adventure begins in its capital; Edinburgh where the imposing Castle perched on a volcanic rock dominates the skyline. From here we will visit several exceptional private gardens in the Lowlands before beginning our journey northwards.

Castles feature prominently on our tour; from Royal residences to Outlander locations and family homes, each one has a unique story and a wide variety of gardens to explore.

A specialist guide will share the rich history of Scotland with us through visits to Culloden Battlefield and the prehistoric Clava Cairns while our two-day excursion to the Isle of Skye will be focused on appreciating nature's raw beauty both through the scenery and wildlife.

Finally, our 'Taste of Scotland' farewell dinner will enable us to sample the very best of Scottish cuisine.

This is a tour promises to be a unique blend of treasured experiences.

ITINERARY

Edinburgh



Day 1: Saturday May 22nd (-/-/D)

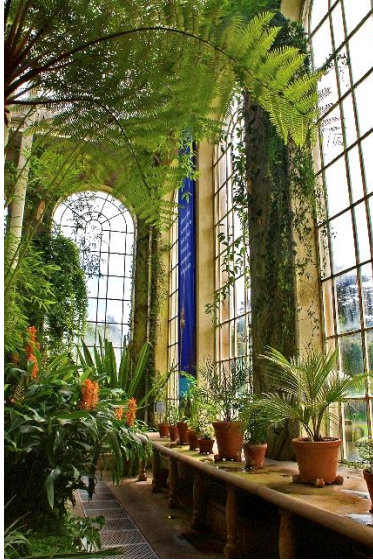


Guests are invited to make their own way to our centrally located **Edinburgh** hotel, allowing for travel flexibility. Perhaps you'd like to arrive a few days early to recover from the flight and explore some additional areas independently?

Your tour officially begins this afternoon with a self-paced visit to the **Palace of Holyroodhouse** (*left*), the King's official residence in Edinburgh. Explore the Abbey ruins, State apartments, the Throne room and/or the gardens before returning to our hotel to freshen up. Our **welcome dinner** will be at a local restaurant within easy walking

distance.

Our base for the next 3 nights will be **Apex Grassmarket Hotel, Edinburgh**.



Day 2: Sunday May 23rd (B/-/-)

After breakfast we will depart on a **walking tour** of Edinburgh with a specialist guide, ending at the **Royal Botanic Garden** (*left*). A **guided tour** here will show us some of the garden's many highlights before we explore further independently. The remainder of the day is free time; perhaps stay longer in the garden (there's so much to see), visit Edinburgh Castle, explore the Royal Yacht Britannia or shop for souvenirs along the Royal Mile. Independent lunch and dinner.

Day 3: Monday May 24th (B/L/-)

Today we will explore **three private gardens** in **Lowland Scotland**. Our first stop will be **Shepherd House Garden**, an intimate artist's garden in Inveresk, followed by the wonderfully romantic **Carolside** (*right*), noted as one of the finest private gardens in Scotland. Our **lunch** will be served in the formal dining room of their Georgian manor house. Our final stop will be at **Broadwoodside** where the head gardener will lead our tour. Independent dinner.



Day 4: Tuesday May 25th (B/L/D)



After check out we commence our northward journey, stopping first at **Drummond Castle Gardens** (*left, Photo: Martin Coventry*) near Crieff for a **private tour** and **lunch**. This impressive formal garden has been featured in many films including the *Outlander* series. From here we travel to a **private garden** near Perth noted for its magnificent oak trees. Our **Welcome to the Highlands Dinner** will be at our **Atholl Palace Hotel** in **Pitlochry**, our home base for 2 nights.

Day 5: Wednesday May 26th (B/L/-)

An exciting day today, beginning with a visit to **Balmoral Castle** (*right*) in the heart of the Highlands. Our general entry ticket will allow you to explore the elements that appeal to you the most; the Royal grandeur of the castle or the beauty of the gardens and estate. On our way back we will stop to eat our (provided) **picnic lunches** in **Braemar**, a popular base for hikers and mountaineers, before continuing to **Blair Castle**. After a **private tour** of this historic castle we will have time to enjoy the gardens at our leisure. Independent dinner.



Day 6: Thursday May 27th (B/-/-)

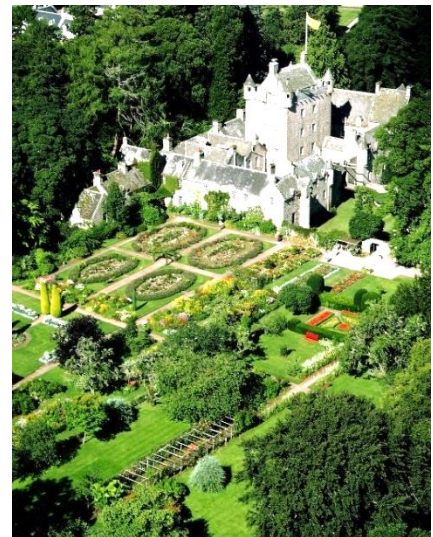


We take a break from gardens today to learn more about the culture and history of this beautiful country. Our first adventure will be to watch a **sheepdog demonstration** at Leault Farm. A **specialist guide** will then join us for a visit to **Culloden Battlefield** where the final 1745 Jacobite Rising came to a brutal end. Finally, we stop at **Clava Cairns**, a prehistoric burial site and chapel remains. We will reach the charming **Kingsmill Hotel** in **Inverness** mid/late afternoon. Independent dinner – the city center is a short

walk away or our hotel has several options. 2 nts.

Day 7: Friday May 28th (B/L/-)

After breakfast we head to **Cawdor Castle** (*right*), built and inhabited by the Cawdor family for over 600 years. After a self-guided visit of the castle we will have a **private tour** of the three unique gardens followed by **lunch**. In the early afternoon we will transfer to **Gordon Castle Walled Garden**, one of the oldest kitchen gardens in Britain. The remainder of the day is free for you to enjoy Inverness. Independent dinner.



Day 8: Saturday May 29th (B/-/D)



After an early check out we begin our journey westward, stopping first at a **private garden** where the owners will meet us to share their gardens story. From here we depart to the highly acclaimed **Inverewe (left)**, a favorite of Monty Don's. There will be time at Inverewe for an independent lunch and self-paced visit before we leave for the Isle of Skye. The quaint **Skeabost House Hotel, Skye** will be our home for 2 nights. **Dinner** together at our hotel this evening.

Day 9: Sunday May 30th (B/L/-)

A **specialist guide** will join us today to share points of interest and local folk lore. We will travel by coach to visit many island highlights including the surreal rock formations at **Trotternish Peninsula, Old Man of Storr (right) Kilt Rock, Duntulm Castle** and the **Quiraing Pass**. We will also make stops for **lunch**, and photography along the way. In the late afternoon we will take a short **cruise** to see the seals on **Loch Coruisk**. Independent dinner at our hotel or in Portree, a 15-minute taxi ride away.



Day 10: Monday May 31st (B/L/-)



After check out and collecting our **picnic lunch** we depart for a self-paced visit to **Dunvegan Castle and Gardens**. This is the oldest continuously inhabited castle in Scotland. From here we drive down the west coast of Skye and take the ferry back to the mainland. Our overnight stop will be in the picturesque harbor town of **Oban (left)**. Known as the seafood capital of Scotland, you may wish to book ahead for your independent dinner at one of the popular restaurants. Overnight at **Oban Bay Hotel**.

Day 11: Tuesday June 1st (B/L/D)

With a **picnic lunch** to enjoy on the coach, we will **check out** and depart for **Glencoe** for a coffee break before we drive on to the **Trossachs Woollen Mill** with time to shop and explore. Our last evening will be back to the conveniently located **Apex Grassmarket Hotel** in **Edinburgh**.

Once checked in it's just a short walk to the Amber restaurant for our **Farewell dinner** – a **Taste of Scotland** tasting menu to savor those final flavors of Scottish cuisine.



Day 12: Wednesday June 2nd (B/-/-)

Tour services end after breakfast with independent transfers to the airport. Guests may also choose to pre-book additional nights at our hotel in order to extend their stay.

INTERACTIVE ROUTE MAP

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/1/edit?mid=1e4_tc06RHK3MImNsmnrpTA5JNkSJPfw&usp=sharing

HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

Our aim is to keep everyone healthy and be sensitive to those who may be more vulnerable. By registering for this tour **all guests understand and agree to the following:**

- Any guest who displays symptoms of *any* upper respiratory infection other than seasonal allergies (persistent cough, sneezing, sore throat) will be asked to wear a mask on the coach and in confined indoor areas, and to practice social distancing whenever possible to minimize the risk to others.
- Any guest who is running a fever will be asked to take a rest day at our hotel (if we are returning to the same hotel that evening) to allow for self-medication and isolation. Should the fever last more than 24 hours or should we be in transit that day, the guest may be asked to remain at that hotel until they are recovered from their fever and then make their way, at their own expense, to rejoin the group. We will assist you in making the necessary arrangements and stay in communication with you throughout. Purchase of travel insurance and collection of all expense-related receipts, however, is highly recommended
- Special note for room buddies: discuss in advance how expenses will be covered if one person gets sick and necessitates the healthy guest needing to book another room.

Thank you for your understanding.

HOW DO I KNOW IF THIS TOUR IS RIGHT FOR ME?

To fully enjoy this tour, please be sure you

- Have an adventurous spirit and easy-going attitude.
- Are comfortable walking 5-6 miles each day at a moderate pace, often on uneven or grassy paths.
- Can stand unaided as we listen to our guides for periods of time and **manage stairs**. Please be aware that due to limited availability for groups, our [Skye hotel](#) will be a little more challenging in this regard with **20 - 42 steps** (albeit with landings) to our rooms and no elevator in the hotel. We have arranged portage but you will still need to manage these stairs yourself a few times each day with a smile 😊
- Can manage your own suitcase (tips will be provided to help you pack light) when portage is not available. I highly recommend a carry-on size suitcase (even if you check it for the flight) plus a small backpack or similar.

SMOKING

Please note that all our hotels are non-smoking establishments.

POTENTIAL CHANGES

Should any changes have to be made to hotels or tours for any reason, a suitable alternative will be found of equal standing, and finalized closer to departure.

DISCLAIMER

Le jardinet acts only as an agent for the various independent suppliers that provide hotel accommodations, transportation, sightseeing, activities, or other services connected with this tour. Such services are subject to the terms and conditions of those suppliers. Le jardinet and their respective employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or any other incident which may be caused by the negligence, defect, default of any company or person in performing these services. Responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, local laws or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws and regulations of the country in which they are provided. Le jardinet is not responsible for any baggage or personal effects of any individual participating in the tours/trips arranged by Le jardinet. Individual travelers are responsible for purchasing a travel insurance policy, if desired, that will cover some of the expenses associated with the loss of luggage or personal effects.

MEET YOUR HOST: KAREN CHAPMAN



Karen grew up in northern England with a trowel firmly in her hand, since gardening is simply a way of life in the UK. She first met her husband Andy when they were both teenagers, eventually marrying in 1987. A love of the English countryside drew them to live and work in the heart of the Peak District before moving to Seattle in 1996 with their two young children.

Today, as a landscape designer, award-winning author, and international speaker Karen has the knowledge, enthusiasm, personal connections, and detailed, organizational skills that are needed to put together a tour of inspirational gardens, historical sites, and cultural experiences.

Yet what sets Karen's tours apart, is that every guest is treated like family – not as a tourist. Her sincere wish is that you experience each destination, not simply visit it. With that in mind, each tour is kept to 22 guests or less and in addition to guided tours, time is built in for you to savor each moment at your own pace.

"Join me: I would love to share my favorite places with you."

Karen Chapman, Le jardinet: <https://lejardinetdesigns.com/>

For questions or more information contact Karen: karen@lejardinetdesigns.com

What's included:

- 11 nights' accommodation (including all taxes) in 4-5-star hotels
- All ground transportation in an air-conditioned coach
- Breakfast daily
- 7 light lunches, 4 dinners
- Whisper audio system for ease of hearing on all tours
- All entrance fees and private guided tours to gardens, historical sites, and Estates per itinerary
- Cruise on Loch Coruisk
- Private guided tours led by owners, Head Gardener or experienced garden guide
- All taxes
- All gratuities with the exception of coach driver and housekeeping
- A virtual get together for all guests to meet before our tour
- Design and horticultural expertise from your Tour Leader, Karen Chapman
- Host Karen Chapman traveling with group at all times

What's excluded:

- Flights to/from Edinburgh airport
- Transfers to/from Edinburgh hotel/airport.
- Any meals not listed

Tour Cost:

Tour is priced in **Pounds Sterling (£)** and final payment will reflect the actual cost.

For 16-22 passenger (group is capped at 22 plus host):

£6600 per person based on double occupancy

Based on rate of exchange (8/22/2026): ~\$8919

Single supplement: **£2200**

Based on ROE (8/22/2026): ~\$2970

Payment schedule and cancellation policy:

A \$1500 deposit per person is due at time of booking and is non-refundable. Final payment is due March 1st 2027.

Check or bank transfer is the required form of payment for both the deposit and final payment.

Optional additional nights (double or single occupancy):

Pre tour, per night: £375 (~ \$506)

Post tour, per night: £350 (~\$472)

Additional nights must be added by the time final payment is due.

THIS TOUR IS NOW FULL

But good things come to those who wait, so do consider joining my waiting list.

To reserve your place on the waiting list:

Please **email Karen** (karen@lejardinetdesigns.com) initially to confirm space is still available on our waiting list after which you will be asked to email your completed reservation form(s). You will not be asked for a deposit or other payments until we are able to offer you a place and you can confirm your request to join the tour in writing.

The following information is provided for your information should a place become available.

When a place is confirmed, please make **checks payable** to **Ma Petite Tours** (*my booking agency*), writing **“Karen Chapman – Scotland Tour 2027”** on the memo line, and mail along with your **reservation form** to my agent at the address below:

Ma Petite Tours
9614 180th St. SE
Snohomish, WA 98296

Please do NOT ‘request signature’ on delivery; as this is a locked mail box.

Insurance:

Insurance is highly recommended. Once your deposit and reservation form are received, an email will be sent to you regarding insurance coverage as well as a link for purchase.

Air Travel:

Flights are not included in the tour cost, giving you maximum flexibility should you wish to arrive early or extend your visit when our tour ends. Please do not book your flights until and I have confirmed in writing that the tour will proceed with a minimum of 16 guests. Further information regarding scheduling flights and meet up arrangements will be sent to all registered guests.

Documentation:

You will need a valid US Passport with at least 6 months validity from the return date to enter the UK. If you are not a US citizen, please let me know and I will advise you on the required documentation.

Non-UK citizens also need an electronic travel authorization (ETA) which is easily obtained [online](#).

For more information contact:

Karen Chapman at **425-765-3574** or email: karen@lejardinetdesigns.com

WAITING LIST FORM: PLEASE PRINT

May 22nd – June 2nd 2027 tour: Adventures in Scotland with Karen Chapman

Passenger One:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell phone number: _____

Email: _____

Emergency (non-tour) contact person and phone: _____

Relationship to above: _____

Legal name as it appears on passport: _____

Country issuing passport: _____

Passport number: _____

Expiration date: _____

Date of birth: _____

Dietary restrictions: _____

Food allergies: _____

Medical allergies: _____

Other:

Do you wish to purchase insurance? _____

Do you wish to book additional nights? _____

Special requests:

Are you a single requesting share?

Health Considerations: I have read, understand and agree to the terms laid out above.

_____ (signature)

Passenger Two:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell phone number: _____

Email: _____

Emergency (non-tour) contact person and phone: _____

Relationship to above: _____

Legal name as it appears on passport: _____

Country issuing passport: _____

Passport number: _____

Expiration date: _____

Date of birth: _____

Dietary restrictions: _____

Food allergies: _____

Medical allergies: _____

Other:

Do you wish to purchase insurance? _____

Do you wish to book additional nights? _____

Health Considerations: I have read, understand and agree to the terms laid out above.

_____ (signature)