

## ENGLAND & SCOTLAND

From hilltop castles to sprawling highlands, a tour of Scotland & England shows off the geography and culture of Great Britain. Explore medieval history and lush landscapes with stops in London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Stirling, and Loch Lomond.

### *Why Brightspark?*

#### **Safety And Security**

We regularly conduct strict audits of our vendors, ensuring they act in accordance with safety, security, and quality standards.

#### **Our Tour Directors**

You deserve the best, so we only use experienced and enthusiastic Tour Directors who are experts on their destinations.

#### **Quality, Custom Tours**

Our programs are designed for you, by you. From STEM-based DC tours to performance trips to some of our country's top music cities, we have a destination for every budget and every passion.

#### **Industry Experience**

With over 50 years of experience providing custom tours, Brightspark is a leader in student travel.

#### **Travel Protection & Incident Coverage**

With our 24/7 emergency hotline and comprehensive travel insurance options, we've got you covered at home and abroad.



## ENGLAND & SCOTLAND

### Day 1: Board your flight to England.

### Day 2: London

- Meet with your tour director at **London Heathrow Airport**.
- Board your private motor coach and drop your bags off at the hotel. Hop on "the tube" and head to the heart of the city.
- Meet your local guide for a half-day walking tour of the British capital. Get a glimpse of London landmarks like the **Houses of Parliament**, the **Big Ben** clock tower, **Westminster Abbey**, **Buckingham Palace**, and **Trafalgar Square**.
- Take a ride on the **London Eye**, the world's tallest cantilevered observation wheel, rotating 450 feet above the River Thames.

### Day 3: London

- Visit **Westminster Abbey**, a major institution of British history and burial place of Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin, and many kings and queens of the Empire.
- Walk through **Trafalgar Square** on the way to **Embankment Pier**. Board the **Thames Clipper** for a sightseeing cruise – don't forget to snap photos as you pass under the **Tower Bridge**.
- Enter the **Tower of London**, famous home of the **Crown Jewels**.
- Stroll through **St. Dunstan-in-the-East**. The ruins of a parish destroyed during the Second World War are now a garden.
- Savor British delicacies at a traditional English pub.

### Day 4: Windsor & Oxford

- Board your private motor coach and travel to **Windsor Castle**, home to the British Royal Family since the 11<sup>th</sup> century.
- Continue to **Oxford**. Meet your local tour guide for a walking tour of **Oxford University**, with stops at the **Divinity School** and **Duke Humfrey's Library**. You will most likely cross paths with several students in their anachronistic black gowns.

### Day 5: Stratford-upon-Avon

- Board your private motor coach and travel to **Stratford-upon-Avon**, the birthplace of William Shakespeare. Walk around the charming streets of this historic village. Explore its history and attractions, many related to the famous playwright.
- Retrace Shakespeare's footsteps as you visit the family's five houses in town: the place of his birth and childhood; Mary Arden's farm, where his mother spent her childhood; the house he lived in as an adult; Hall's Croft, his daughter's house; and Anne Hathaway's cottage, his wife's residence.
- Board your private motor coach and return to London. On the way, view Gatwick's famous **Warwick Castle**.

### Day 6: Edinburgh

- Board your private motor coach and depart to the airport, where you will take a flight to Scotland's **Edinburgh Airport**.
- Enjoy a walking tour of the Scottish capital, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Discover the **Old Town's** medieval atmosphere as you wander through narrow passages and winding alleys. See how the **New Town**, dating back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, impacted European urban planning.

### Day 7: Edinburgh

- Experience Scotland's most famous attraction, **Edinburgh Castle**. Built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, the fortress keeps watch over the city from its perch atop **Castle Rock**.
- Stroll along **Calton Hill**, which houses the headquarters of the Scottish government at **St. Andrew's House**. The hill also features many monuments and the **Old Calton Burial Ground**.
- Explore the idyllic **Holyrood Park**, a royal park with 650 acres of rolling hills, glens, lochs, and abundant flora and fauna. Approximately one mile from Edinburgh Castle, the park was once a royal hunting estate. Aside from its natural sights, the park also features the **Holyrood Palace** and ancient ruins.
- Hike to **Arthur's Seat**, the park's main peak.

### Day 8: Central Scotland

- Board your private motor coach and depart to **Stirling**, the historical center of the country connecting the Scottish Highlands and Lowlands.
- Step into the world of Renaissance kings and queens at **Stirling Castle**. Surrounded by steep cliffs on **Castle Hill**, the complex was a strategic and architectural feat.
- Journey to **Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park**, offering stunning views of the Scottish highlands. Enjoy a round-trip cruise from **Tarbet** to the charming rural community of **Inversnaid**.
- On your way back to Edinburgh, stop in **Glasgow**, the largest city in Scotland. The former industrial capital is now known for its architecture and culture.

### Day 9: Depart to the airport for your flight home.

