



Scotland





Scotland Contents

Contents	2
Introduction	3
► Route Map	4
Glasgow	5
Stirling Castle	21
Wallace Monument	28
Bannockburn	31
<hr/>	
<i>Globus Tour</i>	
► South Map	36
Alloway	37
Gretna Green	41
Carlisle Castle	43
Hadrian's Wall	46
Jedburgh Abbey	50
Melrose Abbey	52
Edinburgh	54
Edinburgh Castle	55
Holyrood Palace	62
Scott Monument	66
Royal Yacht Britannia	68
Edinburgh Tattoo	72
► East Map	80
St. Andrews	82
Highlands	85
Culloden	88

<i>Globus Tour, continued</i>	
Cawdor Castle	94
Inverness	98
Loch Ness	100
Dornoch Firth	107
Highland Clearances	109
Dunrobin Castle	110
North Sea	117
Ceilidh Evening	120
► North Map	122
Mainland North	123
Orkney Islands	128
Skara Brae	137
North Coast	142
North-West Coast	151
Eilean Donan	155
► West Map	158
Isle of Skye	159
Armadale Castle	165
West Coast	168
Isle of Mull	172
Isle of Iona	175
South-West	178
<hr/>	
Falkirk Wheel	187
The Clyde	192

Scotland Introduction

Here are photos from my tour of Scotland.

I decided it was time for me to see the land of my ancestors, the Mackays and the Omans.

This trip consisted primarily of a Globus tour, [Scottish Highlands and Islands](#).

Although I usually travel independently, many of the places of greatest interest in Scotland aren't easily reached by rail, and I didn't want to attempt to drive on the left side of the road.

The Globus itinerary is a busy two-week tour around Scotland.

I chose an August tour that included an evening at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

And I added some extra days in the Glasgow area, in part to visit Bannockburn, where my namesake, the original Robert Bruce, had his great victory over the English.

Bruce McKay



Scotland

This is my version of the route map for the Globus *Scottish Highlands and Islands* tour, including my own minor additions.

I was able to fly directly from Toronto to Glasgow and back.

The Globus itinerary circles Scotland counter-clockwise, stopping in the major centres and branching off to more remote areas.

This itinerary covers a lot of territory and visits many separate locations. Section maps (South, East, North, and West) are included in this file to help keep track of locations.



Glasgow

Glasgow is Scotland's largest city, with a metro population of 2.3 million. It has been prosperous, and through hard times. Now recovering nicely.



Glasgow

Glasgow was known as "Second City of the British Empire" during its ship-building, manufacturing, and trading heyday.



Glasgow

Glasgow Cathedral is one of few medieval cathedrals to have escaped destruction during the Reformation by adapting itself to Protestant Worship.



Glasgow

This 13th-century Cathedral was built on the site of a 6th-century chapel founded by St. Mungo, Glasgow's patron saint.



Glasgow

A monument to Scottish Reformation leader John Knox dominates the Cathedral cemetery. "Knox Presbyterian" churches are named after him.



Glasgow

The University of Glasgow, founded in 1451, is the 4th-oldest university in the English-speaking world.



Glasgow

The Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum houses one of Europe's greatest civic arts collections.



Glasgow

Royal Crescent was built between 1839 and 1849 as a fashionable residential development during Glasgow's prosperous years.



Glasgow

Glasgow Green park dates back to the 15th century. The Templeton Carpet Factory (1892) was designed to be compatible with the park.



Glasgow

**George Square is the official focal point of Glasgow.
The City Chambers building was opened in 1888 by Queen Victoria.**



Glasgow

James Watt (1736-1819), a Glasgow native famous for improving the steam engine, is honoured with a statue in George Square.



Glasgow

This monument in George Square honours Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832), the Scottish novelist who rekindled interest and pride in Highland culture.



Glasgow

George Square may be Glasgow's official focus, but the people are actually all over here on Buchanan Street, a huge pedestrian shopping zone.



Glasgow

Glasgow converted Buchanan and Sauchiehall Streets into pedestrian zones in the 1970s. Both are busy and thriving.



Glasgow

This museum-piece crane is all that's left of the ship building industry in the inner city. We'll check out redevelopment of the Clyde River area later.



Glasgow

Before the Globus tour ... a half-hour train trip east to Stirling to explore some key historical sites not on the Globus itinerary.



Stirling Castle

Stirling Castle sits atop a volcanic crag in Stirling, surrounded on three sides by steep cliffs.



Stirling Castle

Stirling Castle was strategically important in the struggles between the English and the Scottish.



Stirling Castle

Most of the existing buildings date from the 15th and 16th centuries.



Stirling Castle

The Great Hall is considered "the grandest secular building erected in Scotland in the Middle Ages".



Stirling Castle

The English took Stirling Castle in 1296, but lost it in 1297 after William Wallace defeated them at the Battle of Stirling.



Stirling Castle

The English took the castle again in 1298, the Scottish in 1299, the English in 1304, the Scottish in 1314, the English in 1336, and the Scottish in 1342.



Stirling Castle

Stirling Castle (upper left) overlooks seven battlefields, including the Battle of Stirling Bridge, which took place just left of centre here.



**Wallace
Monument**

Stirling Castle provides a dramatic view – across the valley – of the National Monument to William Wallace, known as Braveheart.



**Wallace
Monument**

Wallace was defeated at Falkirk in 1298, and captured and brutally executed by the English in London in 1305.



**Wallace
Monument**

But Wallace's success in rallying the Scots to their victory at Stirling Bridge made him a uniquely and permanently revered national hero.



Bannockburn

In 1314 Scottish King Robert the Bruce defeated the English in a two-day battle at Bannockburn, just south of Stirling.



Bannockburn

This monument marks the location where Robert the Bruce rallied his troops on the first day of battle.



Bannockburn

Bannockburn is the most famous battle to have been won by the Scots. It cemented the reputation of Robert the Bruce as a national hero.



Bannockburn

"Bannockburn resonates in the Scottish psyche with ideas of freedom, independence, patriotism ... and triumph against overwhelming odds."



Bannockburn

Serious strife would erupt again in the 1700s, but Bannockburn secured a measure of Scottish independence for almost 400 years.



South Map



The Globus tour swings south first, to Alloway, birthplace of Robert Burns, then to the border with England, and then back north to Edinburgh.



Alloway

Robert Burns, Scotland's national poet, was born in this simple cottage in Alloway in 1759.



Alloway

Burns is known for many songs and poems including *Auld Lang Syne*, *Scots Wha Hae*, *A Man's A Man for A' That*, and *Tam o' Shanter*.



Alloway

The Auld Kirk Alloway (Old Alloway Church), with its cemetery yard, was the haunted setting for Robert Burns' *Tam o' Shanter*.



Alloway

The Brig o' Doon (bridge over the Doon) was the setting for the final verse and climax of Burns' *Tam o' Shanter* tale.



Gretna Green

Gretna Green is just inside the border with England. It became famous as a location for runaway weddings of English young people after 1753.



Gretna Green

Scottish age and parental consent requirements were more relaxed than in England. Lay people could conduct marriages if they had two witnesses.



Carlisle Castle

Up until the late 11th century the Cumberland area around Carlisle was considered to be a part of Scotland.



Carlisle Castle

William II drove the Scots out, claimed Cumberland for the English, and ordered the construction of a castle to secure the territory.



Carlisle Castle

Continuing wars over the next 700 years saw Carlisle Castle change hands 13 times.



Hadrian's Wall

Hadrian's Wall was built by the Roman Empire across the width of what is now northern England. It was begun in 122 A.D.



Hadrian's Wall

Remnants of the wall remain in places. Its original dimensions were 10 - 20 feet high, 8 - 20 feet wide, and 74 miles / 117 kilometres long.



Hadrian's Wall

Our tour group explores the remains of one of the small forts spaced about a mile apart, each manned by a few dozen troops.



Hadrian's Wall

Hadrian's Wall was the most heavily fortified border in the Empire. The Romans had no interest in attempting to conquer Scotland.



Jedburgh Abbey Jedburgh Abbey was one of four great abbeys built in Scotland's border country during the Middle Ages.



Jedburgh Abbey

But the abbey was a frequent target for English armies, who attacked in 1297, 1346, 1410, 1416, 1464, 1523, and 1544. Only ruins remain.



Melrose Abbey

Melrose Abbey was built over a period of 60 years in the 12th century, and is considered among the most beautiful of religious houses in the U.K.



Melrose Abbey

Melrose Abbey was attacked by the English in 1322 (Edward II), 1385 (Richard II), 1544 (Henry VIII), and 1567 (Oliver Cromwell). Only ruins remain.



Edinburgh

Edinburgh is Scotland's capital. Population about 500,000. Famous for summer performing arts and cultural festivals.



Edinburgh Castle Edinburgh Castle dominates the skyline of the city.
It sits 260 feet / 80 metres above the surrounding landscape.



Edinburgh Castle There has been a royal castle here since the reign of Scottish King David I in the 12th century.



Edinburgh Castle The Half Moon Battery was built in the 1570s as a platform for artillery.



Edinburgh Castle Edinburgh castle was involved in historical conflicts from the 14th century up to the mid-1700s.



Edinburgh Castle St. Margaret's Chapel dates from the early 12th century, and is the oldest surviving building in Edinburgh.



Edinburgh Castle The Royal Palace. Mary Queen of Scots gave birth to the future King James VI of Scotland here in 1566.



Edinburgh Castle The Argyle Battery looks north over Princes Street, the city's New Town, and the Firth of Forth (the estuary of the Forth River).



Holyrood Palace

Holyrood Palace is at the opposite end of the Royal Mile from the Castle. The Royal Mile was the main thoroughfare of medieval Edinburgh.



Holyrood Palace

The Palace is located adjacent to the ruins of an abbey that was the site of many Scottish coronations and royal marriages.



Holyrood Palace

The Palace was built by James IV in 1498, and is the official residence of the monarch in Scotland.



Holyrood Palace

Queen Elizabeth II spends a week here each summer, and hosts state dinners and ceremonies at the Palace.



Scott Monument This imposing monument honours Sir Walter Scott, hailed both as a major literary figure and as a champion of Scotland.



Scott Monument

Scott's poems and novels created enduring images of an heroic wilderness filled with the romance of the clans, and did much to promote Scotland abroad.



**Royal Yacht
Britannia**

The Royal Yacht Britannia was built in Glasgow and served Queen Elizabeth II until it was decommissioned in 1997.



**Royal Yacht
Britannia**

Edinburgh made a successful bid to showcase Britannia as a prestige tourist attraction in conjunction with redevelopment of its harbour area.





**Royal Yacht
Britannia**

**But the personal quarters of the royal family were surprisingly modest.
This was the Queen's bedroom.**



Edinburgh Tattoo The Edinburgh Military Tattoo, set against the backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, has been playing to appreciative audiences since 1950.



Edinburgh Tattoo Things start with a bang. Well, several of them, from cannons in the castle's Half Moon Battery.



Edinburgh Tattoo Military pipe bands from Britain and around the world are the feature attractions. The Citadel is the Military College of South Carolina.



Edinburgh Tattoo What's better than a pipe band? A dozen of them, playing together.



Edinburgh Tattoo The parades of the Massed Pipes and Drums, with 200 pipers and drummers playing together, are highlights of the Tattoo.



Edinburgh Tattoo The pipe bands in the 2010 Sixtieth Anniversary Tattoo were from Britain, Australia, South Africa, Switzerland, and the USA.



Edinburgh Tattoo Military bands from Britain and around the world also contribute to the tattoo, individually and in Massed Military Band parades.



Edinburgh Tattoo The evening climaxes with selections arranged for the amazingly compatible combination of the Massed Pipes and Drums and the Massed Military Bands.



East Map

From Edinburgh we head north, first to St. Andrews on the coast, and then through the rugged Highlands to Braemar and on towards Inverness.

We explore history at Culloden, luxury at Cawdor Castle, and mystery at Loch Ness.

Further up the coast we take in the splendor of the Sutherland Clan's Dunrobin Castle.

And we stop by the harbour at Lybster on our way to Wick, which will be the home base for explorations further north.



Edinburgh

Leaving Edinburgh we see the 1890 Forth Rail Bridge,
the first major steel bridge in the world.



St. Andrews

Our first stop is at St. Andrews, Scotland's oldest university town, and one-time religious capital.



St. Andrews

The Old Course at St. Andrews is the world's oldest.



St. Andrews

The seaside location is picturesque, but the weather can present serious challenges for golfers at St. Andrews.



Highlands

We begin to see the more rugged highlands as we approach Braemar.



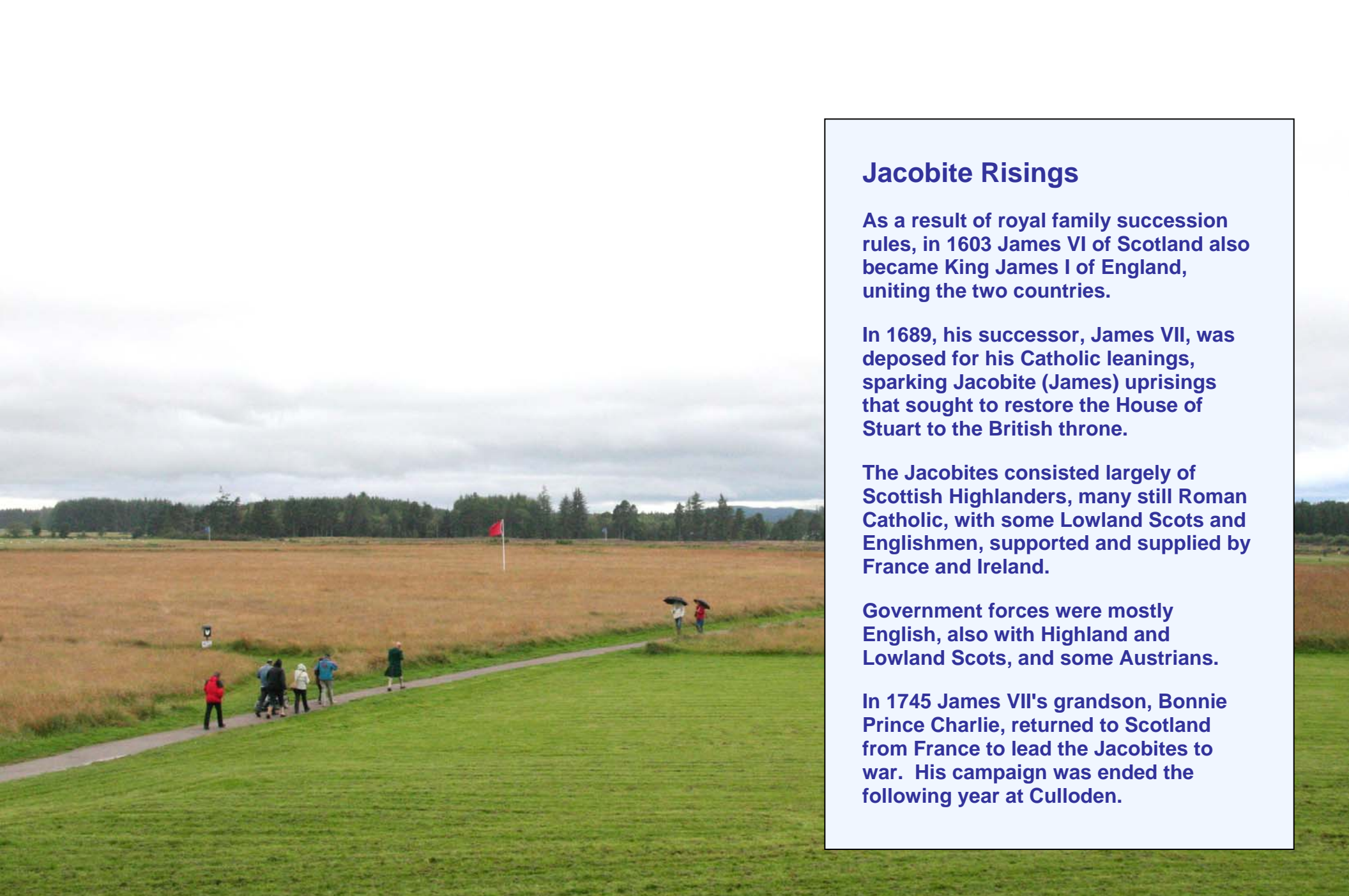
Highlands

Large areas are covered in heather.



Highlands

The heather adds delicate colour to the landscape.



Jacobite Risings

As a result of royal family succession rules, in 1603 James VI of Scotland also became King James I of England, uniting the two countries.

In 1689, his successor, James VII, was deposed for his Catholic leanings, sparking Jacobite (James) uprisings that sought to restore the House of Stuart to the British throne.

The Jacobites consisted largely of Scottish Highlanders, many still Roman Catholic, with some Lowland Scots and Englishmen, supported and supplied by France and Ireland.

Government forces were mostly English, also with Highland and Lowland Scots, and some Austrians.

In 1745 James VII's grandson, Bonnie Prince Charlie, returned to Scotland from France to lead the Jacobites to war. His campaign was ended the following year at Culloden.

Culloden

Scottish, British, and European history changed dramatically and permanently at the Battle of Culloden near Inverness in 1746.



Culloden

The Jacobites, led by Bonnie Prince Charlie, were decisively defeated at Culloden, with the loss of 1,500 to 2,000 lives.



Culloden

The positions of the Government and Jacobite forces are now marked with red and blue flags.



Culloden

Culloden was not just English against Scottish. Religious and political factors pitted Scottish clans against each other.



Culloden

Markers indicate where the clan units fell and are buried. After Culloden the Government sought to extinguish Highland culture.



Culloden

Tartans, bagpipes, and Gaelic were banned. The ties between chiefs and people were severed, and the clan system extinguished.



Cawdor Castle

Cawdor Castle near Inverness is one of the most stately homes in the Highlands.



Cawdor Castle

Cawdor Castle's informal garden



Cawdor Castle

Cawdor Castle is known for its beautiful gardens and maze.



Cawdor Castle

What Scottish castle would be complete without its own 9-hole golf course?



Inverness

Inverness is the largest city in northern Scotland (57,000) and is often called the Capital of the Highlands.



Inverness

Inverness means "mouth of the River Ness".



Loch Ness

Loch Ness is Scotland's largest lake by volume because of its great depth (755 feet / 230 metres).



Loch Ness

Loch Ness is known as the home of a legendary monster called Nessie. Tour boats will take you to search for her.



Loch Ness

The Visitors' Centre details alleged sightings, searches, and the scientific conclusion (not enough nutrients in the water to sustain a monster).



Loch Ness

We headed out for a look anyway, in a boat piloted by the Captain's talented nephew, whom he proudly described as "14 going on 104".



Loch Ness

We passed the ruins of Urquhart Castle, blown up in 1692 to prevent it becoming a Jacobite stronghold. But no monster.



Loch Ness

And we spotted a rainbow. But no monster.



Loch Ness

Then, just as we were leaving, we finally saw Nessie in a small pond beside the Visitors' Centre.



Dornoch Firth

View from Struie Hill, a vantage point overlooking Dornoch Firth, as the Dornoch River heads towards the North Sea.



Dornoch Firth

My Mackay ancestor sailed from Dornoch to Canada in 1837, in the wake of the massive depopulation of Scotland known as the Highland Clearances.



After Culloden, the clan system was dismantled and replaced by private land ownership, with confiscated lands awarded to Government supporters, some of them absentee landlords.

Sheep proved more profitable than tenant crofters, who were driven out, often forcibly and brutally, during what are now known as the infamous Highland Clearances.

The Clearances began in the 1790s and continued through the first half of the 1800s, creating mass emigration to Canada, the United States, Australia, and New Zealand.

Highland Clearances

Scotland now has about 5 million people and over 7 million sheep. As a result of the Clearances in the 1800s, more Scots live outside Scotland than in it.



Dunrobin Castle

Dunrobin Castle, on the coast north of Dornoch Firth, is the seat of Clan Sutherland.



Dunrobin Castle A piper provides a genuine Highland welcome to the Castle.



Dunrobin Castle

In 1814 the Sutherlands conducted the most notorious events in the Clearances, burning homes with possessions and invalids still inside.



Dunrobin Castle

Stately Dunrobin Castle has a commanding view over elegant gardens towards the North Sea.



Dunrobin Castle

Dunrobin Castle also stages falconry demonstrations featuring golden eagles and peregrine falcons.



Dunrobin Castle

The birds respond instantly and precisely to subtle commands.



Dunrobin Castle The falcons fly so fast that most attempts to photograph them are frustrated.



North Sea

Heading north along the Scottish coast.



North Sea

The harbour at Lybster, a herring fishing port on Scotland's north-east coast.



Wick

The town of Wick will be home for the next two nights.
But Globus hasn't picked this obviously superior hotel.



Wick

We head out to the Old Smiddy Inn for a Ceilidh Evening and are greeted by the youngest piper we'll meet, 12-year-old Keith.



Wick

We're treated to an evening of songs and explanations of Gaelic culture, now recovering from the official campaign of suppression.



North Map



The Orkney Islands are loaded with history, from 3000 BC through WW II. The north coast has unspoiled scenery, the west lakes and fishing ports.



Mainland North

As we head north we pass some genuine Highland Cattle, with their long horns and permanent winter coats.



Mainland North

Dunnet Head



Mainland North

Looking west from the cliffs at Dunnet Head



Mainland North

Pentland Firth, the 6 mile / 9 km wide strait between mainland Britain and the Orkney Islands, is a busy shipping lane.



Mainland North

John o' Groats is at one end of the longest distance between two points on the British Mainland. Lands End is 874 miles / 1407 km to the south.



Orkney Islands

John o' Groats is the departure point for our excursion to the Orkney Islands, a collection of about 70 islands of which 20 are inhabited.



Orkney Islands

The soil of Orkney is very fertile, most of the land is taken up by farms, and agriculture is by far the most important sector of the economy.



Orkney Islands

Orkney was the site of a large Royal Navy base at Scapa Flow. Early in WW II a German U-boat snuck in and sunk the battleship Royal Oak.



Orkney Islands

The Churchill Barriers were built to close most of the access channels. These also provide causeways between the islands.



Orkney Islands

Italian prisoners of war, brought to Orkney to build the Churchill Barriers, were allowed to build a chapel from two corrugated steel huts.



Orkney Islands

The chapel was constructed from basic materials, some of them left over from the Barriers, and skillfully painted to create an ornate sanctuary.



Orkney Islands

Earlier history. The Ring of Brodgar is a Neolithic henge and stone circle on Mainland, the largest island in Orkney.



Orkney Islands

The Ring of Brodgar is thought to have been erected between 2500 BC and 2000 BC. The ring originally consisted of 60 stones; 27 remain standing.



Orkney Islands

Henge monuments are apparently unique to the British Isles and to the 3rd millennium BC. This is 341 feet / 104 metres in diameter, the third largest.



Skara Brae
Orkney Islands

Even earlier history. Skara Brae is a large stone-built Neolithic settlement on Mainland, Orkney, occupied from roughly 3180 BC to 2500 BC.



Skara Brae
Orkney Islands

Skara Brae consists of ten clustered houses, and is Europe's most complete Neolithic village.



Skara Brae
Orkney Islands

The dwellings in this "Scottish Pompeii" contain stone-built pieces of furniture, including cupboards, dressers, seats, and storage boxes.



Skara Brae
Orkney Islands

The inhabitants raised cattle and sheep and supplemented their diet with seafood. We do not know where they came from or why they left.



Skara Brae
Orkney Islands

An unknown number of structures were lost to sea erosion before the site's discovery in 1850 and subsequent protection by a seawall.



North Coast

Next day we head west across the northern coast of mainland Scotland, through some of the most varied terrain we will see.



North Coast

The whole of the north-western Highlands was known as "Mackay Country" from the 13th century.



North Coast

**The mouth of the Naver River,
seen from the village of Bettyhill.**



North Coast

Coastline, east of Kyle of Tongue



North Coast

Near Kyle of Tongue



North Coast

Ben Loyal mountain has a distinctive shape, with four rocky peaks. The highest peak is 2,509 feet / 764 metres above sea level.



North Coast

Loch Hope



North Coast

Loch Eriboll has been used as a deep water anchorage and navy base. The surviving 33 German U-boats surrendered here in 1945.



**North-West
Coast**

**Ardvreck Castle is a ruin from about 1590 on the shore of Loch Assynt.
Quinag mountain in the background has an elevation of 2,651 ft / 808 m.**



**North-West
Coast**

**Ullapool, a picturesque town of about 1,300 on the shore of Loch Broom,
is a fishing port, yachting haven, ferry base, and tourist destination.**



North-West
Coast

Ullapool



**North-West
Coast**

Loch Broom



**North-West
Coast**

Loch Carron



Eilean Donan

Eilean Donan Castle was built on a small island in Loch Duich in the early 13th century as a defence against raids by the Vikings.



Eilean Donan

In the 1500s the Macraes took over the castle. In 1719 it was occupied by Spanish Jacobite troops but demolished by three Royal Navy frigates.



Eilean Donan

The castle was restored in the early 1900s,
at which time the arched bridge was added.



West Map

On the west coast we explore the Isles – Skye, Mull, and Iona.

The climate is milder here, though not noticeably drier.

We take lots of ferries – to get from Skye to the mainland, to get to Mull, to and from Iona, and from Mull to Oban.

We make a pleasant stop at Inverary on our way to see famous Loch Lomond.

After the Globus tour I do some exploring on my own – to Falkirk, and down the Clyde to Greenock.



Isle of Skye

**Kyle of Lochalsh, seen from
the bridge to the Isle of Skye**



Isle of Skye

**The Gulf Stream creates a mild
oceanic climate on Skye.**



Isle of Skye

Dunvegan Castle, seat of the chief of Clan MacLeod, is the oldest continuously inhabited castle in Scotland.



Isle of Skye

Dunvegan Castle has been the stronghold of the Clan MacLeod for nearly 800 years.



Isle of Skye

**Portree, population 2,500,
is the largest town on Skye.**



Isle of Skye

Portree serves as a centre for
tourists exploring the island.



Isle of Skye

Armadale Castle is a ruined country house near the southern tip of Skye, former home of the MacDonalds.



Isle of Skye

The gardens around Armadale
Castle have been maintained ...



Isle of Skye

... and the estate is also now home to the Clan Donald Centre and the Museum of the Isles.



West Coast

**Arisaig, west coast of Scotland,
between the Isles of Skye and Mull**



West Coast

The Glenfinnan Monument commemorates those who rose in support of Bonnie Prince Charlie in the 1745 Jacobite rebellion.



West Coast

**Bonnie Prince Charlie first raised his standard at Glenfinnan.
The monument features a statue of an anonymous Highlander in a kilt.**



West Coast

Loch Sunart



Isle of Mull

Tobermory, population 700, is the only town on the Isle of Mull. The town was founded in 1788 as a fishing port.



Isle of Mull

Tobermory's brightly painted buildings (predominantly shops and restaurants) make it a popular location for UK television programs.



Isle of Mull

Tobermory still has a fishery, and the town is home to a distillery, but tourism has become Tobermory's main industry.



Isle of Iona

Iona is a small island about a mile west of the Isle of Mull, the site of a highly important monastery during the Early Middle Ages.



Isle of Iona

The monastery was founded in 563 by the monk Columba who had been exiled from Ireland, and played a key role in bringing Christianity to Scotland.



Isle of Iona

The ancient burial ground contains the 12th century chapel of St. Odhran and the graves of many early Scottish Kings.



South-West

Dunstaffnage Castle near Oban, built during the 13th century, was the scene of conflicts until 1745.



South-West

**The ruins of Dunollie Castle, just north
of Oban, date from the 15th century.**



South-West

Oban is a resort town of about 8,250 on a protected horseshoe bay.



South-West

Oban's skyline features McCaig's Tower, privately-built partly as a family monument and partly to provide winter work for local stone masons.



South-West

Inverary was built on the site of an earlier fishing village in the mid-1700s by the Duke of Argyll, who demolished the old town and replaced it.



South-West

Inverary, with its distinctive white buildings, is considered one of the best examples of an 18th century new town in Scotland.



South-West

Inveraray has a good natural harbour, at one time home to a thriving herring fishery, but now important mainly for tourism.



South-West

Loch Lomond is the largest lake in Great Britain, made famous in the 1841 song, *The Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond*.



South-West

**Loch Lomond provides the background for our Globus
Scottish Highland and Islands end-of-tour group picture.**



Falkirk Wheel

Before heading home I went to see the world's only rotating lift lock at Falkirk.



Falkirk Wheel

The Falkirk Wheel passes boats between two canals that have a height difference of 79 feet / 24 metres.



Falkirk Wheel

The wheel rotates to exchange the position of two caissons containing the boats. The process takes about 6 minutes.



Falkirk Wheel

As the wheel turns, the caissons rotate within their housings to stay upright.



Falkirk Wheel

The Wheel reconnected canals to link Glasgow and Edinburgh, and has been a boon to the UK's narrow-boat holiday industry.



The Clyde

I want to see how Glasgow and the Clyde are being redeveloped, and the paddle steamer Waverley offers the perfect excursion.



The Clyde

Redevelopment of the site of Glasgow's former Queen's Dock, on the north bank of the Clyde, began in the early 1980s.



The Clyde

The Clyde Auditorium, designed by Sir Norman Foster and often called "the Armadillo", is part of the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre.



The Clyde

The Glasgow Science Centre, opened in 2001 (centre), and the BBC Scotland centre, opened in 2007 (left), are part of the Pacific Quay redevelopment.



The Clyde

Some of the lands along the Clyde previously occupied by shipyards have been redeveloped as residential areas.



The Clyde

Some dry dock and ship building activity remains ...



The Clyde

... but is focused mainly on specialized areas such as high-tech naval vessels.



The Clyde

**Some conventional shipping
continues on the Clyde.**



The Clyde

But at Greenock, where the Waverley excursion ends, there are two new developments – a container terminal ...



The Clyde

... and an ocean terminal for cruise ships crossing the Atlantic.



The Clyde

**Speaking of which, it will be time for me to fly home tomorrow.
With fond memories, and new insights into the lives of my ancestors.**

< End >

 **Scotland**