Travel with The Met

Scottish Sojourn Featuring the *Royal Scotsman*
with Melanie Holcomb
Curator, Department of Medieval Art and The Cloisters

September 14–23, 2019
Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

I am honored to be your guide for a journey through Scotland’s most captivating and culturally vibrant regions—from the rich royal history and bustling city life of its capital, Edinburgh, to the breathtaking vistas of the rugged Scottish Highlands.

First, take a glimpse into the lives of the Scottish monarchs at Edinburgh Castle. See the 16th-century apartments of Mary, Queen of Scots and the crown jewels she wore during her coronation. Exhibits of rare antiquities and paintings by the Old Masters are displayed at the Queen’s sprawling Scottish residence at Holyroodhouse Palace.

Then, sample Scotland’s contemporary art scene at the Parliament Building and the striking V&A Dundee, Scotland’s first design museum.

We will travel back in time three centuries at a private reception inside The Georgian House, beautifully restored by the National Trust for Scotland. Outside of Edinburgh, we see magnificent estates and gardens, and explore the medieval Rosslyn Chapel, where the Knights Templar are said to have convened. Next, Lady Catherine Maxwell Stuart offers an exclusive tour of her 15th-century family home before we head to Scotland’s prestigious first university, St. Andrews, founded in 1413.

Aboard the Royal Scotsman, we will enjoy views of waterfalls, glens, and steep coastlines that visitors can access only from the vantage point of a rail car. We will marvel at the dramatic Isle of Skye, step off to view the legendary Glenfinnan Monument and go inside Mount Stuart, a Gothic Revival mansion with one of the finest privately held portrait collections in the country. An optional postlude in Glasgow is also offered.

It is a privilege to join you in this very special destination, where old and new, cityscapes and countryside, are all part of an art-inspired travel experience you will not forget.

Sincerely,
Melanie Holcomb
Curator, Department of Medieval Art and The Cloisters
The Metropolitan Museum of Art

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Scottish Sojourn
Featuring the Royal Scotsman

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Traveling with You
Melanie Holcomb

Melanie Holcomb, a curator at The Metropolitan Museum of Art since 1999, oversees The Met’s collection of early medieval art. She is a specialist in the luxury arts of the Middle Ages with a particular focus on travel, trade, and cultural exchange among patrons and artists of the period. An alumna of Smith College and the University of Michigan, she organized the exhibition Pen and Parchment: Drawing in the Middle Ages in 2009 and was guest speaker at the Met’s first TEDTalks conference in 2015. She has been a visiting Museum Scholar at the Getty Research Institute, and has taught at the University of Sussex, the Institute of Fine Arts at NYU, and the Graduate Center at CUNY.

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Trip Highlights

— Attend a private cocktail reception at The Georgian House, restored to its 18th-century glory by the National Trust for Scotland

— Travel through the rustic Scottish Highlands aboard the Royal Scotsman luxury train and see the extensive portrait collection inside the Gothic Revival mansion at Mount Stuart

— Tour the oldest inhabited home in Scotland in the company of Lady Maxwell Stuart, whose family has resided there for over five centuries

— Be among the first to visit the V&A Dundee center for design, a remarkable structure with rotating walls designed by acclaimed Japanese architect Kengo Kuma

— Step off the train for afternoon tea at historic Inverlochy Castle, nestled in the lush foothills of Scotland’s highest mountain

— Sample fine single malts during an exclusive tasting at the Scotch Malt Whisky Society

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Rosslyn Chapel, © Visit Scotland
Photos clockwise from top right: Hopetoun House; Scottish countryside, photo courtesy of Belmond; map of the region; Bagpipes at Waverly Station as the Royal Scotsman departs, photo courtesy of Belmond; Gallery at the V&A Dundee, photo courtesy of the V&A Dundee; and Abbotsford. Front cover: The Royal Scotsman, photo courtesy of Belmond. Back cover: The Royal Scotsman, photo courtesy of Belmond (top) and the V&A Dundee, photo courtesy of the V&A Dundee, © Hufton Crow (bottom).
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Edinburgh, Scotland
Sunday, September 15
Arrive at the airport and transfer to the Waldorf Astoria-The Caledonian for early check-in. In the afternoon, stroll along the festive Royal Mile promenade to iconic Edinburgh Castle, where the British Isles’ oldest crown jewels are displayed. See the Royal Apartments of Mary, Queen of Scots, located in the oldest section of the palace. At the Queen’s Gallery, admire rare furnishings, decorative arts, and paintings by the Old Masters. Across the street, see the modernist-style Scottish Parliament Building and its contemporary art collection inside. The afternoon is at leisure to perhaps go sightseeing at one of the city’s many cultural institutions, such as the Scottish National Gallery. Dinner is at a local restaurant.  B, D

Edinburgh
Monday, September 16
Visit the 16th-century Palace of Holyroodhouse, the Queen’s official residence in Edinburgh and the heart of royal Scottish history, best known for the bedchamber of Mary, Queen of Scots, located in the oldest section of the palace. At the Queen’s Gallery, admire rare furnishings, decorative arts, and paintings by the Old Masters. Across the street, see the modernist-style Scottish Parliament Building and its contemporary art collection inside. The afternoon is at leisure to perhaps go sightseeing at one of the city’s many cultural institutions, such as the Scottish National Gallery. Dinner is at a local restaurant.  B, D

Edinburgh
Tuesday, September 17
Travel outside of Edinburgh for a guided visit to one of Scotland’s finest estates, the 17th-century Hopetoun House, surrounded by 150 acres of lush gardens. Have lunch at the Stables Tearoom before returning to Edinburgh for a leisurely afternoon exploring the city’s many pleasures. In the evening, peer into the life of a prosperous 18th-century family during a special private reception at the National Trust for Scotland’s Georgian House, designed by the Scottish Neoclassical architect Robert Adam.  B, L, R

Edinburgh
Wednesday, September 18
Depart for a full day in Scotland’s Borders region. Begin at the magnificent 15th-century Rosslyn Chapel, known for its intricate stonework and ties to the fabled Knights Templar and the Freemasons. Drive to Traquair House, one of Scotland’s oldest inhabited residences, for an al fresco lunch followed by an exclusive tour led by Lady Catherine Maxwell Stuart, whose family has resided here since 1491. Continue to Abbotsford, the baronial estate of writer and poet Sir Walter Scott. Return to Edinburgh in the late afternoon for an evening at leisure.  B, L

Edinburgh
Thursday, September 19
Travel to the V&A Dundee, Scotland’s striking new design museum on the waterfront in nearby Dundee. Then travel to St. Andrews, home to legendary golf courses and Scotland’s oldest university. Lunch is at St. Andrews Castle Course Clubhouse, overlooking the stunning St. Andrews Bay. Return to Edinburgh for dinner and a whisky tasting at the Scotch Malt Whisky Society.  B, L, D

Edinburgh / The Royal Scotsman
Friday, September 20
After a leisurely morning, transfer to Edinburgh Waverley railway station to board the Royal Scotsman. Enjoy breathtaking views of the famed Scottish Highlands as the train heads west. Sip afternoon tea while passing the tiny islands of Loch Lomond, and admire the waterfalls of Glen Falloch en route to the village of Spean Bridge, where the Royal Scotsman stops for the night. Gather in the Observation Car for a delicious informal dinner and entertainment.  B, T, D

The Royal Scotsman
Saturday, September 21
Continuing west, catch stunning vistas of Ben Nevis, the tallest mountain in the British Isles. Arrive at Arisaig for a stroll along the gleaming Morar Sands, and view the Isle of Skye’s majestic Cuillinn Mountains. Eat lunch en route back to Fort William, the largest town in the West Highlands, and gather at the legendary Glenfinnan Monument for a presentation about the area’s history. You may choose to visit Inverlochy Castle for afternoon tea, or stop at Glen Nevis to admire the spectacular Steall Waterfall, second highest in Scotland. Return to the train for dinner and a nightcap while enjoying the entertainment in the Observation Car.  B, L, D

Glenfinnan Monument

More Travels with The Met

High Art in the Low Countries Aboard Magnifique III  May 17–25, 2019
Japan: Castles, Armor & the Art of the Samurai  May 30–June 9, 2019
Undiscovered Greek Islands Aboard Sea Cloud  July 21–29, 2019
Ireland’s Historic Homes & Glorious Gardens  September 16–24, 2019

For details please go to metmuseum.org/travel

Departure
Saturday, September 14
Depart for Edinburgh on an overnight flight.
The Royal Scotsman
Sunday, September 22
Today, do some sightseeing on the charming Isle of Bute, enjoying its landscapes, history, and wildlife. Walk through Mount Stuart, a Gothic Revival mansion with one of the finest privately held collections of family portraits in Scotland. A formal farewell dinner is served on board as we travel to Kilmarnock, our stopover destination for the evening.

The Royal Scotsman / Edinburgh / Return
Monday, September 23
Relax during a leisurely breakfast as the train makes its way back to Edinburgh. Transfer to the airport for an afternoon flight back home.

An optional postlude is offered in Glasgow from September 23–26, 2019.

This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

Royal Scotsman lounge and dining car. Photos courtesy of Belmond

The Scottish Sojourn: September 14–23, 2019
Reservation Form
To secure your reservation, please call Arrangements Abroad at 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638); or complete this form and return it with your deposit of $1,000 per person (of which $500 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by debit card, credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to Arrangements Abroad. Mail to Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure.

For additional information, please call 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638) or to opt out from receiving mail, email travelwiththemet@metmuseum.org

Mount Stuart. © Visit Scotland

Program Rate
$12,999 per person, double occupancy
$19,599 single occupancy

Rate Includes
— Eight nights accommodations as per itinerary
— Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, T=Tea, R=Reception, D=Dinner); bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at included lunches and dinners
— Enrichment program of lectures and talks
— Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
— Airport/hotel/train/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
— Gratuities to local guides and drivers
— Taxes, service, and porterage charges

Not included in rate
International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; optional postlude in Glasgow; baggage in excess of one suitcase/trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Waldorf Astoria Edinburgh – The Caledonian
In the heart of Edinburgh, this historic hotel offers 241 guestrooms and suites, some featuring spectacular views of Edinburgh Castle.

The Royal Scotsman
Elegant and intimate with impeccable attention to detail, accommodations on the Royal Scotsman train include twin, double, and connecting cabins with wood-paneled interiors, plush beds, full wardrobes and writing tables, en suite baths with steam showers, and windows with scenic views. An onboard spa offers refreshing body treatments, massages, and facials. Gourmet meals include wild salmon, fresh produce, and savory meats prepared by Michelin-starred chefs, and the Observation Car offers comfortable lounge chairs, complimentary drinks, and a bar stocked with 30 varieties of fine malt whisky.

Waldorf Astoria Edinburgh – The Caledonian
The Royal Scotsman
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