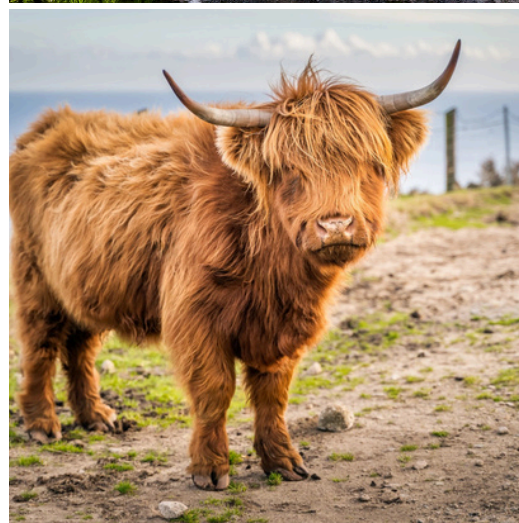


The Scottish Book Club Tour

June 21-28, 2027



Scotland



A note from your host



I was nine years old when I moved to Scotland with my grandmother, and I still remember that first Scottish morning — the particular grey sky, neither threatening nor gentle, just present. The stone, the silence, the weight of history under every cobblestone. I spent that childhood season following my grandmother through a country that felt like it belonged to another century, and Scotland got into me quietly in the way it does. It has never quite let go. I am a passionate reader who believes the greatest books are not meant to be read in armchairs alone. They are meant to be lived. Sir Walter Scott gave us the historical novel on these very streets. Robert Burns wrote poems that still make people cry in the landscape that made him. Diana Gabaldon looked at these moors and castles and wrote a story that swept the world. All of them wrote about Scotland not just as a setting, but as a spell that came over me. I have spent years feeling exactly that. Scotland as a spell. Scotland as a feeling.

The Scottish Book Club Tour was born from a simple conviction: that standing in the places where great stories unfolded changes the way you understand them. I designed every day of this journey with that in mind, and I cannot wait to share it with you.

Vanessa Hunt

Host of The Book Club Tour

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Trip Overview

Our journey begins and ends in Edinburgh, the city that UNESCO named a City of Literature, and that has arguably done more for the English-speaking imagination than any city its size on earth. Over eight extraordinary days, we travel the length of Scotland by private coach, following the stories that have shaped our reading lives: visiting author haunts, standing on the ground where the greatest Highland dramas unfolded, and immersing ourselves in the landscapes, history, and warmth that made Scottish literature the enduring force it is. This is not sightseeing. This is reading, made real.



PRICE STARTING FROM

\$7,500

DURATION

8 days

TOUR DATES

June 21-28, 2027

SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT

\$1,500

TOUR SIZE

12 guests

DESTINATIONS

**Edinburgh, Fife,
Perthshire, Fort
William, Inverness**

DAY 1

Welcome to Edinburgh, City of Literature



There is no better city in the world to begin a literary journey. We arrive in **Edinburgh**, cobblestoned, dramatic, impossibly atmospheric, and give ourselves entirely to it. Our first stop is the **Writers' Museum**, devoted to Burns, Scott, and Stevenson, before we stroll past **Deacon Brodie's Tavern**, whose notorious proprietor gave Stevenson the seed of an idea that became Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. The afternoon brings **Afternoon Tea at The Colonnades**, followed by a wander through **Bakehouse Close** and the **Scottish Storytelling Centre**. This evening, we gather for our welcome dinner at **Badger & Co**, housed in the childhood home of Kenneth Grahame, the man who gave us *The Wind in the Willows*. The perfect beginning.

DAY 2

Edinburgh & Abbotsford: The World of Sir Walter Scott



Early risers can begin with an optional hike to **Arthur's Seat**, one of those experiences that simply has to be done at dawn. After breakfast, we meet at the **Scott Monument** before our private coach takes us to **Abbotsford**, Sir Walter Scott's extraordinary home on the banks of the Tweed. Theatrical, personality-stuffed, and utterly unlike any other author's house you have ever visited. Our bespoke guided tour is one of the trip's most memorable. Back in Edinburgh, the afternoon is yours to explore: Greyfriars Kirkyard, Victoria Street, and the Elephant House reward any Harry Potter devotee, before we end the evening on a legendary Literary Pub Tour.

DAY 3

Outlander Day



This is the day Outlander readers have been waiting for. We head out into the Lothians to **Midhope Castle**, known to every fan as Lallybroch, the Fraser family home, where standing in that courtyard makes the line between fiction and history feel very thin indeed. The afternoon takes us to either **Blackness Castle** or **Hopetoun House**, both synonymous with the Outlander world and both extraordinary in their own right: Blackness for its sheer medieval drama rising from the Firth of Forth, Hopetoun for the grandeur of a great Scottish estate. We make our way north as the light fades and settle in for dinner at the Taybank Hotel in Dunkeld, a beloved local favorite on the banks of the Tay, where we'll raise a glass to Claire and Jamie and the Scotland they made us love.

DAY 4

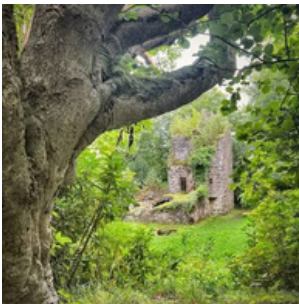
Fife: Kingdoms, Coastlines & Inspector Rebus



Today we venture into the ancient Kingdom of Fife, a landscape of fishing villages, clifftop paths, and the kind of unhurried beauty that feels like Scotland at its most quietly magnificent. We begin in **Falkland**, the royal burgh and palace town that feels genuinely unchanged by the centuries, and that Outlander readers will recognise immediately as the show's version of Inverness. After time to explore the palace and village, lunch is on your own among the charming cafes of this lovely town. The afternoon takes us along the **Fife Coast**, wandering the honey-coloured harbour of **Crail** and the clifftop village of **St Monans**. For Ian Rankin readers, this grey, beautiful coastline is Rebus country, and it feels exactly like his novels promised it would. Dinner at The Dreel Tavern in Anstruther, a proper Scottish pub in a historic building, rounds out a quietly magnificent day.

DAY 5

Perthshire: Burns, Rob Roy & the Highland Heart



Today, we move deeper into Scotland, geographically and imaginatively. We begin at the **Birks of Aberfeldy**, where our guide meets us to read Robert Burns in the very landscape that inspired him – the water rushing, the birch trees trembling, the air sharp and clean. After lunch in the charming town of Aberfeldy, we continue to **Finlarig Castle**, said to have been regularly visited by Rob Roy MacGregor, before a short journey to **Balquhiddar churchyard**, where Rob Roy is buried beneath a simple stone, and the legend feels suddenly, unexpectedly real. We end the day with dinner at the Clachaig Inn, one of the great Glencoe institutions, with live music if the evening obliges.

DAY 6

The Highlands: Glencoe, Castle & Viaduct



There are days on a journey that simply take your breath away. This is one of them. We spend the morning in **Glencoe**, the valley that has no equal in Scotland for sheer, savage grandeur, where we will have a photoshoot with Auld Romantics. For Outlander readers, this is the landscape you have been imagining since the first chapter. The afternoon brings **Afternoon Tea at Inverlochy Castle**, one of Scotland's most celebrated castle hotels, set against the slopes of Ben Nevis, followed by a detour to the **Glenfinnan Viaduct**, the iconic curve of stone made famous by the Hogwarts Express.

DAY 7

Into the Far Highlands: Glen Shiel & Eilean Donan



Today Scotland shows us its most cinematic face. We begin with a **guided hike through Glen Shiel**, the dramatic Highland pass associated with Rob Roy, where the mountains press so close on either side that history feels like it is happening around you. A stop at the **chocolate shop** at Glenshiel is non-negotiable, and lunch follows at the Dornie Hotel on the shores of **Loch Duich** with a view that belongs on a postcard. The afternoon is **Eilean Donan Castle**, perhaps the most photographed castle in Scotland, rising from its island at the meeting of three sea lochs and every bit as magnificent in person as you have always imagined. We arrive in **Inverness** this evening with dinner on your own in Scotland's Highland capital.

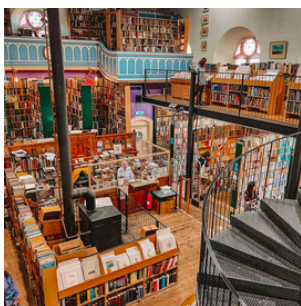


DAY 8

Culloden, Cairns & Farewells



Our final day is the one that will stay with you longest. We begin at **Clava Cairns** — the 4,000-year-old Bronze Age burial site that *Outlander* readers will recognise as the inspiration for the standing stones of **Craigh na Dun**, and a place that feels genuinely outside of ordinary time. From there, a fully guided tour of **Culloden**, where the Jacobite cause was extinguished in less than an hour on an April morning in 1746 — concentrates the tragedy of Highland history in a way nothing else can. The afternoon offers a gentle counterpoint at **Leakey's Bookshop**, one of Scotland's great secondhand bookshops in a converted church with a wood-burning stove at its heart. Our final evening brings a **Scottish history dinner**, the perfect farewell to Scotland.



** Dreaming of a few more days in the Highlands? You are not alone. Guests who wish to continue on to the Isle of Skye or elsewhere after our final night in Inverness are welcome to do so — it is one of the most spectacular places in the British Isles and a natural extension of everything we have experienced together. Guests who prefer to return to Edinburgh can arrange the scenic train journey south, and we are happy to help coordinate your transfer. Whichever direction you choose, our travel agent can arrange the details. Just let us know — we'll take care of the rest.*

Meet the Books

The Scottish Book Club Tour begins the moment you apply. For the year leading up to our departure, you become part of an intimate book club, reading, discussing, and falling in love with Scotland long before we board the plane. By the time we arrive, we will have already been there, in our imaginations. That is what makes this unlike any other tour you will ever take.

- 01 **Diana Gabaldon** *Outlander* HIGHLANDS · JACOBITES
Lallybroch, Culloden, Clava Cairns. Read it and weep. Then read it again.
- 02 **Sir Walter Scott** *Rob Roy* SCOTTISH BORDERS
His grave is in Balquhiddy. We'll hike Glen Shiel in his footsteps. Start here.
- 03 **Robert Louis Stevenson** *Kidnapped* HIGHLANDS
A Highland chase through the exact landscapes we'll be crossing.
- 04 **R.L. Stevenson** *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde* EDINBURGH
Written in Edinburgh. Walk Deacon Brodie's close on Day 1 and it all clicks.
- 05 **S.G. MacLean** *The Bookseller of Inverness* INVERNESS · CULLODEN
Set in the shadow of Culloden — perfect reading for our final days in the Highlands.
- 06 **Susan Fletcher** *Highland Witch* GLENCOE
A haunting novel set at Glencoe. Bring tissues.
- 07 **Lewis Grassie Gibbon** *Sunset Song* SCOTLAND
Scotland's soul in a single book.
- 08 **Alistair Moffat** *The Highland Clans* NONFICTION
Our nonfiction anchor — and Alistair joins us for dinner on the final night.
- 09 **Robert Burns** *Selected Poems* PERTHSHIRE
Read "The Birks of Aberfeldy" before Day 5. You'll hear it read aloud where Burns wrote it.
- 10 **Ian Rankin** *Knots & Crosses* EDINBURGH · FIFE
For the crime fiction lovers — we'll walk through Rebus country on the Fife Coast.
- 11 **Kenneth Grahame** *The Wind in the Willows* EDINBURGH
Optional but delightful — our welcome dinner is held in his childhood home.

*Some books may change or we may add additional books to the list. A final reading list will be sent to you after your application is accepted.

Contacts us

Have questions about this tour? Feel free to send us an email or give us a call to discuss.



Send an Email

Get in touch with
Vanessa or Tamara

thebookclubtour@gmail.com



Give us a Call

If you need more guidance, feel free to call
or text Vanessa

(916) 474-0635



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