

Scotland & Northern Ireland

For any questions or concerns about your upcoming tour not addressed here, please call 1-800-826-2266

WEATHER & DESTINATION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Time Zone: Scotland and Ireland time are 5 hours ahead of the U.S. Eastern Time Zone (EST) and 6 hours ahead of the U.S. Central Time Zone (CST).

Weather: Average High/Low

City	May	June	Sept.
Glasgow	59°F/43°F	63°F/49°F	61°F/48°F
Belfast	60°F/44°F	63°F/49°F	61°F/47°F
Dublin	59°F/45°F	64°F/50°F	62°F/49°F

Packing: Bags with wheels are not suitable as a carry-on bag in Europe where motorcoaches have very limited space. The European Union does not allow these bags in the passenger section of the motorcoach. *Packing Note:* Washcloths are not standard in European hotels. Feel free to bring them with you. If you use them regularly, packing a washcloth or bringing a packet of facial cleanser wipes is a good idea.

Accommodations: Although there are chain hotels in the UK & Europe, standardized hotel rooms that we enjoy in the US & Canada are the exception rather than the rule. Due to the fact that hotels are often located in older buildings, small and irregularly sized rooms in buildings that are bit maze-like are normal. Rooms with twin beds very close together, queen beds made by connecting two twin beds, hand-held shower heads, and elevators, the size of broom closets are all quite normal in the UK and Europe, even in luxury hotels. Some properties may not be air-conditioned.

Currency: The unit of currency in Scotland and Northern Ireland is the British Pound. The unit of currency in Ireland is the Euro. Currency exchange rates fluctuate on a daily basis. A helpful website for referencing current rates is www.oanda.com. You may want to obtain a small amount of cash before you travel so that you have some to start your trip. Credit cards and bank cards are the easiest form of payment and ATMs are readily available. Make sure you have a PIN number for your cards. Mastercard and VISA are the most widely accepted cards with American Express being accepted in many places as well. Please leave your Discover card home as it is not an accepted form of payment in Europe. Be sure to contact your bank and credit card companies before you travel to prevent a freeze on your account when you begin to make purchases overseas.

Driver/Guide Gratuities: On this tour, you will have a driver/guide who will give commentary about the areas we visit as well as handle the luggage and drive the coach. It is customary to provide discretionary gratuity for a job well done at the end of the tour. Gratuities are to be given individually in an envelope at the end of the tour. The recommended amount is 8 Euros or Pounds per person, per day

Electrical Current: The electric current is 220 volts, 50 cycles. Electric outlets and plugs are different from those in North America. An adapter is required to plug your device into an electrical socket. However, a voltage converter is only required if your device is not compatible with 220 volts. Check the voltage of any device that you are thinking of bringing. If the tag on your device lists 110-220 volts, then you will not need a converter. Adapters and converters are available at luggage, department, and electronics stores.

