

READY TO PLAN FOR YOUR TRIP?

# Scotland's Glens & Highlands

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

## WEATHER & DESTINATION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

**Time zone:** England is 5 hours ahead of the US Eastern Time Zone and 6 hours ahead of the US Central Time Zone.

**Weather:** Average High/Low

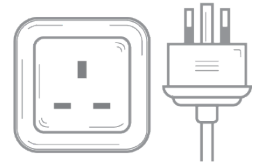
City	May	July	Sept.
Glasgow	61°F/46°F	67°F/52°F	59°F/45°F
Inverness	59°F/39° F	66°F/52°F	54°F/41°F
Edinburgh	63°F/43° F	66°F/52°F	61°F/48°F

## UNITED KINGDOM TRAVEL INFORMATION

**Currency:** The unit of currency in Scotland 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](http://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.

**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.

**Electrical Current:** The electric current in the United Kingdom 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.



**Gratuities:** Gratuities for all included features of your tour, such as city guides, included meals, and attractions, are included in the cost of your tour. You will be responsible for the gratuities for your British Blue Badge guide, British driver and the Holiday Vacations Tour Director. The gratuity for your British Blue Badge Guide is 8 pounds per person per day. The recommended amount for the British driver is 8.00 Euros per person, per day of service and \$8 to \$10 US Dollars per person, per day for the Tour Director. Tips should be offered individually directly to each person at the end of their time of service. If you have questions, please ask your Tour Director.

**Meal On Your Own - Expenses and Gratuities:** For the meals not included with the tour you can expect to spend the equivalent of \$15 – \$45 USD per person, per day. The suggested gratuity for wait-staff serving non-included meals is approximately 10%. It is not necessary to tip for takeaway (fast food), cafeteria-style meals, or drinks served in a pub. Some restaurants and pubs may automatically add a gratuity that may or may not be given directly to the server. When in doubt ask your server.

**Packing - Carry-On Bags:** Bags with wheels are not suitable as a carry-on bag in the United Kingdom where the motorcoaches have very limited space. Regulations imposed by the European Union do not allow carry-ons on the motorcoach that do not fit in the overhead bins. Day packs, backpacks, and tote bags work best for this purpose.

**Public Facilities:** Outside of your hotel room some of the restrooms will have pay toilets or attendants collecting at the door. You may wish to have local coins available for these situations. All tap water is safe to drink. The hot and cold-water faucets may be the opposite of North America and hot water can be extremely hot.

# HOLIDAY VACATIONS