

# **Itinerary for Scotland: The Highlands of Glades and Lochs**

## **July 9-18, 2011**

**4 graduate semester hour's credit available from Colorado School of Mines**  
**Cost: \$3,370 – includes tuition, airfare, ground transportation, lodging, ferry rides and all entry fees: \$3,200 without tuition. \$2,000 without airfare or tuition. *Cost of airfare may vary slightly.***

**Day 1** –Leave Denver – arrive in Glasgow next day.

**Day 2** – Pick up rental vans – Drive to Oban. Rest stop on Loch Lomond – Tour Inverary Castle – Fit in shopping time and lunch in Inverary after castle tour – Stop for photos at Kilchurn Castle ruins, visit Saint Conan's Kirk (church) located on Loch Awe - Arrive in Oban – spend the night in Oban.

**Day 3** – Spend the day in Oban, where we will do the early bird tour of 3 of the Hebrides Islands: Mull (3<sup>rd</sup> largest island in Scotland), Iona (birthplace of Christianity in Scotland), and Staffa, where we will go into Fingal's Cave with its hexagonal basalt columns. Back to Oban to spend the night.

**Day 4** – Drive toward Fort William - Stop at Dunstaffnage Castle and tour – Stop at Glencoe and Glencoe Visitor Center – Drive up Glencoe pass – allow hiking time in Glencoe - Lunch here – Drive to Loch Ness and Urquhart Castle - On to Inverness – Spend night in Inverness.

**Day 5** - Visit Culloden Battle Field – On to Clava Cairns with its stone circles – Then to Cawdor Castle (associated with Macbeth) and gardens – lunch at the castle – back to Inverness for some shopping – dinner – river walk - Spend the night again in Inverness.

**Day 6** – Drive to Elgin, where we will explore the Elgin Cathedral ruins – Drive to Stonehaven - visit Dunnottar Castle- Spend the night in Stonehaven.

**Day 7** - Drive to Perth and tour Scone Palace, where all the Scottish kings were crowned – Drive to and tour Sterling Castle - visit the Wallace Monument – Sleep in Sterling.

**Day 8** - Drive to Edinburgh. The first stop will be Edinburgh Castle, then walk the Royal Mile, ending at the Palace of Holy Roodhouse. Do some of the Ghost Walks or the Literary Pub Tour. We will be sleeping in Edinburgh.

**Day 9** – Spend the day in Edinburgh doing everything we didn't have time to do on Thursday– Some options are a visit to the royal yacht, the Britannia - Rosslyn Chapel just outside of Edinburgh and/or a visit to the Dailuane Distillery. Sleep again in Edinburgh.

**Day 10** – Drive to Glasgow – fly home - arrive the same day.