

Exploring Sacred Scotland

September 21- October 4, 2023

A pilgrimage with the Rev. Sally Hubbell and Joe Hattick
through Scotland and Northumbria



Friends,

Join us in learning, laughing, and worshiping together as we explore the sacred in Scotland. Walk where saints of old have trod and experience the windswept islands and energetic cities where Christianity sustained our ancestors in the faith and has been vibrant for more than a thousand years. Our lodgings have been carefully selected to be the best available at these sacred sites and include a cozy island “pilgrim house,” a stunning manor, and fine city hotels.

The Rev. Sally Hanes Hubbell prepared for ministry at Duke Divinity School and has been an ordained a priest for 14 years. She has been an enthusiastic pilgrim and leader to these areas before. Joe Hattick has over 25 years of experience as a minister of Christian Formation and has led many pilgrimages for both youth and adults. We hope you will join us!

Sally and Joe



Day 1 - Thursday, September 21

We rendezvous at the Raddison Blu Hotel in Downtown Glasgow. For those who arrive early, there is a slate of fun things to do, or just check in and relax until dinner. We will eat together and get to know each other better at dinner.



Day 2 - Friday, September 22

We board a bus for a tour around Glasgow. Our first visit is the beautiful Glasgow Cathedral, the major shrine of St. Mungo, the patron and founder of Glasgow. After a tour of the cathedral, we'll visit the fascinating Necropolis -- a beautiful cemetery and gardens adjacent to the cathedral. Following lunch, we'll tour St. Mary's Scottish Episcopal Cathedral and see amazing stained glass windows and contemporary frescoes.



Day 3 - Saturday, September 23

We travel to the Island of Iona. The trip through the Scottish countryside is beautiful and lush – truly a feast for the eyes! On the ferry to the Island of Mull we'll experience the dramatic Hebridean coast, and then drive across Mull on one of the more special single-track roads in Scotland. After a short ferry ride from Mull to Iona we check into the St. Columba Hotel, a welcoming and cozy *pilgrim house* with ideal accommodations for our stay. We'll end our day attending worship at Iona Abbey.



Day 4 - Sunday, September 24

Today brings choices and options. We will have a visit to the Old Nunnery with an explanation of its importance in history. For the adventurous, a hike to the bay where St. Columba was said to have first landed, with stops to point out special locations like Angel's hill. Others may choose to stay closer to the village and hotel and bask in the tranquility of the island.



Day 5 - Monday, September 25

We take a tour of the Abbey and discuss the history of Christianity on the Island spanning more than 1400 years. We'll hear amazing stories about its origins and the influence the Abbey has had on the development of Christianity in Scotland and Northern England. There will be more opportunity for exploring the island and hiking (or just walking) at all skill levels, as well as quiet prayer and contemplation at the Abbey or in the stunning nature all around.



Day 6 - Tuesday, September 26

We travel back to less remote parts of Scotland to end up near Inverness. We have an amazing accommodation in the Culloden House, a country manor with a fascinating history and world-class restaurant. We dine together tonight in manor dining room and share our highlights so far.





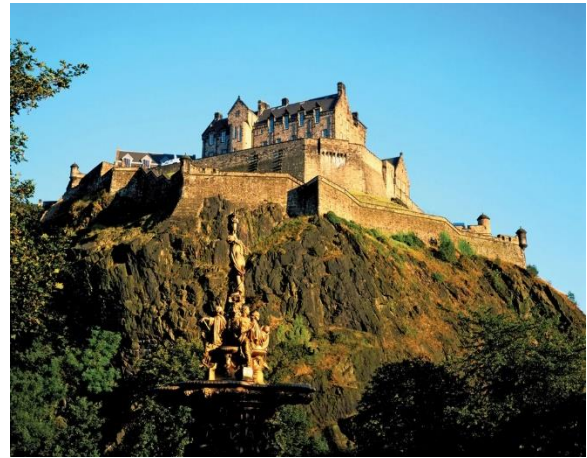
Day 7 - Wednesday, September 27

We visit the battlefield of Culloden and learn about the pivotal role this site had in relation to Scottish independence and the faith of the nation. Then we head to Inverness, a beautiful city built on the mouth of the river Ness regarded as the capital of the Highlands. We'll explore the center of the history and geography of Inverness, and visit the site where St. Columba (founder of Iona Abbey) preached in 565.



Day 8 - Thursday, September 28

We travel to Edinburgh to stay at a 5-star hotel centrally located on the Royal Mile. There will be free time in the afternoon and evening to explore one of the oldest and most interesting cities in Europe at your own pace. Here you can buy a scarf in your family (or favorite) tartan, find a cozy pub and sample whiskey, or stay close to our hotel and enjoy its exceptional dining and other comforts.



Day 9 - Friday, September 29

A full day of encountering Edinburgh. We will tour the Edinburgh Castle, an 11th century fortress with fascinating history and current relevance. We'll also visit St. Giles Cathedral, a working church for about 900 years with atypical medieval architecture. The Thistle Chapel is of particular interest. We will also tour the Holyrood Palace, the official residence of the British Monarch in Scotland.



Day 10 - Saturday, September 30

We rise early to visit the Holy Isle of Lindisfarne. The religious community on this tidal island was founded in 635 by monks from Iona Abbey; we'll visit the ruins of their monastery and see new excavations on the ancient chapel of St. Aidan. Before the tide comes in and covers the causeway, we'll move on to Durham for a highlight of this trip.



Day 11 - Sunday, October 1

We will tour Durham Cathedral, one of the most spectacular cathedrals on earth. Our experience of it will begin with Sunday worship, in communion with those who have worshipped here for nearly a thousand years. We'll learn of its amazing history and architecture and see how the past has been incorporated into a vibrant community of contemporary Christian life and practice. The evening will be free for exploring the university town of Durham.



Day 12 – Monday, October 2

This is a day of driving, with several important stops along the way. We'll visit a section of Hadrian's Wall, a leftover from Roman times intended to block the Scots from coming south. We will also have lunch in the market town of Hexham and tour the unique Hexham Abbey.



Day 13 - Tuesday, October 3

We will visit a most unique castle, Caerlaverock. This triangular castle is set in a beautiful, intact moat and is the ancestral home of the Maxwell Clan -- whose descendants have a tremendous impact in the world still today. Dating from the 13th century, this castle is the place where earlier fortifications date back at least to 950. Following our time at this castle we will go to the town of Dumfries and learn more about Robert Burns, Scotland's national poet. At the end of the day, we'll be back in Glasgow for one last evening together before we say goodbye.

Included in the Trip

- * A splendid breakfast every morning.
- * 2 dinners, Glasgow & Culloden House.
- * Entry fees to each venue, including guided tours or headsets where available.
- * An ongoing education about the places we are visiting and their many stories.

Contacts for Questions and Payments

The Rev. Sally Hubbell

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Cost and Due Dates

\$4258 per person - double occupancy

\$5704 per person - single occupancy

June 15, 2023 - \$1000 non-refundable deposit

July 30, 2023 - final payment due

Exploring Sacred Scotland Pilgrimage

“It is better to travel hopefully than to arrive.” A pilgrim saying

What is a Pilgrimage?

How is a pilgrimage different from a regular vacation?

Vacation and pilgrimage are both ways of taking a break from everyday responsibilities and worries, but a pilgrimage is never just a diversion or simple visit. A pilgrimage is a journey, and one that we share with all those who have made the journey before and after us, as well as our companions in the moment! It is a journey of transformation, and not just our own personal transformation -- because it's a journey we share with the whole Communion of Saints.

Think about those first pilgrims to North America. They were keenly aware that they were continuing a journey that began before them, and believed they were establishing a *pilgrim route*, that would go on after them. Thanksgiving dinner can be a pilgrimage, a deepening of relationships and our experience of giving thanks!

On vacation we generally want to “keep it light”, while a pilgrimage is a deep dive into both where we're visiting and our own experience of it. We take it personally in the best sense, and are open to letting ourselves be changed!

We don't go on pilgrimage empty-handed. We travel with traditions, stories, companionship, and prayers, and make offerings of our own along the way in the form of our attention, appreciation, and willingness to share.

Pilgrimages are never taken alone, even when we're by ourselves. We follow a route that joins others who have gone before us, and will continue to come afterward. On our pilgrimage, for instance, we'll be visiting places sacred to Saints Columba, Cuthbert, Aiden, and Mungo (as well as few others), and will be following a long line of pilgrims through the ages who have visited these same places. Our prayers will join theirs, and we will be journeying toward God within our hearts and souls as we fellowship with the many other pilgrims along the way, past and present.

We are so grateful we will be embarking on this Pilgrimage together!

Yours in Christ,

Sally and Joe