



# SPOTLIGHT: Scotland

Why is it that such a proud people as the Scots should choose the thistle, a humble weed, as its national symbol? There is a legend which relates how a sleeping party of Scots warriors were almost invaded by a band of Vikings and were only saved when one of the attackers trod on a wild thistle with his bare feet. His cries raised the alarm and the roused Scots duly defeated the Danes. In gratitude, the plant became known as the Guardian Thistle and was adopted as the symbol of Scotland.

Learn more about the thistle along with how the bagpipes became Scotland's national instrument, the kilt the national item of dress and whisky the national drink as you travel on CET's Scottish Highlands & Islands tour, September 21-October 5.

Arrive in Glasgow, famous for its Victorian architecture, Georgian Squares, 12th-century Cathedral, University, top shopping and lively pubs.



In the lowlands, a stop will be made in Alloway, home to the poet Robert Burns. Stops will be made at his original cottage homestead, built by his father, and a museum dedicated to his life and works. We also see Floors Castle, the stately home of the Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe. Built in 1721, it is the largest inhabited castle in Scotland and has stunning interiors and magnificent gardens.

In Scotland's capital city of Edinburgh, we'll explore Edinburgh Castle. Perched on an extinct volcano, this instantly recognizable fortress is Scotland's symbol

and a great part of its history. Human habitation dates back to the 9th century. You can see the Crown Jewels, the ceremonial Great Hall, the Stone of Destiny (believed to be the pillow on which Jacob dreamed of his ladder), a National Memorial and more. We'll also attend the ceremony of the Haggis, an evening of dancers, bagpipers and a meal of the famous boiled sausage.

Other stops on the itinerary include: Holyrood, where Scottish Kings were crowned; St Andrews, known worldwide as the home of golf; Cawdor Castle, the presumed setting for Shakespeare's MacBeth; and a ferry ride to the Orkney Islands to see Skara Brae, a 5,000-year-old neolithic village, and the Italian Chapel, built by WWII Italian prisoners.

We'll also stay two nights each on the Isles of Skye and Mull. On Skye we'll explore the outdoor Museum of Island Life and marvel at the island's striking landscapes and waterfalls. On Mull, we'll visit the picturesque village of Tobermory and Iona, where the Cathedral is believed to be where the Book of Kells was produced. We'll also spend part of a day in England exploring 900-year-old Carlisle Castle and Hadrian's Wall, built by the Romans.

So put on your kilt, practice your bagpipes, watch out for thistles and join us as we explore every inch of Scotland.



Linda and Minnie get ready for their African Safari.

## MESSAGE FROM LINDA

I've been to 75 countries (Cuba in April will be 76!) and yet one of my most favorite places to go in the world is Walt Disney World in Orlando. There's magic in the air! Everyone is so upbeat and friendly. It makes you feel like any dream can come true; that anything is possible. And it makes you feel young again! I'm going back this year and I'd like to invite you to come along with me on CET's Disney For Adults trip, November 3-10.

We'll have a super time exploring all that Disney has to offer and we'll have fun learning! Epcot's World Showcase puts many countries of the world on display. Countries like Germany, Mexico, Norway, China, Canada, France and Great Britain highlight their history, customs and food in private pavilions that make you think you are there. Living with the Land Exhibit explores world-wide agricultural advances and lets you know how much of the food for Disney's restaurants is grown on site. This week is also part of Disney's Food and Wine Festival so you have more chances to try foods of the world.

At Hollywood Studios we'll learn the story of Walt himself and just how stunt men and women hone their craft. At the Animal Kingdom we'll visit Conservation Station to see how we can help the earth's fragile ecosystem and maybe see how they check an orangutan for a sore tooth! We'll also get a sneak peek at what goes on underneath the Magic Kingdom in our private Innovations class.

We'll treat you like VIPs with private seating at Epcot's Illuminations Fireworks Show and Hollywood Studios' Fantasmic. I also predict a private breakfast with a safari-clad Minnie and a lunch at the world-famous Brown Derby--Cobb Salad, anyone!

In November, the weather's great, there are fewer crowds because school is in session and through it all I (and my trusty Princess Wand when it's dark) will be there to lead you over every worthwhile inch of the place. Put on your walking shoes because there are a lot of inches to cover!

This is a CET-Exclusive Small Group Tour (maximum 18-20 people) so let us know soon if you'd like to come along. We guarantee you'll be saying what one of our past travelers said: "Thanks for making my Disney Dream come true--it was supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!"



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CET has added a second departure for our popular trip to Cuba. The new date is September 6-14. Call soon as space is going fast and keep in mind the license to travel to Cuba is only good for 2012. There's no guarantee it will be issued for 2013, so don't miss this chance!

## Travel Tip

When traveling take along an extra day or two of your medications, especially critical ones, in case you are delayed on the return.



CET has a limited number of seats to see Ron Santo inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. Transportation is by motorcoach to Cooperstown and VIP Seating at the Induction is being offered on a limited basis so call soon. Tour also includes the Hall of Fame Parade of Legends, a Cooperstown village tour, visit to the National Baseball Hall of Fame Museum, Baseball Hall of Fame Membership, visit to the Bat Factory and more. Witness history in the making!

## Community Education News

**Gold Card Club** - programs and discounts for those over 62 who live in District 214. Free membership. Gold Card members receive \$50 off CET multi-day Tours over \$1500 and \$25 off multi-day trips under \$1500!

**Walkers Club** - Are you a member of the Community Education Walkers Club? Take advantage of the indoor track at Forest View Education Center in Arlington Heights. To join or to sign up and for more details, please call 847-718-7700.

**World Stage: Ireland** - Community Education presents Ireland featuring the Irish Heritage Singers and the Trinity Irish Dancers on Sunday, April 22 at 3 p.m., at Forest View Educational Center, 2121 S. Goebbert Road, Arlington Heights. Tickets are \$10. For more information or to buy your tickets, please call 847-718-7700.

**Senior Celebration Day** - Join us this year on Wednesday, May 9, 11:15 a.m. - 3:15 p.m., at the Arlington Park Racecourse. This is a FREE event that includes healthy screenings, senior services information, "Ask the Doctors" panel, entertainment, IL Photo IDs/Drivers License renewal, NW Suburban Bar Assn., prizes and more.

## Testimonial

*"A very worthwhile and informative trip made even more enjoyable by (CET Host) Tony's (DiSalvo) quiet and constant presence. Thanks for the opportunity--a trip of a lifetime."  
- M Schweber, Israel"*

## Q & A

**Q** — *Why aren't tour prices listed on your general list or in the newsletter?*

**A**—Each extended tour has its own brochure and we really want you to see the detailed brochure so you can make your decision about traveling on that tour once you've seen everything the price includes. For instance, most tour prices advertised by other companies do not include airfare. We do include it and with current air prices that could be a difference of over \$1500 for a European tour. If you just look at a price and compare that to another company's tour price that didn't include air you are not comparing apples to apples. We also want you to realize that we have a meeting two weeks prior to departure to fully prepare you for the trip, that we provide parking in our lot while you are away, that we pay baggage fees and check you in online prior to the trip, and more. We also want you to compare the number of meals and the amount of sightseeing provided. So, just ask and we will be happy to send you the brochures you are interested in or check out our new website at [www.ce214.org](http://www.ce214.org)--the brochures can be seen there.

*Have a question or comment for us? Just call or email us for an answer!*

## Santa Sighting



CET Travelers pose with Santa at the Indiana Welcome Center's "A Christmas Story" displays on one of CET's day trips. Varying exhibits from Model A Fords to ethnically decorated Christmas Trees to a steel-framed house have all called the Welcome Center's W.F. Wellman Exhibit Hall home. It is a 6500 sq. ft. of contemporary exhibit space fashioned after the rolling waves of Lake Michigan.



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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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CET Tours are hassle-free! We provide parking in our lot during the tour and take you to/from the airport. We have a meeting before the tour to discuss money, temperature, packing, etc. We help you through airport check-in and explain security procedures. We obtain seat assignments and pay the fees to check your bag. If the place you visit requires a Visa, we obtain the Visa for you. You just have to book early, relax and enjoy the trip!