

IRELAND & SCOTLAND

Explore culture, politics, and history as you tour Dublin and Belfast. Historic sites will bring to life the Republic of Ireland's fight for independence before you visit medieval wonders in Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Central Scotland.

Why Brightspark?

Safety And Security

We regularly conduct strict audits of our vendors, ensuring they act in accordance with safety, security, and quality standards.

Our Tour Directors

You deserve the best, so we only use experienced and enthusiastic Tour Directors who are experts on their destinations.

Quality, Custom Tours

Our programs are designed for you, by you. From STEM-based DC tours to performance trips to some of our country's top music cities, we have a destination for every budget and every passion.

Industry Experience

With over 50 years of experience providing custom tours, Brightspark is a leader in student travel.

Travel Protection & Incident Coverage

With our 24/7 emergency hotline and comprehensive travel insurance options, we've got you covered at home and abroad.



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Day 1: Board your flight to Ireland.

Day 2: Dublin

- Meet with your tour director at **Dublin Airport**.
- Board your private motor coach for a panoramic sightseeing tour of the capital city of the Republic of Ireland. Get a glimpse of **Dublin** landmarks like the **River Liffey**, the **General Post Office**, **Grafton Street**, **St. Patrick's Cathedral**, and **Trinity College**.
- Take advantage of the opportunity to **Experience Gaelic Games** and learn about Ireland's traditional sports: football, hurling, and handball.

Day 3: Dublin

- Explore **Dublin Castle** in the heart of the city. Head to the lower levels of the estate to discover why Dublin was named after a "Black Pool."
- Board your private motor coach and travel past **Phoenix Park** to **Kilmainham Gaol**. The former prison held many Irish revolutionaries during the fight for independence.
- Visit **St. Patrick's Cathedral**, built in 1191. The National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland is the tallest and largest church in the country and the final resting place for over 500 people, including luminaries like Jonathan Swift.
- Stroll through the **Temple Bar** district toward **Trinity College**, **University of Dublin**, established by royal charter in 1592.

Day 4: Belfast

- Board your private motor coach and travel to **Belfast**, the capital city of Northern Ireland.
- Upon arrival, follow your local guide on a walking tour of the riverfront city. Sights can include the **Customs House**, **Parliament Buildings** (seat of the Northern Ireland Assembly), **Queen's University**, and **St. George's Market** – the only Victorian covered market still standing in Belfast.
- After lunch, make your way through nine interactive exhibits at **Titanic Belfast**. Located in the **Titanic Quarter** at the Belfast dockyards, the hull-shaped museum highlights the city's role as the birthplace of the fateful RMS Titanic.

Day 5: Glasgow

- Take a ferry from **Belfast Harbor** to **Cairnryan** in Scotland.
- Board your private motor coach and travel to **Glasgow** for a tour of the **Kelvingrove Art Museum**, housing one of Europe's greatest art collections.
- Continue to **Edinburgh**.

Day 6: Edinburgh

- Enjoy a walking tour of the Scottish capital, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Discover the **Old Town's** medieval atmosphere as you wander through narrow passages and winding alleys. See how the **New Town**, dating back to the 18th century, impacted European urban planning.
- Experience Scotland's most famous attraction, **Edinburgh Castle**. Built in the 12th century, the fortress keeps watch over the city from its perch atop **Castle Rock**.
- Stroll **Calton Hill**, which houses the headquarters of the Scottish government at **St. Andrew's House**. The hill also features many monuments and the **Old Calton Burial Ground**.

Day 7: Edinburgh

- Explore the idyllic **Holyrood Park**, a royal park with 650 acres of rolling hills, glens, lochs, and abundant flora and fauna. Approximately one mile from Edinburgh Castle, the park was once a royal hunting estate. Aside from its natural sights, the park also features **Holyrood Palace** and many ancient ruins.
- Hike to **Arthur's Seat**, the park's main peak.
- Enjoy free time on the **Royal Mile**, a historic series of streets connecting Holyrood Palace and Edinburgh Castle through the Old Town.
- Discover Edinburgh's spookier side on a ghost tour of the **Blair Street Underground Vaults**.

Day 8: Central Scotland

- Board your private motor coach and depart to **Stirling**, the historical center of the country connecting the Scottish Highlands and Lowlands.
- Step into the world of Renaissance kings and queens at **Stirling Castle**. Surrounded by steep cliffs on **Castle Hill**, the complex was a strategic and architectural feat.
- Journey to **Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park**, offering stunning views of the Scottish highlands. Enjoy a round-trip cruise from **Tarbet** to the charming rural community of **Inversnaid**.

Day 9: Depart to the airport for your flight home.

