

## IRELAND, SCOTLAND & ENGLAND

Traverse the British Isles on a multi-country tour. See Irish history and politics come to life in Dublin; explore medieval history and the Scottish highlands; and discover iconic cultural sites like Westminster Abbey and Stratford-upon-Avon.

### *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.



## IRELAND, SCOTLAND & ENGLAND

### 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 sightseeing tour of the capital city of the Republic of Ireland. View landmarks like the **River Liffey**, the **General Post Office**, and **Grafton Street**.
- Stroll through the **Temple Bar** district toward **Trinity College**, **University of Dublin**, established by royal charter in 1592.

#### 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.
- Take advantage of the opportunity to **Experience Gaelic Games** and learn about Ireland's traditional sports.

#### Day 4: Edinburgh

- Board your private motor coach and head to the airport for your flight to **Scotland**.
- After your arrival at **Edinburgh Airport**, settle into your hotel before embarking on a walking tour of the Scottish capital. Discover the **Old Town's** medieval atmosphere as you wander through narrow passages and winding alleys. See how the **New Town** impacted European urban planning.
- Explore **Edinburgh's** darker side on a ghost tour of the **Blair Street Underground Vaults**.

#### Day 5: Edinburgh

- Experience Scotland's most famous attraction, **Edinburgh Castle**. Built in the 12<sup>th</sup> 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**.
- Explore the idyllic **Holyrood Park**, a royal park with 650 acres of rolling hills. 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.

### Day 6: Central Scotland

- Travel 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**.
- 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 7: London

- Depart on a high-speed train from Edinburgh's **Haymarket Station** to London's **St. Pancras Station**, enjoying the beautiful scenery along the way.
- Meet your local guide for a half-day walking tour of the British capital. Get a glimpse of **London** landmarks like the **Houses of Parliament**, the **Big Ben** clock tower, **Westminster Abbey**, **Buckingham Palace**, and **Trafalgar Square**.
- Take a ride on the **London Eye**, the world's tallest cantilevered observation wheel, rotating 450 feet above the River Thames.

### Day 8: London

- Visit **Westminster Abbey**, a major institution of British history and burial place of Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin, and many kings and queens of the Empire.
- Walk through **Trafalgar Square** on the way to **Embankment Pier**. Board the **Thames Clipper** for a sightseeing cruise – don't forget to snap photos as you pass under the **Tower Bridge**.
- Enter the **Tower of London**, famous home of the **Crown Jewels**.
- Stroll through **St. Dunstan-in-the-East**, a garden amidst the ruins of a parish destroyed during the Second World War.
- Savor British delicacies at a traditional English pub.

### Day 9: Stratford-upon-Avon

- Board your private motor coach and travel to **Stratford-upon-Avon**, the birthplace of William Shakespeare. Walk around the charming streets of this historic village. Explore its history and attractions, many related to the famous playwright.
- Retrace Shakespeare's footsteps as you visit the family's five houses in town
- Return to London. On the way, view **Gatwick's** famous **Warwick Castle**.

### Day 10: Depart to the airport for your flight home.

