

Scotland's Finest Castles and Gardens

10th - 17th September 2023 (7 nights)



This spectacular tour explores the very best castles and gardens in Scotland, as well as following some of its most scenic driving routes through the Scottish Borders and Highlands. Expect majestic castles, beautiful planting schemes, private gardens and the vibrancy of Edinburgh.

Sunday 10th September

We meet at the **Radisson Blu Hotel, Edinburgh** in the late morning. From here we board our coach for the journey to **Inverness**. It is a drive of around 4 hours so all you have to do is enjoy the Scottish scenery and relax. We will make a lunch stop at the **House of Bruar**. Later, we check into the **4-star Ness Walk Hotel, Inverness**. We have dinner in the hotel (included).



Monday 11th September

Today we visit two inspired private highland gardens. The first, **Logie House and Steading** is an extensive estate originating from the 17th century with a vast array of herbaceous plants. We meet the owner before strolling down to the steading with its cafe, eclectic shops and art gallery.

In the afternoon we visit a **private garden located in a magnificent highland glen**. We have lunch (included) then explore with the owners, this glorious garden of shrubs, herbaceous plants, rhododendrons, trees and spectacular views down the Findhorn River. We return to Inverness, where your evening is at leisure.



Tuesday 12th September

We have a beautiful drive today across the highlands to **Inverewe Garden**, a lush garden full of unusual and wonderful plants which thrive thanks to the warmth of the Gulf Stream. We have lunch at Inverewe (independent).



We continue to **Durnamuck Garden**, a private coastal plantsman's garden on Little Loch Broom with stunning views. We meet the owners to hear how they developed this unique space. Afterwards, we return to Inverness for dinner (included) in the hotel.

Wednesday 13th September

This morning we visit the 14th century **Cawdor Castle** which was built as a private fortress by the Thanes of Cawdor and is famed for its connections with Shakespeare's Macbeth. We have a guided tour of the castle and time to explore the gardens before enjoying drinks in the garden and lunch (included). In the afternoon we return to Inverness for time to relax at the hotel or enjoy a stroll along the river into town. Your evening is at leisure to enjoy the vibrant restaurants in Inverness.

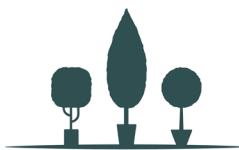


Photo credits: Edinburgh skyline, Jupiter Artland & Inverewe ©VisitScotland; credit Greywalls Hotel and Floors Castle.

Thursday 14th September

After checking out of our hotel, we make our way to Inverness station to catch the train back to **Edinburgh**, it is a most scenic journey. In the afternoon, we visit **Jupiter Artland**. This private collection of sculptures and land forms is situated in a 100-acre parkland surrounding a Jacobean manor house. The 35 site-specific works include pieces by Andy Goldsworthy, Ian Hamilton Finlay and Charles Jencks. We will have an early supper here (included), before checking into the **4-star Radisson Blu Hotel** located on the Royal Mile, Edinburgh.

Friday 15th September

Today we take a scenic drive south of Edinburgh through the beautiful Scottish Borders to **Floors Castle**, the seat of the Duke of Roxburghe and Scotland's largest inhabited castle. Here we meet the head gardener for a private guided tour of the walled gardens followed by free time to visit the castle and have lunch (independent). Our second stop today is at a **private estate** which has one of the best contemporary walled gardens in the UK. This stunning one-acre garden will be at its peak in early September with bold colours and innovative design. Dinner is included at the hotel in Edinburgh.

Saturday 16th September

This morning we make a visit to a **most attractive private, contemporary garden** planted around a farmstead, rescued from dereliction. We meet the owner of this splendid garden that displays excellent structure, imaginative use of objects and eye-catching planting.

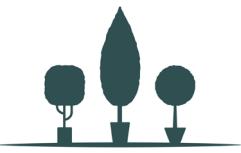
We continue onto **Greywalls**, a luxury hotel that overlooks Muirfield Golf Course. This attractive Edwardian house was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens in 1901, and the 6-acre formal gardens are attributed to Gertrude Jekyll. We enjoy a guided tour of the gardens with the head gardener after lunch in the garden room (included). We return to Edinburgh mid-afternoon where the remainder of the day is at leisure.

Sunday 17th September

Our final day starts with a visit to the majestic **Edinburgh Castle**, a historic fortress which dominates the skyline of the city. We are treated to a private lunch (included) in the Gatehouse Suite of Edinburgh Castle before returning to the hotel to wave goodbye for your onward journeys.

NOTE: Our tour starts and ends in Edinburgh. We can assist with travel planning. This tour can be combined with our Yorkshire & Lake District tour to create a fascinating 2 weeks exploring the north of the UK.

[Full details of tour joining and departure can be found on our website.](#)



OUR HOTELS

Our hotels are 4 and 5-star and selected for their high standards of comfort and service. All rooms are ensuite and offer free wifi access.

Ness Walk, Inverness (4 nights)

Ness Walk is a new, luxury hotel in Inverness with stunning five-star accommodation and sumptuous dining in the Torrish Restaurant. In a central, yet tranquil location on the banks of the River Ness, the interiors reflect the seasonal landscape with a flow of soft colours and textiles.



The Radisson Blu Hotel, Edinburgh (3 nights)

This comfortable and well appointed hotel is designed to blend into the surrounding medieval architecture with its own 16th century-style façade. The hotel is situated in the very heart of the 'Old Town' and offers all modern facilities within, including indoor pool. The hotel is conveniently located for local restaurants, museums, shops and Edinburgh Castle.



TOUR PRICE:

All tours are priced in £GBP

£4,700 price per person (sharing twin or double room)

£750 single supplement (solo occupancy of a double room)

Prices include:

- 7 nights' accommodation at 4 and 5-star hotels with en-suite facilities.
- Breakfast daily, 4 lunches and 4 dinners.
- All garden visits including tours with garden owners and head gardeners.
- All tour gratuities (driver, tour director and hotels).
- Train travel between Inverness and Edinburgh.
- Deluxe coach travel with professional driver.
- An information pack with detailed booklet about the gardens we will be visiting.
- Services of your Sisley tour director throughout.

Prices exclude:

- Airfares.
- Passport and/or visa fees if applicable.
- Meals not included in the tour, drinks, laundry, and telephone calls.

Tour Payment:

A 10% non-refundable deposit is required to secure your place(s) on the tour. Your balance payment is due 90 days prior to the tour departure.

BOOK YOUR TOUR

There are three ways to book your garden tour:

With your own travel agent:

You can book a Sisley Garden Tour in your local currency through your own travel agent. Just provide us with their contact details on your booking form and we will take care of the rest.

With our travel partner in the USA:

After 20 happy years of partnership, Worldwide Traveler has retired as our US travel partner. We are currently seeking to appoint a new representative to work with in the US. Please contact us for details.

With Sisley Garden Tours:

All clients are welcome to book a tour directly with us. We can accept payment in GBP£ by bank transfer or by credit/ debit card.

Contact: Fran Pride or Colette Walker
T: +44 (0)1423 396506. E: tours@sisley.co.uk

Booking form: To book your place(s) please complete our online booking form at www.sisley.co.uk/2023-booking-form. As soon as we receive your booking form, we will confirm availability on the tour of your choice and arrange collection of your deposit which secures your booking.

Booking terms & conditions: Full details of our booking terms & conditions can be found at www.sisley.co.uk/terms-and-conditions.

Please see the **Frequently Asked Questions** section on our website for further information.

www.sisley.co.uk/frequently-asked-questions/