



Tour Proposal for:

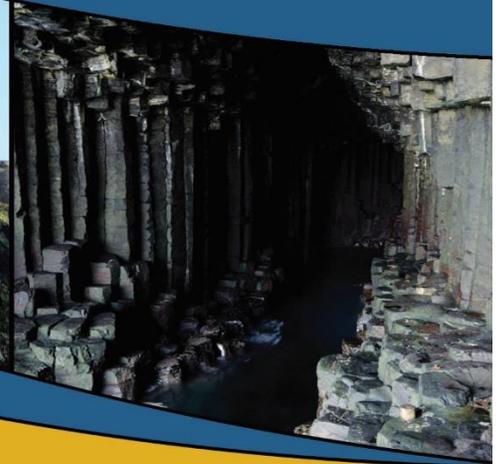
The Westminster Choir  
St. David's Youth Choir

*Tim Evers, Director*

*Elaine Sonnenberg, Director*

Performance Tour of Scotland

11 Days/9 Nights, June 23 – July 1, 2017



TRC PERFORMANCE TOURS

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Itinerary #2, Edition #1

Date of this Proposal: June 16, 2016

Suggested Itinerary:

**Friday June 23 Depart from Philadelphia (or JFK) Airport**

This evening we depart on our overnight flight to Glasgow. Dinner and entertainment provided in flight.

**Saturday June 24 Glasgow (D)**

We arrive into Glasgow International Airport this morning. We load the motorcoach and have a **Guided Orientation Tour** before checking into the hotel this afternoon. Welcome Dinner provided. Welcome to Scotland!

**Sunday June 25 Glasgow (B, D)**

This morning we have a **Service Participation** and **Brief Concert** (venue tbc). Return to the hotel, with free time for lunch and to explore. Mid-afternoon we transfer to **The Lighthouse, Glasgow's Architecture and Design Centre**. Designed by **Charles Rennie Mackintosh** (Glasgow's master architect), today the building hosts exhibitions and collections related to the future of design. Examples include: **How Color Effects the Perception of Space, Design Competition – Models of the Finalists** and the permanent collection, **Unbuilt**: the never completed building designs of Charles Rennie Mackintosh. The Centre also boasts Glasgow's tallest **Viewing Platform**. In the late-afternoon we transfer to **Glasgow Green**, the oldest city park in Scotland (15<sup>th</sup> century). On weekends residents flock to the sunny open spaces here, biking, reading, playing football (soccer) and throwing a frisbee! There are numerous interesting sites, including the **Doulton Fountain** (group photo) and the **Tidal Weir**, designed so that one half of the river is saltwater, but separate from the fresh water on the opposite side. We have dinner provided and a late return to the hotel.

**Monday June 26 Oban (B, D)**

We load the bus and depart for Oban, located 2.5 hours north on the western coast. We stop for a rest break and photo stop at **Loch Lomond**, then continue on to Inverary, on the banks of Loch Fyne. After lunch in your small groups in the village, we visit **Inverary Castle**, home of the Campbell Clan (the family members still live and work here). The castle was also used as a film location for an episode of **Downton Abbey** in 2012. We have an **Informal Concert** and group photo in the Castle Gardens, then continue on to Oban. Upon arriving into Oban we check into the hotel (located in the heart of the city), with dinner provided this evening.

**Tuesday      June 27                      Isle of Iona                                      (B, L)**

Walk out of the hotel after breakfast (bringing our sack lunch with us), taking the morning ferry across to the Isle of Mull. We board our waiting motorcoaches and local guide/drivers, as they drive us across the island to Fionnphort. We board our private launch for the transfer to the **Isle of Staffa** and **Fingals's Cave**. Staffa is part of a basaltic formation, where volcanic eruptions cooled slowly to create hexagonal blocks of stone (see the photo on the cover page – all you see there is natural erosion within the cave). Simply amazing! The German composer Felix Mendelssohn visited here in 1830, inspiring him to write the Hebrides Overture, an orchestral masterwork. We have free time to walk across the island and down into the cave. Return to the launch, and transfer to the **Isle of Iona** (you will have time to eat your sack lunch en route). Upon arrival, we walk together to **Iona Abbey**. We present a **Lunchtime Concert** in the **Abbey Chapel**, with free time for you to explore the grounds and village on your own. Mid-afternoon we take the ferry back to Fionnphort, then continue on by bus and ferry to Oban. Dinner independent in Oban this evening, with a wide variety of restaurants in the village.

**Wednesday      June 28                      Oban                                      (B, D)**

This morning we walk together to **St. John's Cathedral Church**, where we have an **Acoustical Rehearsal**. Free time for lunch and the afternoon are free for you to enjoy Oban in your small groups. In the late afternoon we re-convene at the hotel and walk together in our concert clothes to the church. We present an **Evening Benefit Concert**, in support of the Oban Music Society's Piano Fund. Dinner provided after the concert.

**Thursday      June 29                      Stirling Castle/Edinburgh                      (B)**

Check out of the hotel and depart for **Stirling** (rest break en route). We have free time in Stirling for an independent lunch and time to explore in your small groups, then transfer up to **Stirling Castle** mid-afternoon. We present an **Informal Concert** (Royal Chapel or Great Hall, tbc), then have time to explore the castle. Group photo. Continue on to visit **Edinburgh Castle** this afternoon, checking into the hotel in the early evening. There are 22 restaurants within 2 blocks of our hotel, offering everything from Italian, Indian, Chinese and English Pub food. Also nearby is one of the city's best known Fish and Chips (a "chippie"), where for dessert you can have a battered, deep fried Snickers bar!

**Friday      June 30                      Edinburgh                                      (B, D)**

This morning we walk together to **St. Giles Cathedral**, where we have a rehearsal prior to our **Lunchtime Concert** (tbc). Free time for lunch and to explore on your own, so remember that the seat of Parliament, **Holyrood House**, and the **National Gallery** are two examples which can be visited without charge - please make the most of it! Return to the hotel this afternoon, with our **Farewell Banquet** this evening to celebrate the end of an unforgettable week!

**Saturday      July 1                      Home                                      (B)**

We check out of the hotel and transfer to the airport. Check in for our morning flight to the USA, arriving this afternoon. Welcome Home!

