Scotland Hike

EXPLORING THE WEST HIGHLAND WAY

May 29 to June 7, 2016

a program of the stanford alumni association
The name, West Highland Way, simple though it is, conjures up thoughts of wild Scottish scenery where dramatic views follow each other in an infinite progression. This hike does not disappoint! It follows ancient paths that meander past deep silvery lochs and climb fine mountain passes linked together by glens—rounded valleys of breathtaking beauty. We’ll hike through verdant woods and along coastal shorelines with vistas that suddenly open up across lochs to the mountains beyond. By our judicious use of roads and boats, we can rest comfortably and dine well in hospitable hotels and inns after experiencing the full drama of our hikes during the day. Come join us!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

**HIKE** through Rannoch Moor, one of Europe’s greatest wilderness areas that boasts more than 50 square miles of atmospheric, boggy moorland.

**CLIMB** up “Devil’s Staircase” and be rewarded with superb panoramic views of the Grampian range.

**HEAR** whispers of history hiking through Glencoe, where in 1692 the Clan MacDonald was massacred by English soldiers led by a member of the Clan Campbell.
CHARLIE JUNKERMAN came to Stanford right out of graduate school 32 years ago to teach in the Western Culture program. Since 1986 he has split his time between academic administration and teaching, and he serves currently as associate provost and dean of Continuing Studies. He teaches courses on European culture, from the Enlightenment to the present, with special interests in English and American Romanticism and Irish literature. In the fall of 2015, Charlie is teaching a course called “Mountain Practice” that he thinks of as a “run-up” to our hike in Scotland. “It explores the motivations people have had over the centuries,” explains Charlie, “to go up into the mountains—to find themselves, to lose themselves, to meet God, to confront the devil or to take a ride on the dragon’s back, as they say! Many of these mountain practitioners—Scot John Muir and Brit George Mallory come to mind—will be with us in spirit as we hike in the Highlands, as will their present-day Scottish and English contemporaries, such as Nan Shepherd and Alfred Wainwright.”

Given our destination, it’s worth noting that Charlie’s an avid collector of single malt whisky.

— Associate provost and dean of Continuing Studies since 1999
— Resident fellow, Madera House, Wilbur Hall, 1984–1992
— President, Stanford Historical Society, 2010–2012
— BA, English, 1970, University of Wisconsin
— PhD, comparative literature, 1985, UC-Berkeley

“Charlie Junkerman is a true gem. He is intelligent, thoughtful, insightful, accessible, and his lectures exceptional.”

BETSY TYLER, IRISH SEA WALK, 2013

STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093
SUNDAY & MONDAY, MAY 29 & 30
U.S. / GLASGOW, SCOTLAND
Depart the U.S. on Sunday and upon arrival in Glasgow on Monday, transfer to our hotel in the city center. For those who arrive early in the day, there is time to explore this vibrant town independently. This evening, gather at our hotel for a welcome reception.

TUESDAY, MAY 31
GLASGOW / BALMAHA / LUSS
On our first morning we drive to the start of our hike just outside Glasgow for a relatively quiet walk to Drymen. Our path takes us through farmland and across typical lowland scenery. After our first picnic lunch we continue our walk as we traverse Garadhban Forest before climbing the beautiful Conic Hill from where we descend to the lochside at Balmaha. Here we are picked up by our coach and driven to our charming small hotel in Luss where we dine this evening. Morning walk: 5 miles; afternoon walk: 8 miles. THE LOCH LOMOND ARMS HOTEL (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, JUNE 2
LUSS / CRIANLARICH / BRIDGE OF ORCHY
This morning, retrace our way back to Inversnaid by coach and by boat. Today’s route lies once again along the shore of Loch Lomond. We make our way north to lunch at Inveraray, famous for the haunted Drovers’ Inn, where we may stop for a restorative dram. After lunch continue north to the tiny village of Crianlarich where our coach collects us to take us to the few short miles to our lodgings, the lone hotel in Bridge of Orchy. Morning: 7 miles; afternoon: 6 miles. BRIDGE OF ORCHY HOTEL (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1
LUSS / INVERSNAID / LUSS
Returning by road to Balmaha this morning, our hike continues north along the shore of Loch Lomond to Rowardennan. Enjoy lunch at a scenic spot before continuing our trek further north to the lochside hotel at Inversnaid. Here we are met by a boat that takes us back across the loch, where we are met by our coach for the return to our hotel in Luss. Dine again tonight at our hotel. Morning: 7 miles; afternoon: 7 miles. THE LOCH LOMOND ARMS HOTEL (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, JUNE 3
BRIDGE OF ORCHY / GLEN FALLOCH / BRIDGE OF ORCHY
Our hike today stays close to the valley floor of Glen Falloch as it leads along ancient tracks to Tyndrum, a small village that is located over the site of the battlefield where Clan MacDougal defeated Robert the Bruce in 1306 C.E. Here we pause for lunch. In the afternoon continue along the glen back to our hotel in Bridge of Orchy. Morning: 6 miles; afternoon: 7 miles. BRIDGE OF ORCHY HOTEL (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, JUNE 4
BRIDGE OF ORCHY / RANNOCH MOOR / KENTALLEN
We set off today on a long morning hike, beginning with a short section that takes us over the hills to the tiny hamlet of Inveroran. From there we continue our dramatic day of walking across Rannoch Moor, an absolute wilderness untouched by human intrusion. This afternoon we cross the main road to the welcome haven of Kings House Hotel, a 17th-century inn. Here we are picked up by our coach and taken through the magnificent scenery of Glen Coe to our next base, the town of Kentallen on the banks of Fort William

Kinlochleven
Bridge of Orchy
Crianlarich
Inversnaid
Luss
Balmaha
Glasgow

SCOTLAND

Loch Lomond

Fort William

Ben Nevis

Kings House

Luss

Kinlochleven

UNITED KINGDOM

Kinlochleven

UNITED KINGDOM

Atlantic Ocean

Itinerary
Loch Linnhe. Dine tonight at a famous local seafood restaurant. **Total walking: 13 miles.** HOLLY TREE HOTEL (B,L,D)

**SUNDAY, JUNE 5**

**KENTALLEN / KINLOCHLEVEN / KENTALLEN**

We begin this morning on a short hike from Kings House Hotel along the base of the glen to Altnafeadh. Here we begin one of the highlights of our trip as we climb the famous “Devil’s Staircase,” a military road built by General Wade in the 1720s after the Jacobite uprising. As we reach the topmost point of our climb, soak up the view of the whole Grampian mountain range laid out before us. Descend to the small town of Kinlochleven for the ride back to our hotel in Kentallen. **Total walking: 8 miles.** HOLLY TREE HOTEL (B,L,D)

**MONDAY, JUNE 6**

**KENTALLEN / BEN NEVIS / FORT WILLIAM**

A full day's hike takes us from Kinlochleven across the foot of Ben Nevis—Britain's highest mountain—and down into the Great Glen and the town of Fort William. Although the town has fewer than 10,000 inhabitants it ranks as the second-largest Highland settlement and is an important home base for hill walkers and climbers. We make our way to our last hotel, located in Fort William at the edge of the Caledonian Canal, which cuts through the heart of the Scottish Highlands. Celebrate our Scotland rovings at a festive farewell cocktail reception this evening. **Total walking: 14 miles.** THE MOORINGS HOTEL (B,L,D)

**TUESDAY, JUNE 7**

**FORT WILLIAM / GLASGOW / U.S.**

Transfer to Glasgow airport for flights home. (B)
Trip Information

**DATES**
May 29 to June 7, 2016 (10 days)

**SIZE**
This program can accommodate 24 participants (single accommodations are limited—please call for availability)

**COST**
$6,995 per person, double occupancy
$8,195 per person, single occupancy
*Association nonmembers add $300 per person

**INCLUDED**
- 8 nights of best-available hotel accommodations
- 8 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 7 dinners
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions
- Gratuities to guides, drivers and porters for all group activities
- All tours as described in the itinerary
- Group transfer and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
- Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance
- Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

**NOT INCLUDED**
- International and U.S. domestic airfare
- Passport and visa fees
- Immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Independent and private transfers
- Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges
- Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS**
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare between San Francisco and Glasgow is approximately $1,400 as of August 2015 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent to confirmed participants.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**
This program is indeed a hike rather than a walk, which means that the days are substantially longer and more difficult than on our typical walking trips. We consider this to be a very strenuous and physically demanding program. All participants must be physically fit and in good health. You need to be active, agile and capable of walking eight to 15 miles, or six to seven hours, for seven consecutive days over rough and varied terrain in order to participate. You should be prepared for long ascents and descents that may last two or three hours on some days. The Scottish Highlands do not reach a significant altitude but there are constant changes in elevation along our route. All participants must be able to navigate rocky paths without the assistance of tour staff. Participants should be prepared to do all of the hiking each day since there is no “sag wagon” and it’s not usually possible to skip a morning or afternoon hike and hitch a ride on the support vehicle to meet up with the group. The weather in this region may be overcast, and rain showers and muddy conditions are a possibility. Sturdy, well-fitting and broken-in hiking boots with ankle support are essential. The primary focus of this trip is hiking, and only minimal cultural or historic visits are included so this trip should be avoided by people for whom hiking in this wonderful scenery is not the primary focus. All distances listed in the itinerary are approximate and subject to change pending confirmation of our exact routes and hikes. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.
Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?scotland2016 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. Families and trip companions may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in August 2015 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.
"Challenging hikes, gorgeous scenery, interesting lectures, nice group of travelers—what could be better?"

BARBARA HERSHEY, MD ’65, UNITED KINGDOM COAST TO COAST HIKE, 2015