



# VWCOCGB International meeting

2017

Friday 18th to Sunday 20th August.

For our International meeting in 2017 we will be heading to the highlands of Scotland. Our base will be the Stirling Court Hotel, at the University of Stirling, close to Bridge of Allan and the Wallace monument. From there we will be making tours of the local area. The scenery here about is superb by any standard.

**Friday** afternoon will start with a meet and greet followed by a hot buffet meal in the evening. The nearby Bridge of Allan, a charming little village by the Allan Water, is well worth a visit if you have spare time on the Friday. It is home to Stirling University and overlooked by the National Wallace Monument, a towering tribute to Scotland's, Sir William Wallace, and within sight of Stirling's cliff-top castle.

**Saturday** will see us make a tour of the nearby Trossachs mountain range, the start of the Scottish Highlands. We will take in the forest drive in Queen Elizabeth forest, a favourite coach drive for Queen Victoria in the 1800's.



In the afternoon we will have a sail on the Sir Walter Scott, a Victorian steamer on Loch Katrine.

This loch is a reservoir for the water supply to Glasgow and has therefore always been maintained to the highest standards of cleanliness, making for superb clear blue water. The loch is surrounded by mountains which provide some very spectacular views.



Following the sail we will have a choice of venues to visit on the way home.

Each of the venues is too small to take the whole group so please do some research before the event to help you decide which to do.

They are:- **Doune Castle**, used as a location for the film, Monty Python and the Holy Grail and also the TV series, Outlander and Game of Thrones.

**Deanston Whisky** Distillery, though you need to be aware that Scotland's drinking and driving limits are much lower than England's if you decide to sample a wee dram.

Tokens will be issued for each attraction at the event on a first come first served basis.

Alternatively you can have a stop at Callander, a charming old Scottish town and home of the Rob Roy museum.



Saturday evening will be Scottish themed.

Don't be surprised to see a piper, some haggis and a few kilts.

We will issue contact details for kilt hire before the date should anyone fancy trying this last idea.

Full details, including the dress code for the ladies will be issued later. (all optional of course)

On **Sunday** we will make a scenic drive along the Andy Scott public art trail, before arriving at "The Kelpies". An art installation consisting of two massive horse heads, one on each side of a canal lock. There will be opportunity along the way to visit the Wallace Monument or historic Alloa Tower.



The formal weekend will end at Callendar House, a mansion set within the grounds of Callendar Park in Falkirk, central Scotland.

During the 19th century, it was redesigned and extended in the style of a French Renaissance château fused with elements of Scottish baronial architecture. However, the core of the building is a 14th-century tower house.



As an optional extra, not included in the costings for the trip, we have an additional visit for Monday Morning. Stirling Castle is one of the best castles in the UK and well worth a visit. Sadly they are unable to accommodate us on the Sunday, but a Monday morning visit will work in well. Please check for info on line if you are interested. The cost is a modest £14.50 for adults, £8.70 for children and £11.60 for other concessions. Plus a car parking fee.



Obviously anyone wanting to join us in this endeavour will need to stay over on the Sunday night. So please complete your entry form accordingly.

**Please note.**

The Edinburgh Fringe comedy festival will be on during the whole of August 2017. Therefore accommodation in the area will get booked up early. If you are wanting to visit Edinburgh during your trip please bear this in mind. There is lots of potential to add on a holiday in Scotland to this event. If you need any advice please feel free to contact the organisers at the address on the booking form.

**VWCOCGB International meeting**

**2017**

**Friday 18th to Sunday 20th August.**

