



USWCA *Tour* TO SCOTLAND

26 OCTOBER TO
15 NOVEMBER 2026

TOUR PROGRAMME

www.scottishcurling.org

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His Majesty King Charles III, Royal Patron

President's Welcome

I am delighted to welcome the 2026 USWCA Tourists to Scotland. Fàilte gu Alba! I wish you a fabulous time in the 'home of curling', visiting ice rinks in all four corners of our country and making new friends along the way. There will be new experiences, reunions and fun times both on and off the ice and I look forward to welcoming you in person at the opening and closing banquets. The curlers from our centres have been eagerly preparing for your visit and continuing the tradition of many years of friendship tours between our two countries. Good curling!

Isla J Kinnear

Ladies' Branch President 2026/27

The Royal Caledonian Curling Club



Tour Couriers



Shirley Jeans
Panmure CC

Tour Organiser

Captain of the
2022 Tour to USA



Ann Gibb
Cawdor CC

Past President of
Ladies Branch

Vice Captain of the
2022 Tour to USA



Morag Erskine
Pitlessie CC

Secretary of the
2022 Tour to USA



Val Saville
Doune CC

Past Treasurer of
Ladies Branch

Treasurer of the
2022 Tour to USA

Marguerite Roberts Quaich

The Marguerite Roberts Quaich is much more than a curling trophy. It is a lasting reminder of one remarkable woman and of the friendships that have grown between Scottish and American curlers over many years.

Marguerite Roberts was born into an Edinburgh legal family and studied Bacteriology, now known as Microbiology, at Edinburgh University. A keen sportswoman, she gained university blues in both tennis and badminton. She came to curling later in life, taking up the game in the 1960s with the farming community around Selkirk.

Curling soon became an important part of Marguerite's life. In 1975 she became President of the Ladies' Branch of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club and captained the Scottish Womens Touring Team to Canada. A year later she was courier for the US Women's Tour to Scotland. During that tour she made many good friends, including Jeanne Farmer from Cleveland, Ohio.

Marguerite continued curling well into her 80s and remained remarkably active. At 88 she was still playing golf. Sadly, she was killed in a car accident in January 2005.



When Jeanne heard of her friend's death, she organised a collection among members of the 1976 US Touring Team to provide a cup in Marguerite's memory. That cup became the Marguerite Roberts Quaich, which the Scottish and US women play for when they meet on their five-yearly tours.

A quaich is a traditional Scottish shallow, two-handled drinking cup, often used for whisky or brandy. The inscription on the cup reads: "Presented by the 1976 United States Womens' Curling Association Scottish Tour Team 2006"

It seems especially fitting that a quaich bearing Marguerite's name should have become a symbol of the friendship between curlers on both sides of the Atlantic.

Today, every time the quaich is played for, Marguerite's story and the friendships she helped create live on.

The RCCC



Royal Patron
His Majesty the King
King Charles III

President
Robert Anderson
Galston Haymouth CC

Vice President
John McGowan
Cathcart Castle CC

Chair of the Board
Fraser Montgomery

Chief Executive Officer
Vincent Bryson

History

The Royal Caledonian Curling Club (RCCC), trading as Scottish Curling, was established in 1838 and is the National Governing Body for the sport of Curling in Scotland. It has around 9,000 members in over 550 clubs.

For centuries curling has been a favourite game in Scotland. During the first two thirds of the 19th century it was emphatically the Scottish game. It is fruitless to speculate whether the game is Scottish in origin. However, the first recognised Curling Clubs were formed in Scotland, and during the 19th Century the game was 'exported' wherever Scots settled in cold climates, notably Canada, USA, Sweden, Switzerland, Norway and New Zealand. Some curling clubs can legitimately claim a continuous history from the second half of the 18th century, proven by surviving minute books.

By the 1830s curling had become so popular and widespread that demand arose for a national club to regulate the game. Different forms existed at this period - the most common involved rinks of seven, eight, or nine curlers throwing only one stone.

The first rules were formally adopted as the "Rules in Curling" by the Grand Caledonian Curling Club, formed in Edinburgh in 1838, which became the sport's governing body. Four years later, following a demonstration of curling on the ballroom floor of Scone Palace near Perth by the Earl of Mansfield during Queen Victoria's visit, the Queen was so fascinated that in 1843 she gave permission for the Club's name to be changed to the Royal Caledonian Curling Club.

From 1838 onwards the game exploded in popularity until, by the last decades of the 19th century, every county had at least one club affiliated with the RCCC. Originally curlers played on natural lochs and specially constructed ponds. Some seasons were barren, for the ice never carried. It was not until 1907 that Scotland's first indoor rink, Crossmyloof in Glasgow, was built. From the 1960s a boom in ice-rink building saw Scottish rinks offering curling rise to a peak of 31 in 1993–94. Since then, numbers have declined, with 21 providing curling ice in 2026.

Ladies' Branch

President

Isla Kinnear
Abdie Ladies CC

Honorary President

Kate Caithness CBE
Dalhousie CC

Vice President

Jane Drysdale
Orwell Ladies CC

Honorary Vice President

Gail Munro MBE
Castle Kennedy CC

Junior Vice President

Fiona Moffat
Avondale Heather CC

Treasurer

Christine Hall
Avondale Heather CC

About

The Ladies' Branch brings together a network of Ladies' Centres represented through the Ladies' Standing Committee. For more than sixty years, its purpose has been to foster and encourage women's curling in Scotland, promote friendship among women curlers at home and overseas, represent their interests within the RCCC and provide an important link between curlers at local and national level.

The LSC consists of a Ladies' Branch President, Vice President, Junior Vice President, Treasurer and representatives from the ice centres across Scotland. Through these representatives, the views and experiences of local curlers are shared with the RCCC, while the LSC contributes to the wider work of Scottish Curling, continuing a tradition of service established by generations of women curlers before them.

International friendship has been an important part of the Ladies' Branch since its earliest days. International tours have long given women the opportunity to experience curling in other countries and to welcome overseas curlers to Scotland. These reciprocal visits are organised by the curlers involved, with each touring group taking responsibility for arranging the return visit. While competition is part of every tour, the friendships formed off the ice have always been equally important. Generations of Scottish women have enjoyed the warmth and hospitality of curling communities overseas and have been proud to offer the same welcome to visitors to Scotland.

The friendship between Scotland and the United States has a particularly special place in this history. Beginning with the pioneering exchanges of the 1950s, successive tours have brought generations of Scottish and American women curlers together. Following their visit to the United States in 2022, the Scottish Women's Tour are delighted to welcome their American friends to Scotland for the USWCA Tour in October 2026. Their return visit adds another chapter to this remarkable story, celebrating a shared love of curling and friendships that have endured across the Atlantic for more than sixty years.

Map



Ice Rinks

Aberdeen

Curl Aberdeen
Eday Walk, Summerhill
Aberdeen
AB15 6LN

Greenacres

Greenacres Curling Rink
Bowfield Road, Howwood
Renfrewshire
ML3 6BS

Kirkcaldy

Fife Ice Arena
Rosslyn Street
Kirkcaldy
KY1 3HS

Aviemore

Aviemore Ice Rink
Macdonald Aviemore Resort
Aviemore
PH22 1PN

Greenock

Waterfront Leisure Complex
Customhouse Way
Greenock
PA15 1EW

Lockerbie

Lockerbie Ice Rink
14 Glasgow Road
Lockerbie
DG11 2AR

Dumfries

Dumfries Ice Bowl
King Street
Dumfries
DG2 9AN

Hamilton

Lanarkshire Ice Rink
Palace Grounds
off Muir Street
Hamilton ML3 6BS

Elgin

Moray Leisure Centre
Borough Briggs Road
Elgin
IV30 1AP

Dundee

Dundee Ice Arena
Camperdown Leisure
Complex, Kingsway West
DD2 3SQ

Inverness

Inverness Ice Centre
Bught Park
Inverness
IV3 5SR

Perth

Live Active Dewars Centre
Glover Street
Perth
PH2 0TH

Edinburgh

Curl Edinburgh
13A Riversdale Crescent
Edinburgh
EH12 5XN

Kelso

Border Ice Rink
Abbotseat Road
Kelso
TD5 7SL

Stirling

The Peak
Forthside Way
Springkerse
Stirling FK8 1QZ

Forfar

Curl Forfar
Suttieside Road
Forfar, Angus
DD8 3NG

Kinross

Kinross Curling
Green Road
Kinross
KY13 8TU

Stranraer

Stranraer Ice Rink
North West Castle Hotel
Portrodie
Stranraer DG9 8EH

Tourists



Chris Battat

Club: Canadian Club of Boston
Family: Married to Randy for 40 years. Son Scott (38) and daughter-in-law Barbara live in Boulder, CO. Daughter Ali (35), son-in-law Keron and grand daughter Athena (2) live in Chelmsford, MA.
Work: Retired Public Relations professional.
Hobbies: Golfing, hiking, biking, xc skiing, snowshoeing and travelling all over the world.
Email: cbattat@comcast.net



Kathleen Lis Dean

Club: Cleveland Skating Club
Family: Married to Rob for 27 years. Son Vienna (22) and daughter Alina (17).
Work: Founder and Principal, Throughline Strategic Learning and Evaluation Advisory.
Hobbies: Curling, cooking, baking, tennis, reading and crocheting.
Email: klsdean@me.com



Elizabeth Demers

Club: Detroit Curling Club
Family: Partner Todd. Mom, Kathie. Dad, Bob. Sisters, Sarah and Jamie.
Work: Director, Michigan State University Press.
Hobbies: Curling, knitting, running, golf, skiing and reading.
Email: elizabeth.demers@gmail.com

Tourists



Heather Getty

Club: Four Seasons Curling Club
Family: Husband Mark, daughters Emma (35) and Summer (31).
Work: Retired Engineer.
Hobbies: Travelling, curling, camping, pipe band (drummer), swimming and yoga.
Email: heather.getty@gmail.com



Terri Gleason

Club: Wausau Curling Club
Family: Married to husband Mike. We have 5 amazing children as well as their significant others: Andrea (Nick), Lindsey, Tommy (Kelsey), Jonny (Amanda), Kevin (Carleigh) and 12 beautiful grandchildren.
Work: Happily Retired!
Hobbies: Curling, gardening, knitting, kayaking, paddleboarding and golf.
Email: mntgleason@gmail.com



Sara Hein

Club: Centerville Curling Club
Family: Married to husband Jay for 31 years, daughters Jordon (24) and Amy (20).
Work: Chemistry professor and chair at Winona State University.
Hobbies: Travelling, fishing, hiking, volleyball officiating, hanging out with dog Annie, trying new renovation projects.
Email: heinsara@hotmail.com

Tourists



Tammy Hoffman

Club: Circle City Curling Club
Family: Husband Wes, dog River and cat Fargo.
Work: Controller for IFP Automation.
Hobbies: Curling, board games, jigsaw puzzles, building Lego and playing disc golf.
Email: indycurler@gmail.com



Ann C. Kirkpatrick

Club: Belfast Curling Club
Family: Single. No children but lots of neices and nephews!
Work: Retired, school administrator; Principal and Superintendent.
Hobbies: Curling, golfing, hiking, biking and working in my vegetable garden.
Email: annckirkpatrick@gmail.com



Naida Leslie

Club: Nutmeg Curling Club
Family: Married to Brian for 42 years. Son, Andrew (33) and daughter, Emma (29).
Work: Retired nurse.
Hobbies: Biking, hiking, knitting, quilting and curling.
Email: naidaleslie3@gmail.com

Tourists



Alana Malik

Club: Bowling Green Curling Club
Family: Married to husband Tony for 18 years; two daughters, Lillianne (15), and Emilia (12); two dogs, Libby (12) and Goose; (~3) two littermate cats, Maui (6) and Duella (6); and one beta fish, Maximus (~1).
Work: Assistant Vice Provost for Accreditation and Assessment, University of Toledo.
Hobbies: Curling, gardening, running, swimming, reading, volunteering at our local humane society and spending time with family.
Email: alana.malik@gmail.com



Leslie McGregor

Club: Chicago Curling Club
Family: Daughter Jamie (28), son Ian (24), daughter Erin (22).
Work: Nurse practitioner in Reproductive Immunology.
Hobbies: Curling, travelling, reading, cooking, gardening, singing, bocce ball, hiking and eating.
Email: flingtime108@gmail.com



Lisa Miller

Club: Schenectady Curling Club
Family: Married to husband Bill for almost 40 years.
Work: Recently retired after 38+ years as Regional Sales Director with SaaS (Software as a Service) and Telecom business. Excelled in coaching and development.
Hobbies: Curling, travelling, gardening, reading, assisting as ice crew maintenance.
Email: Lisamiller2659@gmail.com

Tourists



Jen Mogavero

Club: Charlotte Curling Club
Family: Married to Frank with a crew of rescue cats and dogs.
Work: IT professional at Wells Fargo Bank.
Hobbies: Curling, travelling, reading and food & cocktail experiences.
Email: jenmo@ptd.net



Nancy Mutz

Club: Denver Curling Club
Family: Husband Roger, and daughter Elise (25).
Work: Retired RN.
Hobbies: Curling, golfing, skiing, hiking, studying Spanish, reading and travelling.
Email: nancymutz@gmail.com



Kathy Pielage (Captain)

Club: Madison Curling Club
Family: Husband Phil. We have 3 daughters and one English Cream Golden Retriever, Zuma. Nicole married to Ray with new baby, Lindsey married to Colin with 2-year-old Aubrey, and Madeline who has an Arabian Horse.
Work: Pediatric Occupational therapist coaching families raising children with special needs.
Hobbies: Cooking, adventures at the lake in Northern Wisconsin, skiing, curling, kayaking, riding bikes, playing with grandchildren and reading.
Email: kmpielage@gmail.com

Tourists



Nancy Powers

Club: St Paul Bonnie Spielers
Family: Partner Jodi Sigel and sons Nolan (18), Ian (16), and English Springer Spaniel - Miss Mia!
Work: National Sales Manager/Project Manager in Convenience Retail Marketing.
Hobbies: Curling, watching curling in person and online, travelling, cycling and yoga.
Email: nkpowers20@hotmail.com



Lisa Rauliuk

Club: Granite Curling Club of Seattle
Family: Husband John and daughter Arianna (24).
Work: Retired Director of Account Management for a marketing and branding agency.
Hobbies: Travelling (especially travelling for curling), cooking, reading, paddleboarding, hiking, biking, crafting, and spending time with friends.
Email: therauliuks@gmail.com



Elaine Ritchie

Club: Broomstones Curling Club
Family: Married to husband Don for 36 years. Four step-children (two sets of twins) and spouses, and five grandchildren.
Work: Retired software developer, manager and coach.
Hobbies: Travelling (especially train travel), golfing and curling.
Email: emritchie@yahoo.com

Tourists



Kristin Smith

Club: Milwaukee Curling Club
Family: Married to husband Steve, and 2 rescued greyhounds Lucia and Wolfie.
Work: Flight Attendant 20 years, now part time in family party rental business.
Hobbies: Knitting, golfing (playing and volunteering at USGA tournaments) and curling.
Email: kshkninut@gmail.com



Jennifer Bracy Tschumakow

Club: The Country Club
Family: Married to husband Alex with two daughters, Nadia (25) and Alina (23), both curlers.
Work: Molecular Immunologist; Senior medical writer.
Hobbies: Curling, beekeeping, relaxing at my cottage in northern NY in the Thousand Islands area on the St. Lawrence River.
Email: jltschumakow@comcast.net

Rinks

Green Team

Nancy Powers
Naida Leslie
Sara Hein
Tammy Hoffman

Orange Team

Elizabeth Demer
Lisa Rauliuk
Chris Battat
Lisa Miller

Purple Team

Kathy Pielage
Kathleen Lis Dean
Elaine Ritchie
Alana Malik

Red Team

Jennifer Bracy Tschumakow
Kristin Smith
Jen Mogavero
Heather Getty

Yellow Team

Leslie McGregor
Terri Gleason
Nancy Mutz
Ann Kirkpatrick

Itinerary

Monday 26 October

07:55	Arrival to Edinburgh Airport
09:30	Breakfast at Murrayfield Hotel
11:00	Sightseeing
15:00	Check into Holiday Inn Express
18:00	Evening meal with Couriers

Edinburgh | Curl Edinburgh

Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland. Built on seven hills, it is a dramatically beautiful city with great antiquity and rugged character. Edinburgh Castle, the most majestic of all Scottish castles, dominates the city and towers over Princes Street—a famous shopping street and home to the beautiful Princes Street Gardens.

The Royal Mile spans the mile between the Castle and The Palace of Holyrood. The Scottish parliament building is also situated at the foot of the iconic Royal Mile.

The oldest surviving building in the castle dates from the 12th century, the tiny St Margaret's Chapel. The castle also houses the Scottish Regalia, the Crown Jewels, and the Stone of Destiny, the ancient Coronation Stone of Scottish Kings.

At South Queensferry, eight miles north west of Edinburgh, are the three famous bridges which span the River Forth.

Curl Edinburgh is home to Olympians Bruce Mouat, Jennifer Dodds and Sophie Sinclair.

Tuesday 27 October

09:00	Depart for Curl Edinburgh
10:00	Practice game v Previous Scottish Tourists 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿
12:30	Lunch and Opening Ceremony
15:00	Curling v Curl Edinburgh 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿
17:30	Coach to Hotel
19:00	Opening Banquet at Royal Burgess Golf Club

Kelso | Border Ice Rink

Set beside the River Tweed, Kelso is one of the Borders' most picturesque market towns, having a cobbled square, Georgian architecture and the ruins of Kelso Abbey. The Abbey was founded in the 12th century.

Kelso lies in a fine setting at the junction of the rivers Tweed and Teviot, the Tweed being renowned for its Salmon fishing. The graceful five-arched bridge over the Tweed, built by John Rennie, was later used as a model for London's Waterloo Bridge.

In Roxburgh Street, is the outline of a horseshoe where the horse of Charles Edward Stuart ('Bonnie Prince Charlie') cast a shoe as he was riding it through the town on his way to Carlisle in 1745. The magnificent Floors Castle, built in the 1720s on the banks of the Tweed, is the seat of

the Duke of Roxburghe, built as a stately mansion rather than a fortress, it is Scotland's largest inhabited castle.

The Border Ice Rink in Kelso was opened in 1964, the brainchild of a local farmer and curler. It provides curling, ice skating and ice hockey in the winter, with roller skating and pickleball throughout the summer. Kelso is just 10 miles from the Scottish-English border on the eastern side of the country.

Wednesday 28 October

- 07:30 Depart for Kelso
- 10:00 Curling v Borders (Kelso) 🏴
- 12:30 Buffet Lunch
- 14:00 Collected by Home Hosts
- Sightseeing and supper with Home Hosts

Lockerbie | Lockerbie Ice Rink

Lockerbie is the first sizeable town north of the Scottish-English Border in the centre of the country. It has an agricultural past and was once home to Scotland's largest lamb market. Much of the town is built from red sandstone and there are several imposing buildings near the centre, none so more than the Town Hall finished in 1880, complete with its clock tower.

In Dryfesdale cemetery on the outskirts of the town there is a memorial garden that is a fitting and touching tribute to the victims of the 1988 terrorist bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 known widely as the Lockerbie Air Disaster.

Lockerbie Ice Rink was built in 1966 and is one of the oldest ice rinks in Scotland. In curling it has given rise to World and European Champions and Olympians in the adult, senior and junior disciplines. Welcome to Lockerbie. We hope you enjoy your visit.

Thursday 29 October

- 10:30 Arrive at Blacksmith Shop Gretna Green for coffee
- 11:30 Wedding Re-enactment and museum entry
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:45 Depart for Lockerbie to Dryfesdale Garden of Remembrance and Lodge
- 16:00 Curling v Lockerbie 🏴
- 18:30 Supper at the Ice Rink
- 20:00 Entertainment
- 21:30 Collected by Home Hosts

Dumfries | Dumfries Ice Bowl

The regional HQ for Dumfries & Galloway is known as the 'Queen of the South'. Dumfries became a Royal Burgh in 1186 and was primarily a market town with the main occupations being farming, fishing and forestry. The town has many fine buildings built with red sandstone from Locharbriggs Quarry on the edge of Dumfries. John Paul Jones, hero of the American Revolution and founder of The US Navy, was born close to Dumfries. Poet Robert Burns lived the last seven years of his life in the area and is buried in St Michael's Churchyard. Now a modern university town, the stunning scenery attracts many local artists and sculptors. Dumfries Ice Bowl was built in 1992,

hosting the Scottish Championships for the last five years. Other notable competitions hosted here are the Scottish Wheelchair Championships, Scottish Junior Mixed Doubles and the World 'C' Championships. Dumfries also boasts four Olympians over the last two Winter Games, Grant Hardie, Ross Whyte, Sophie Jackson and Fay Henderson. Graham Sloan is the Ice Master and coach in Dumfries.

Friday 30 October

- 09:00 Coach departs for Dumfries
- 10:00 Curling v Dumfries 
- 12:00 Buffet lunch at the Ice Rink
- 14:00 Curling v Dumfries 
- 16:00 Refreshments
- 17:00 Coach departs for Stranraer for evening meal and check-in to North West Castle Hotel

Stranraer | Stranraer Ice Rink

Stranraer is the commercial centre of the historic Province of Galloway, situated in the south-west corner of Scotland. Once the main sea link with Northern Ireland, ferry services now operate from nearby Cairnryan, offering the shortest crossing between mainland Britain and Northern Ireland. Dominating the town centre is the Castle of St John, an imposing tower house built in 1510 by the Adairs of Kilhilt. In the late 17th century it became a military headquarters during the suppression of the Covenanters and later served as the town jail.

North West Castle, built in 1820 for Arctic explorer Admiral Sir John Ross, is now a hotel with a four-sheet ice rink. The rink has strong links with elite curling and Olympic medallists including Vicky Wright, Vicki Adams, Bobby Lammie and Hammy McMillan, alongside numerous World, European and National Champions.

The surrounding countryside is renowned for dairy farming and distinctive Belted Galloway cattle. Influenced by the Gulf Stream, the area enjoys a relatively mild climate, supporting an impressive variety of plants in its many gardens. Rocky coastline, sandy beaches, hills, valleys, rivers and lochs make Stranraer an attractive base for exploring Galloway.

A purpose-built Stranraer Water Sports Hub is set to enhance activities on Loch Ryan, with facilities for watersports and open-water swimming. The loch also hosts the Scottish Fin & Foil Open, celebrating windsurfing across a variety of disciplines.

Each September, the popular Stranraer Oyster Festival celebrates Loch Ryan's famous native oysters with local seafood, live music, artisan markets and family entertainment. Once known primarily as a ferry port, Stranraer is developing a growing reputation as a welcoming destination for major events, festivals and outdoor activities.

Saturday 31 October

- Curling Competition Game 1 
- Lunch
- Curling Competition Game 2 
- Dinner

Sunday 1 November

Curling Competition Game 3 

Lunch

Sightseeing

Dinner

Monday 2 November

09:30 Curling v Stranraer 

11:30 Lunch and onward travel to Greenacres

15:30 Curling v Greenacres 

18:00 Dinner

21:00 Travel to Glynhill Hotel

Greenacres | Greenacres Curling Rink

Widely known as “The Friendly Rink” Greenacres is set high on a hillside with scenic views across the surrounding countryside. On a clear day one can see the majestic snow-capped mountain Ben Lomond which overlooks Loch Lomond.

It is the only dedicated curling rink in the west of Scotland. It was established in 1979 by which time our winters were too warm to depend on reliable outdoor ponds.

Greenacres has high quality ice, top coaching and is home to 65 clubs. It hosts a wide range of competitions, championships and training events.

The rink is home to many elite players including Rhona Howie MBE (Martin) most famous for skipping the British women’s gold medal team in the 2002 Winter Olympics. Our fantastic team of icemen also includes Colin Mouat, brother of Bruce Mouat.

Ayr | Greenacres Curling Rink

Ayr is the county town and holiday centre on the south west coast of Scotland. Alloway, the birthplace of Scotland’s national poet Robert “Rabbie” Burns, is on the southern outskirts of the town. Tourism is important and the county is home to two Open Golf Championship venues: Royal Troon and Turnberry.

The most famous castle and country park is Culzean Castle where President Eisenhower of the USA had an apartment during the Second World War.

The rock of Ailsa Craig which can be seen just off the coast is of great importance to all curlers as it is from this rock that almost all curling stones are made. The rock is shipped to the mainland and then shaped and polished in the town of Mauchline.

As Ayr currently has no ice centre Ayr Ladies are joining up with Greenacres Ladies for the day.

Tuesday 3 November

09:15 Coach departs for Stirling

11:30 Walking tour of Stirling

13:00 Lunch at Stirling Cricket Club

15:00 Curling v Stirling 

18:00 Collected by Home Hosts

Stirling | The Peak, Stirling

Stirling lies at the crossroads of Scotland, where the Highlands meet the Lowlands. High above the city, Stirling Castle stands on a spectacular rocky outcrop, commanding magnificent views over the surrounding countryside. A royal stronghold for centuries, it was closely associated with the Stuart monarchs and became one of Scotland's most important royal residences.

Mary Queen of Scots, spent part of her childhood here and was crowned in the castle in 1543. Much of the magnificent building seen today dates from the 15th and 16th centuries. One of its most impressive features is the Great Hall, the largest medieval banqueting hall ever built in Scotland. Its distinctive Royal Gold limewashed exterior, five great fireplaces and hammerbeam timber roof reflect the splendour of the royal court. Following extensive restoration, the Great Hall reopened in 1999.

The area around Stirling played a pivotal role in Scotland's Wars of Independence. The Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297 and the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314 were two of its most significant events. The National Wallace Monument commemorates Sir William Wallace and his famous victory at Stirling Bridge.

Today, Stirling is a thriving centre for tourism, retail, industry and local government. It is also home to the University of Stirling, set in beautiful parkland, and the National Curling Academy at The Peak sports centre.

Wednesday 4 November

10:00	Arrive at Curl Forfar
10:30	Curling v Forfar 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿
13:00	Lunch
14:30	Curling v Forfar 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿
17:45	Games in the bowling hall
18:30	Dinner
21:00	Collected by Home Hosts

Forfar | Curl Forfar

The Royal Burgh and County Town of Angus has a population of approximately 17,000. It is a market town where jute and linen manufacturing once took place. Today, the main activities are agriculture and tourism around the Strathmore Valley, with glens popular with hillwalkers. Glamis Castle, the home of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and birthplace of Princess Margaret, is five miles from the town. The Forfar Bridie, a Scottish meat pastry, is identified with the town. Forfar Indoor Sports was born from an idea when Dundee Ice Rink was sold as a supermarket site. Businessman Brian Bonnyman purchased two agricultural storage sheds and converted them into an ice rink and indoor bowling stadium.

Since opening in September 1989, the centre has hosted local, national and international competitions. Many curlers have honed their skills here, including Hailey Duff, a member of the Olympic Gold Medal Team in Beijing 2022.

Since 2009, Forfar Indoor Sports has been owned by couple Mike and Sandra Ferguson. They have built on Mr Bonnyman's legacy to establish the centre as one of the country's leading rinks, with a reputation for quality ice, keen competition and loads of fun. Mike is a Past President of RCCC.

Thursday 5 November

- 09:30 Depart Curl Forfar for Glamis Castle visit and onward travel to Aberdeen
- 13:15 Welcome and lunch
- 14:30 Curling v Aberdeen 
- 17:30 Travel to Aberdeen Town House for drinks and Civic Reception followed by a coach tour of Aberdeen and arrival at the Village Hotel

Aberdeen | Curl Aberdeen

Aberdeen is Scotland's third most populous city. The city began as two separate burghs: 'Old Aberdeen' at the mouth of the river Don; and New Aberdeen, a fishing and trading settlement, on the river Dee estuary. In more recent times the traditional industries have been overtaken by the oil industry. Aberdeen University is the fifth oldest in the English speaking world.

Aberdeen is also known as the 'Granite City' for its many enduring grey-granite stone buildings. Curl Aberdeen was opened by HM The Queen in 2005. The rink is used extensively for local, national and international competitions and membership is made up of approximately 400 curlers. The ice rink manager, Tom Brewster, has represented Scotland at World and European Championships.

Friday 6 November

- 09:30 Depart for a Highland Tour to Aviemore
- 16:00 Check in to Lodges
- 18:00 Buffet supper in the Lodge

Aviemore

Aviemore is a busy town and holiday resort in the heart of the Cairngorm National Park in the Scottish Highlands. It is famous as a year round hub for outdoor fun, offering snow sports and skiing in the winter and scenic hill walking, biking and water sport in the summer.

The Cairngorm Reindeer Herd is Britain's only free-ranging herd of reindeer. They are tame and friendly but still have a wild side. Red squirrels, mountain hares, pine martens and red deer are all easy to spot in the Cairngorms, along with the famous Scottish Highland Cattle.

Close by is the Funicular Railway at the Cairngorm Mountain Resort which has panoramic views of the Cairngorm mountain range and nearby Loch Morlich a beautiful Scottish loch with a sandy beach.

Aviemore Ice Rink is centrally located within the Macdonald Aviemore Resort. It offers plenty of fun for guests of all ages and caters for all ice sports, including curling, in its very unusual setting,

Saturday 7 November

- 08:30 Depart Lodge for Breakfast
- 10:30 Sightseeing
- 14:00 Lunch in the village
Shopping opportunity
- 18:00 Dinner in Cairngorm Hotel

Sunday 8 November

- 10:00 Breakfast at Alt Mhor
- 11:00 Travel to Inverness via Culloden
Inverness Castle
Lunch
- 19:00 Dinner at the Kingsmill Hotel

Inverness | Inverness Ice Centre

Inverness, the cultural heart of the Scottish Highlands, sits near the mouth of the River Ness where it flows into the Moray Firth. Known as the “Capital of the Highlands,” it blends historic charm with modern amenities. Visitors are drawn to landmarks such as Inverness Castle, St. Andrew’s Cathedral, and nearby Loch Ness, famous for its legendary monster.

The city offers a vibrant arts scene, welcoming atmosphere, and access to stunning natural landscapes. Surrounded by rugged hills and scenic coastlines, Inverness serves as a gateway to exploring the wild beauty, history, and traditions of northern Scotland.

Inverness Ice Centre is a 5-sheeter which has produced a number of champions over the years including Ewan McDonald, Fiona McDonald, Alison Kinghorn, Ross Bartlett and Sarah McIntyre.

Monday 9 November

- 09:45 Curling v Inverness 
- 14:00 Travel to Kinross
- 19:00 Buffet dinner at Kinross Curling
Collected by Home Hosts

Kinross | Kinross Curling

Kinross is a beautiful lochside town surrounded by hills on three sides and the dramatic Loch Leven lying to the East. This historic location houses the castle where Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned in 1567.

The history of the town actually goes back to the 5th century AD when Kinross developed as a staging post on the Great North Road from North Queensferry to Perth. In time, local industry developed and by the early 18th century the town had grown to a population of around 600 people. It is now home to 5,600 people.

Kinross holds a legendary place in the history of curling, where the sport has been played on and around the shallow waters of Loch Leven for over 350 years.

Tuesday 10 November

- 10:00 Curling v Kinross 
- 13:15 Coach departs for Dundee Ice Arena
- 15:00 Curling v Dundee 
- 19:00 Civic Reception at Discovery Point
- 20:50 Collected by Home Hosts

Dundee | Dundee Ice Arena

Dundee, Scotland's fourth-largest city, is a vibrant waterfront hub known for its rich industrial heritage, scientific innovation, and striking cultural renaissance. Situated on the north bank of the Firth of Tay, Dundee grew rapidly during the Industrial Revolution as the global centre of jute production, earning its famous identity as the city of "jute, jam and journalism." Today, the city blends historic character with modern creativity, anchored by landmarks such as the V&A Dundee and the RRS Discovery, the Antarctic research ship built in the city and now berthed at Discovery Point. With a population of around 150,000, Dundee has transformed into a leading centre for life sciences, technology, and design, promoting itself as "One City, Many Discoveries" in celebration of its pioneering spirit and ongoing regeneration.

Wednesday 11 November

- 09:00 Depart Dundee Ice Arena
- 10:00 Curling v Perth 1 
- 13:00 Lunch and visit to the Black Watch Museum
- 18:00 Curling v Perth 2 
- 20:30 Dinner at Live Active Dewars Centre in Perth
- 22:00 Collected by Home Hosts

Perth | Live Active Dewars Centre

Perth, known as the Fair City, recognised as Scotland's Capital from the 9th Century until the mid-1400s, when Kings of Scotland were crowned on the Stone of Destiny at Scone Palace. The stone is now on display at the City Museum. In 1396 the savage battle of the Clans took place on the North Inch, now a parkland, and in 1559 John Knox preached his famous sermon on ideology in St Johns Kirk, sparking the Scottish Reformation. There is evidence that both curling and golf were played in the area from the early 16th century. The city lies on the banks of the river Tay, the longest river in Scotland, with a population of around 50,000 people. Perthshire is famous for soft fruit production, grain, potatoes and of course, several malt whisky distilleries.

The Dewars Centre ice rink was opened in 1990, built on the site of the Dewars whisky bond. It is the home of curling and of many world champions and Olympians, including Eve Muirhead and Mili Smith.

Thursday 12 November

- 09:00 Coach departs for Greenock
- 11:00 Arrive at Custom Quay House in Greenock
- 12:45 Arrive at Waterfront Ice Rink for lunch
- 14:30 Curling v Waterfront 
- 17:00 Tontine Hotel for drinks and dinner
- 20:00 Board coach for travel to Hamilton

Greenock | Waterfront Leisure Centre

Greenock is a historic port town on the Firth of Clyde, renowned as the birthplace of inventor James Watt, whose improvements to the steam engine helped drive the Industrial Revolution.

The town also has a proud industrial heritage in shipbuilding, through Scotts Shipbuilding and Engineering, and sugar refining, notably Tate & Lyle. Today, its busy cruise terminal welcomes visitors from around the world during the summer months.

Situated west of Glasgow, Greenock enjoys a spectacular setting and provides a gateway to Loch Lomond and the Highlands. The Esplanade offers wonderful views across the Clyde, while nearby Lyle Hill provides panoramic vistas of the Firth, the Argyll hills and beyond. It is also home to the Free French Memorial, commemorating the Free French naval forces based in Greenock during the Second World War.

The Watt Institution houses the McLean Museum and Watt Library, while the impressive 19th-century Custom House is a reminder of Greenock's rich maritime and trading history. The town also has a strong connection with Robert Burns and is home to the Greenock Burns Club, founded in 1801 and recognised as one of the world's oldest Burns clubs.

Friday 13 November

- 09:30 Curling v Hamilton 
- 12:30 Lunch at Lanarkshire Ice Rink
- 14:00 Visit Glasgow City Chambers
- 19:00 Closing Banquet Lanarkshire Ice Rink

Hamilton | Lanarkshire Ice Rink

Hamilton was previously a coal mining centre, now mainly a residential town 16km south of Glasgow. It is situated on the south bank of the River Clyde at its confluence with the Avon Water. It is the county town of Lanarkshire and the seat of the local government.

Hamilton Palace, the home of the Dukes of Hamilton, acknowledged as one of the grandest houses in the British Isles, was demolished in 1927 due to subsidence caused by undermining. This stood at the head of what is now Strathclyde Country Park. The man-made loch in the park is a leading centre for water sports and outdoor recreation. It was opened in 1978 and hosted the rowing events of the Commonwealth Games.

In 1978 work started to restore Chatelherault, the hunting lodge of the Dukes of Hamilton. This was officially opened in 1987 and is the centre of Chatelherault Country Park.

The Ice Rink opened in 1967 and stands on the old Palace grounds overlooking the Mausoleum which was built as the resting place of the family of the Dukes of Hamilton. The Mausoleum has one of the longest echoes of any building in Europe. Nearby lies Hamilton Racecourse, also part of the Palace grounds, overlooking the River Clyde and Strathclyde Park.

Saturday 14 November

- Depart Hamilton to Edinburgh
- Sightseeing en route
- Check into Hampton by Hilton at Edinburgh Airport

Sunday 15 November

- 06:25 Check in time
- 09:25 Flight to New York

Notes



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