

# Scotland

## Scotland's Far North

### St Magnus Cathedral

© Charles Tait



This taster tour to the far north includes a visit to the remote Castle of Mey and an excursion by ferry and local coach to Orkney. There is time at leisure in the heritage city of Perth on the homeward trip.

#### Tour Itinerary

**Day 1** Travel into Scotland for a first overnight stop at the Golden Lion Hotel in the elegant town of Stirling.

**Day 2** Proceed north via Blairgowrie and the spectacular Cairnwell Pass to Braemar. A wonderfully scenic route continues via Tomintoul and Grantown on Spey before passing Inverness and continuing to Thurso.

**Day 3** Visit Her Majesty The Queen Mother's beloved Castle of Mey which has been kept just as it was when she was alive. Explore the gardens and enjoy the views over the Pentland Firth. Remainder of day at leisure in Thurso.

**Day 4** Board the ferry from John O'Groats to Orkney where a local coach meets the group for a highlights excursion. Main sites of interest include Skara Brae, the Churchill Barriers, Scapa Flow, Ring of Brodgar, the Standing Stones of Stenness, the Italian Chapel and Kirkwall, with an opportunity to see Kirkwall's magnificent 12th century cathedral (admission charges not included).

**Day 5** Travel back through Scotland with a stop in the highland capital of Inverness and onwards to Perth.

**Day 6** A day at leisure in Perth.

**Day 7** Homeward journey.



### Queens Hotel, Perth

**Our opinion:** Centrally located just a short walk from the town centre and River Tay. A friendly hotel which receives consistently good feedback.

- 3 star • 51 bedrooms • Lift • Leisure centre
- Coach parking nearby

### Royal Hotel, Thurso

**Our opinion:** The location of the Royal Hotel in the busy town of Thurso makes it the ideal base for travelling throughout the north of Scotland and to the islands of Orkney and Shetland. The public areas were refurbished in 2006/7 and bedrooms redecorated in 2008.

- 3 star • 103 bedrooms
- Lift and some ground floor bedrooms
- Portage included • Free coach parking nearby

#### 7 day tour including:

- 1 night half board in Stirling
- 3 nights half board in Thurso
- 2 nights half board in Perth
- Admission to the Castle of Mey
- Full day excursion to Orkney

#### 2010 price per person

May 26	£374
June 16 & Sept 8	£376
July 2	£378

All tours can be tailor-made to suit your exact requirements

Call us FREE on 0800 358 4455