

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
Celtic Christian Pilgrimage to Ireland and Iona, Scotland

May 29 to June 8, 2015
Limited to Twenty Pilgrims

Terms and Conditions

Cost: The cost of each person (Pilgrim) travelling on the Pilgrimage is US\$2299, not including airfare and some other expenses as described below.

Reservations and First Deposit: A reservation may be secured upon receipt of (1) a fully complete Pilgrimage Reservation Form and (2) the payment of a deposit of \$600 to Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (PTS).

Second and Third Deposits: A second deposit in the amount of \$800 is due by February 15, 2015. The third deposit, also for \$899, is due on April 1, 2015.

As soon as PTS notifies Pilgrims that the pilgrimage is confirmed, and not later than April 1, 2015, all Pilgrims must provide a detailed copy of their flights or travel arrangements to Dublin and from Glasgow. The booking must show that the Pilgrim arrives in Dublin before noon on Friday, May 29, and does not depart from Glasgow before 6:00 am on Monday, June 8. Failure to provide an acceptable itinerary may result in a cancellation of the reservation. Perhaps the easiest way to provide this documentation is for Pilgrims to forward an email itinerary from the online airline ticketing service. Please send the itinerary to Celtic15@pts.edu.

What is Included in the Price: The cost of the pilgrimage that is payable to PTS is US\$2299. This fee includes the full cost of overnight accommodations at all hotels, ground transportation except as specified below, ferries

and all other connections, all breakfasts except one as specified, all dinners, the cost of entrance to various sites, the fees for special guides, and all applicable fees or taxes. Breakfasts are typically described as "Full Irish Breakfast" or "Full Scottish Breakfast" and include one or more beverages such as coffee. Dinners often do not include beverages, or at most, tea or coffee.

What is Not Included in the Price: The cost of airfare and certain other items as described below.

*****SPECIAL NOTE: DO NOT BOOK YOUR AIRLINE TICKET BEFORE PTS HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE PILGRIMAGE WILL IN FACT OCCUR. ONCE WE REACH TEN (10) PAID FIRST DEPOSITS, PTS WILL NOTIFY YOU THAT THE PILGRIMAGE IS CONFIRMED AND THAT IT IS SAFE FOR YOU TO BOOK YOUR TRAVEL. IF WE DO NOT REACH TEN PAID DEPOSITS BY DECEMBER 16, 2014, PTS WILL CANCEL THE PILGRIMAGE AND REFUND ALL DEPOSITS. PTS IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR COSTS INVOLVED IN THE PURCHASE OF TICKETS PRIOR TO OUR CONFIRMATION.**

Once the pilgrimage is confirmed, each Pilgrim is expected to book and pay for his or her own travel to Dublin and from Glasgow. The individual traveler is fully responsible for the cost of the ticket and for any taxes or fees associated with the ticket or the flight, including any fees for baggage.

Important Airline Booking Instructions: The pilgrimage begins on Friday, May 29, 2015 in

Dublin. Each Pilgrim flying into Dublin at the beginning of the pilgrimage must be confirmed on a flight scheduled to land at the Dublin airport no later than noon on the 29th. Those already in Ireland may arrange to arrive at the starting location by no later than 2 p.m. on the 29th (see below for details).

The pilgrimage ends at 6:00 a.m. or later on the morning of Monday, June 8, 2015 at the Glasgow airport. Pilgrims agree not to leave the journey before that time. Flights or other travel arrangements departing before this time are not permitted, and all Pilgrims agree not to depart from the itinerary or to be joined by others not on the pilgrimage before that time.

Due to the fact that the pilgrimage begins in Dublin and ends in Glasgow, most travelers will purchase an “open jaw” ticket, usually at no extra expense above a standard round-trip ticket. For example, travelers might depart from the US on a flight to Dublin and return to the US on a flight from Glasgow. At their option, Pilgrims may extend their travel abroad or join other non-pilgrimage travelers before noon on May 29, 2015 or after 6:00 am on June 8, 2015 continuing their travels as they wish. Each Pilgrim is fully responsible for booking these flights and for any complications, delays, or extra expenses incurred. Also note that while travelers may retain some of the value of a cancelled airline ticket (typically in the form of credit for future flights), any loss due to changes or cancellations in flights is the responsibility of the individual traveler and not that of PTS. Depending on your originating city, airfare is estimated to be between US\$1100 and \$1600, possibly more if you stay longer into the peak summer season.

Also not included:

- A cab ride—shared if possible—from Dublin airport to Purcell House, All Hallows College, Gracepark Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9, the site of accommodations for the first three nights. Travelers will be assisted in

sharing rides. The cost in Euros is about €30, roughly US\$50 when a tip is included.

- All lunches, including any taxes and a tip where appropriate. Estimate: \$12-18 per lunch or between US\$120-180 for the entire period.
- Beverages at dinner. Estimate for one beverage such as tea, coffee, or bottled water, per dinner: US \$4-5; \$8-10 for wine or beer. Estimated total for all dinners: US\$40-100 for one beverage at each dinner.
- The cost of breakfast on board the ferry from Larne, Ireland to Troon, Scotland (under US\$15).
- The cost of recommended travel and/or health insurance: US\$150-200.
- Snacks, souvenirs, gifts, phone calls, internet access, postage, or other optional items. [Note, however, that the Pilgrim guides will have a mobile phone that can be used to receive emergency calls from home and may be used by Pilgrims for brief calls home at no charge.]
- Tips for basic service at dinners and for guided tours are covered in the cost of the tour. However, some Pilgrims may wish to offer a small additional tip, especially for any personal service such as menu adjustments or baggage handling.
- Some Pilgrims may request the laundry service that is available for a fee at the St. Columba hotel.

Shared Rooms and Selection of a Roommate:

For most of the pilgrimage, all travelers will be sharing a room overnight with another Pilgrim. The exception is during the first three nights, when most of the rooms are singles. There is no extra expense for these single rooms, nor is there any option for single rooms during the rest of the itinerary.

Each Pilgrim will be given the opportunity to select a roommate, and PTS will seek to

accommodate these requests as fully as possible. If no individual is specified as a roommate, PTS will assign another person of the same sex to be the roommate. Married couples, of course, may travel together as Pilgrims and share their room.

Cancellations: Written cancellations received by PTS up to February 1, 2015, refunds will be made less a \$350 per person cancellation fee. From February 1, 2015 to March 20, 2015, written cancellations received by PTS are subject to a \$600 per person cancellation fee. From March 21, 2015 to April 28, 2015, written cancellations received by PTS are subject to a cancellation fee of 50% of the total tour price per person. From April 29, 2015, written cancellations received by PTS are subject to a 100% cancellation fee of the total tour price per person. Failure to receive final payment by the due date may result in the cancellation of your pilgrimage reservation and the forfeiture of your deposit. No refunds will be given for any unused services while on the pilgrimage.

Insurance: Travelers are strongly encouraged to insure the cost of their airline ticket, primarily in order to cover unexpected expenses should their trip be interrupted or canceled. These insurance policies are usually available at the time the ticket is booked. In addition, travelers are required to check their health insurance coverage and to bring with them any information that will assist others in providing timely care. Please be advised that Medicare does not cover you outside the USA.

Personal Mobility: Due to the nature of the pilgrimage, travelers are reminded that they must expect to walk distances of up to one mile and occasionally further, sometimes including steps or gentle inclines. In some cases Pilgrims will be carrying or pulling their own luggage on walks of up to ¼ mile. Each Pilgrim is expected to be able to meet the physical demands of the pilgrimage without assistance.

Baggage: Pilgrims are advised to pack as lightly as possible but to be ready for cool weather and occasional rain. A light weight raincoat is advised. Laundromats are generally not available, but travelers may do some hand washing or take advantage of the laundry service at the St. Columba on Iona (for a fee). Each Pilgrim will be responsible for handling his or her own luggage, and baggage space on the private coach is limited to small or mid-size bags. Pilgrims are advised not to bring jewelry or any unneeded items of value. Any problem or expense created by excessive baggage is the responsibility of the individual pilgrim. In addition, PTS accepts no responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged personal items.

Electricity. Please be aware that personal electrical and electronic devices, such as hairdryers, electric shavers, or recharging devices, need to accept 220-230 volts (rather than the usual US/Canadian 110-120 volts). Many devices are dual-compliant, but travelers are advised to check voltage specifications in advance. Usually these are printed in fine print on the device. Also be aware that plug adaptors are needed in order to plug standard North American cords into electrical outlets in Ireland or Scotland, both of which use the same three-prong plug format.

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DISCLAIMER and RELEASE: Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (PTS) is not the tour operator, but only assists the tour operator in accepting reservations and booking for persons travelling on the pilgrimage (Pilgrims). PTS reserves the right at any time to operate the pilgrimage with a substitute pilgrimage leader or tour operator, to cancel the pilgrimage, or to make changes in the published itinerary as it deems necessary, in its sole judgment.

PTS is not responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, damage, loss of baggage,

dishonor of airline, other transportation or hotel reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline or tour bankruptcies, accidents, or for the acts of defaults of any person or entity providing accommodations, meals, transportation, tours, guides, baggage handling, or other services or goods to the Pilgrims (the Service Providers). The tour operator and PTS reserve the right to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the pilgrimage should such person's health, actions or general deportment impede the operation of the pilgrimage or the rights or welfare of other Pilgrims. No refund will be made available for the unused portion of the pilgrimage.

PTS shall not be responsible for breach of contract, failure to comply with any state or federal laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), or for any actions or omissions on the part of any Service Provider that result in any loss, damage, delay, inconvenience or injury to any Pilgrim or any Pilgrim's companions or group members. Without limiting the foregoing, if due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors any Pilgrim is required to spend additional nights, PTS will not be responsible for any Pilgrim's hotel, transfers, meal costs or other expenses. Each Pilgrim's baggage and personal property are completely at the Pilgrim's own risk.

PTS shall not be responsible for, and is hereby released from, any and all claims, injuries, damages or other losses from any cause whatsoever, including but not limited to those in connection with terrorist activities, social or labor unrest, mechanical or construction failures or difficulties, diseases, local laws, climate conditions, abnormal conditions or developments, or any other actions, omissions, acts of God or other conditions. Pilgrims further assume complete and full responsibility for, and hereby release PTS from, any duty of checking and verifying any and all passport, visa, vaccination, or other requirements of each

destination, and all safety and security conditions of such destinations, during the length of the pilgrimage. For information concerning possible dangers at international destinations, contact the U.S. State Department, (202) 647-5225, or access the State Department's online travel advisory service. For medical information, call the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at (404) 332-4559 or visit the CDC online.

By embarking upon his/her pilgrimage, the Pilgrim voluntarily assumes all risk involved in such pilgrimage, whether expected or unexpected. Pilgrim is hereby warned of these above risks as well as possible travel industry bankruptcies and medical and climatic disruptions, and the possibility Pilgrim may be unable to travel as scheduled because of personal emergency. Pilgrim is advised to obtain appropriate insurance coverage against these risks. Pilgrim's retention of tickets, reservations, or booking after issuance shall constitute a consent to the above and an agreement on his/her part to convey the contents hereof to his/her pilgrimage companions or group members.

*California Residents: Please read the enclosed disclosure required by the Sellers of Travel Act before booking Exclusive jurisdiction and venue for any and all disputes arising under, in connection with, or related to these General Conditions or the provision of services by PTS shall be in the state court sitting in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and you expressly agree not to challenge the jurisdiction or venue of such court or to assert that such court is not a convenient forum. All disputes arising under, in connection with, or related to these General Conditions or the provision of services by PTS shall be governed by the internal laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, without regard to its conflicts of law provisions. Payment of deposits by pilgrimage participants indicates acceptance of the above terms and General Conditions.