







September 2-12, 2023 (11 days | 17 guests)

with Dickinson Professor Emeritus Thomas Reed

# Dickinson

Alumni Global Adventures



This tour requires an elevated level of fitness.

### Faculty Leader



Thomas Reed was an English professor at Dickinson from 1977 through 2015, specializing in medieval and Victorian literature and film studies. His recent novel, *Seeking Hyde*, grew directly from

courses he taught at Dickinson on the life and works of Robert Louis Stevenson, a focus that also led to the publication of *The Transforming* Draught: Jekyll and Hyde, Robert Louis Stevenson, and the Victorian Alcohol Debate, a scholarly study of Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde as an allegory of alcoholism. Seeking Hyde was named a finalist for the 2018 INDIES Book of the Year Award in historical fiction. Reed earned his B.A. from Yale University and Ph.D. from the University of Virginia, and was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship at Oxford University. He is the author of Middle English Debate Poetry and the Aesthetics of Irresolution and a number of short stories published in literary journals. Reed recently moved to Sarasota, Florida, where he lives with his wife Dorothy, to take up writing full time. His latest novel, Pocket Full of Poseys, is scheduled for publication in the Fall of 2023. He and Dottie spend their summers in Wentworth, NH, where they help run Camp Pemigewassett. Founded by Reed's grandfather and two partners in 1908, it is the oldest residential boys camp in the country still owned and operated by the founding families.

Dear Dickinson alumni, parents, and friends,

You are cordially invited to join in this exclusive Dickinson Alumni Global Adventure! We will be hiking in Scotland with a **small group**, accompanied by **expert local guides**. Amid spectacular scenery and historic cities, towns, and villages, we will **hike in the footsteps of famous writers:** Robert Louis Stevenson, Dorothy Wordsworth, Dr. Samuel Johnson, and Johnson's friend and biographer, James Boswell. My special enthusiasm for this unique trip grows directly from courses I taught at Dickinson on the life and works of Stevenson—and two books that I wrote as a consequence. Most of this itinerary is part of the "In the Footsteps of Robert Louis Stevenson" network, certified in 2015 as a Cultural Route of the Council of Europe.

Scotland produced a striking number of great thinkers and doers, among them poets, such as Robert Burns; philosophers, such as David Hume; economists, such as Adam Smith; and scientists, such as geologist James Hutton. Many of these great thinkers and doers have provided us with contemporary accounts that offer remarkable insights into days gone by and shine a revealing light on the evolution of modern society. In fact, the Scottish Enlightenment of the 18th century is often considered "the invention of the modern world," with Edinburgh cited as a "hotbed of genius."

Our tour will be more active than most other land tours: it features **almost-daily hikes of easy to moderate difficulty**. To visit and fully enjoy all the sites on the itinerary, you should be in good walking condition and, obviously, should enjoy walking!

Highlights will include the grand city of **Edinburgh**, sometimes called the "Athens of the north"; visits to **Inveraray** and **Inveraray Castle**, where Johnson and Boswell had dinner with the Duke of Argyll; **a walk across the sands to Erraid**, where *Kidnapped*'s Davie Balfour was shipwrecked; two nights on **the tiny historic island of Iona**; hiking among the impressive mountains of **Glencoe**; and visits to **Stirling** and **Stirling Castle**.

I hope you will seize this opportunity to join me and some fellow Dickinsonians in this custom-designed exploration of literary Scotland. Feel free to share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you. **Our group is limited to just 17 travelers**, so I suggest you reserve your spot today.

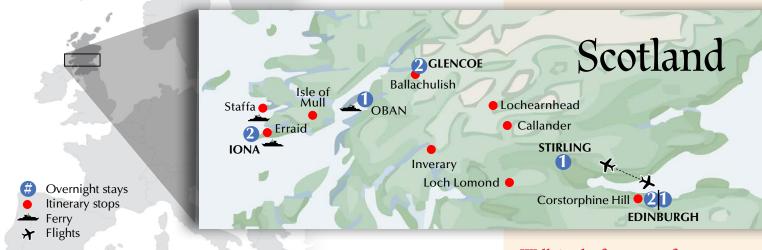
Looking forward with excitement,

Tom Reed Professor Emeritus of English Dickinson College (1977-2015)



#### Fingal's Cave

Located on the uninhabited Isle of Staffa, the cave's interior is made up of hexagonal columns of basalt, 72 feet tall and 270 feet deep. This cave was made famous by Scottish author James Macpherson's 1761 poem *Fingal*, as well as by composer Felix Mendelssohn who visited in 1829 and wrote an overture, *The Hebrides*, Op. 26 (also known as *Fingal's Cave*), inspired by the weird echoes in the cave.



### Itinerary

(B)= Breakfast • (L)= Lunch • (D)= Dinner • ♣ = distance and elevation

**Saturday, September 2, 2023: Fly to Edinburgh, Scotland** Depart home on flights to Edinburgh Airport (EDI).

#### Sunday, September 3: Edinburgh | Transfer to hotel | City tour | Welcome dinner

Arrive at Edinburgh Airport and transfer to our hotel. Settle in to your room before we meet our faculty leader and local guide for a tour of the central Edinburgh that Robert Louis Stevenson knew. We will see both the elegant, 18<sup>th</sup>-century New Town, where he was brought up, and the University and the Old Town where he pursued his studies erratically – but his cultural pursuits and pleasures with much greater enthusiasm. Return to our hotel to freshen up and gather for a welcome dinner. *Overnight at the Mercure Edinburgh Haymarket Hotel for two nights*. (L,D)

#### Monday, September 4: Pentland Hills | Colinton | Edinburgh

4 miles and 1,000 feet

In the morning we take a walk in the Pentland Hills via Swanston, where the Stevenson family rented a second home in the country for thirteen years of Robert Louis' youth. Weather permitting, there are wide views over southern and central Scotland, with the highland line beckoning away to the northwest. In the afternoon we continue on to Colinton, home of Stevenson's mother, Margaret Balfour. (B,L,D)

### Tuesday, September 5: Loch Lomond | Inveraray | Oban

4 miles and 800 feet

Famous in song, Loch Lomond lives up to expectations. A long loch of contrasts, it is a deep glacial trough in the highland north widening to an island-studded expanse in the lowland south where we first encounter it. Dr. Samuel Johnson stayed on its shores as a guest of the Colquhouns at Rose Dhu (Rossdhu), and the Wordsworths explored it thoroughly, almost end to end, visiting Rob Roy's Caves near Inversnaid en route. Rob Roy (a real person as well as a character from Sir Walter Scott) was a MacGregor chief, outlawed for cattle thieving and because his clan had massacred numbers of the better-connected Colquhouns at Glen Fruin. In the afternoon we explore Inveraray, where both Johnson and the Wordsworths stayed. Seat of the Dukes of Argyll, Inveraray Castle is at the heart of Campbell clan territory, and Campbells play an important role as villains in *Kidnapped. Overnight at the Knipoch Hotel.* (B,L,D)

### Walk in the footsteps of these esteemed writers:

**Robert Louis Stevenson**, whose *Kidnapped* takes us from 18<sup>th</sup>-century Edinburgh to the Hebrides and back, via Glencoe and Stirling, always with a vividly descriptive feel for the country through which his heroes are passing.

**Dr. Samuel Johnson** and his friend and biographer, **James Boswell**, who completed their autumnal Hebridean tour via Mull, Iona, and Inveraray in 1773.

Dorothy Wordsworth, who travelled in the southern and western highlands via Glasgow and Edinburgh with her brother, William, and, for part of the way, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, in August and September 1803. They illustrate the successful shaping of landscape and history into pageturning fiction.

## Experience the locales and landscapes that inspired great works of literature:

**Edinburgh**, the hill-strewn, seasurveying capital where Johnson arrived in Scotland, whence the Wordsworths left Scotland, and where Stevenson was born and raised.

**Argyll and the Isles**, visited by each of our literary "guides" and the setting for some of the central events in Stevenson's *Kidnapped*.

**Appin and Glencoe**, scene of the Appin murder and the flight of the heroes of *Kidnapped*.

**Stirling**, a frontier town on the edge of the highlands and scene of crucial battles in Scotland's independence struggles.



### Wednesday, September 6: Ferry to the Isle of Mull: Ross of Mull, Erraid | Ferry to Iona

<3 miles and 500 feet</p>

Today we board the ferry at Oban for the Isle of Mull, temporarily leaving the Wordsworths behind, but continuing alongside the ghosts of both Johnson and Stevenson. They will loom large for us on Mull and its surrounding islands. After the 40-minute crossing we drive, through increasingly spectacular scenery, to the Ross of Mull. Erraid, off the tip of the Ross of Mull, is a tidal island, but Davie Balfour did not know that when he was shipwrecked on the fearsome Torran Rocks a mile or so offshore. Battered and weary, he thought himself trapped, and despaired – only to eventually discover, when the tide dropped, that he could walk off to Mull and habitation. Stevenson was able to create these scenes and convincingly set them off Mull because he had spent time here working with his lighthouse-building engineering family during construction of the Dhu Heartach light. There is a lot still to see from those days, and the walk across Erraid to what locals call "Davie Balfour's Bay" well rewards our efforts. If the weather is clear, the magnificent lighthouse itself can still be seen, 15 miles away to the southwest, as can, in ideal conditions, the still more remote and elegant Skerryvore light to the west, another family affair. After our walk we will take the passenger ferry to the island of Iona, to which only residents are allowed to bring their cars. Overnight at the St Columba *Hotel* for two nights. (B,L,D)

### Thursday, September 7: Iona: Iona Abbey, exploration of the island

5.5 miles and 395 feet

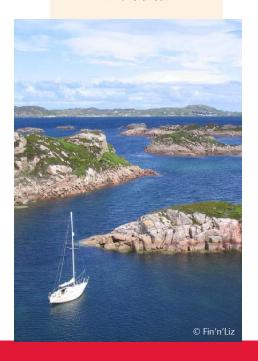
Many people make the pilgrimage to "Columba's Isle," but the island, and most importantly the village, remains quiet through the morning. By the time the day trippers arrive from Oban, we will have had plenty of time to see the abbey, the nunnery, and the burial place of some 50 kings of Scotland, Ireland, and Norway (if legend be believed); and we will be ready to set out on our tour of the island's quietest and most beautiful corners. We will visit the Bay at the Back of the Ocean and a second bay where Columba is said to have first set foot on the island. (B,L,D)

### Friday, September 8: Fionnphort | Ferry to Staffa | Fingal's Cave | Morvern | Glencoe Short distances and climbs

We take a boat from Fionnphort to Staffa, the beautiful, uninhabited island best known for its magnificent basalt columns. Mendelssohn was inspired to write his overture *Fingal's Cave* following his visit here, but Johnson was unable to land because of the weather. As we will be going in a better season, with a better boat and a more solidly-crafted landing place, we should have more luck. Return to the mainland in the afternoon, following the route via Morvern that Davie Balfour took. *Overnight at the Clachaig Inn for two nights.* (B,L,D)

Erraid Tinker's Hole, Ross of Mull

Erraid was one of the locations in the novel *Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson. The hero of this tale was marooned on the island after being shipwrecked on the Torran Rocks, on the southern part of the island. Stevenson visited the island several times in his youth. His father worked on lighthouses in the area.





#### Saturday, September 9: Appin | Ballachulish | Glencoe

5 miles and 820 feet

The country of the Appin Stewarts is where historical events, having their roots in the post-Culloden breakdown of traditional highland society, took place – eventually to be used by Stevenson in *Kidnapped*. The Appin Murder was notorious in its day, and is still not forgotten. The Campbell victim had administered estates forfeited by those who had supported the Jacobite revolutionaries in their failed attempt to re-establish a Catholic Stuart monarchy. Accordingly, he was not popular locally. The government needed to arrest and punish a killer – or at least a scapegoat – and found one in James Stewart of the Glens. Perhaps it was him, perhaps not, but he was certainly executed. In *Kidnapped*, suspicion falls on Alan Breck Stewart, Davie's companion, and the lives of both are at risk as they flee across Scotland, trying to get to Edinburgh and safety. The murder and execution sites are both on our route. (B,L,D)

### Sunday, September 10: Glencoe | West Highland Way | Lochearnhead | Callander | Stirling

🍒 5.5 miles and 1,000 feet or 8.5 miles and 740 feet

We take a walk in Glencoe, through which our heroes fled, to get a feel for their plight. From here we will have views of Rannoch Moor, across which they then made their way – a vast desolation, evocatively described by Stevenson. The Wordsworths also came this way. There will be an option to walk a section of the West Highland Way from Glencoe to Inveroran or hiking a shorter circuit. Afterward, we continue our journey via Lochearnhead and Callander to Stirling. *Overnight at the Stirling Highland Hotel*. (B,L,D)

### Monday, September 11: Stirling city tour | Dumyat Hill | Queensferry | Corstorphine Hill | Edinburgh | Farewell dinner

5 miles and 950 feet plus short strolls

We return to Edinburgh via South Queensferry and Corstorphine Hill. Stirling functioned as a heavily defended garrison town throughout the Scottish Wars of Independence. It is something of a frontier town between highlands and lowlands, at a crucial crossing place where the Forth becomes tidal. Both the Wordsworths and Davie Balfour passed this way en route to Edinburgh, Davie having great difficulty in evading soldiers who were searching for him. A stroll through the old town and a walk up Dumyat Hill together provide the best way to appreciate just how crucial Stirling's position is. On the outskirts of Edinburgh, we pass the Forth Bridges at Queensferry where, as the name clearly indicates, ferries once ran back and forth between Lothian and Fife, and where Davie Balfour established his good faith. Finally, before going on to our hotel, it would be remiss not to visit the Davie Balfour / Alan Breck statue on the outskirts of the city at Corstorphine Hill. Check in to our hotel, freshen up, and gather for a farewell dinner. *Overnight at the Mercure Edinburgh Haymarket Hotel*. (B,L,D)

### Tuesday, September 12: Fly home

Transfer to Edinburgh Airport (EDI) for flights home. (B)

Scottish sculptor
Alexander Stoddart
unveiled Kidnapped,
a 15-foot bronze
work of art in 2004.
The sculpture depicts
Stevenson's Kidnapped
characters, David
Balfour and Alan Breck
Stewart, at their final
parting on Corstorphine
Hill, Edinburgh.



"The camaraderie of the group was excellent and absolutely added to the enjoyment."

- Janice, Pennsylvania

### What to Expect

To fully enjoy and visit all the sites on this itinerary, you must be reasonably fit and enjoy hiking. The daily hikes will be easy to moderate in difficulty, and their daily distances and elevations gained are estimated within the itinerary. You will not rush, but you will hike up to 5½ miles per day (on one day, there is an alternate, 8½-mile option), with varying amounts of ascent and/or over uneven ground. There will be some steep sections along the way, but no climbs greater than 1,000 feet, even in total. We do not expect to hike for longer than four hours at a time. Most hiking will be on paths, tracks, or quiet roads, although the surfaces can be wet and rough.

The local guides know the area very well, and an easier hike is possible on most days. Your guides will explain in advance the difficulty of each day's hike(s) and, if you prefer, you can opt out of any hiking excursion and be driven to the next stop (but, bear in mind that some sites can only be visited if you hike to them). If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws.

The actual itinerary is subject to variables such as the abilities and interests of the group and the weather conditions. Minibuses, each with an expert local driver/guide, and a tour manager will accompany the group. Lunches will be packed and eaten (mostly outside) at appropriate points during excursions/ hikes. In September, maximum daytime temperatures range from 60° F to 70° F, with a fair chance of some precipitation; and nighttime temperatures will dip into the 50s F. Participants should be prepared for conditions that may change rapidly, ranging from rainy, blustery conditions to warmer temperatures, and will be advised to dress in layers. Complete pre-departure details, including up-to-date COVID-related protocols, will be sent to participants.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS**





Edinburgh - Three nights total at the Mercure Edinburgh Haymarket Hotel





Oban - One night at the Knipoch Hotel





Iona - Two nights at the St Columba Hotel





Glencoe - Two nights at the Clachaig Inn





Stirling - One night at the <u>Stirling Highland Hotel</u>



### Tour Prices Per Person (9 nights)

Double Occupancy (16-17 participants)	\$6,645
Double Occupancy (14-15 participants)	\$7,045
Double Occupancy (12-13 participants)	\$7,345
Single Supplement	\$995

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability). With fewer than 12 participants, a small group surcharge may be added.

#### Prices Include:

- Leadership of Dickinson College Professor Emeritus Thomas Reed and three professional staff members serving as guides, a tour manager, and drivers
- Transfers (times TBD) from/to Edinburgh Airport (EDI) on the group arrival and departure dates
- Nine nights' accommodations in ideally located, finest available hotels
- Ferry and boat tickets: Oban to Mull, Mull to Morvern, and between Fionnphort and Staffa
- All meals (including water, and welcome and farewell dinners with drinks)
- All excursions and entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Surface transportation by air-conditioned minibuses, with filtered water provided
- Gratuities to hotel and restaurant staff, porters, tour manager, and guides/drivers
- Baggage handling at hotels (one bag per person)
- Comprehensive pre-departure information, including a suggested reading/media guide, travel guide, and packing list.

### Flights & Transfers:

Round-trip airfare between home and Edinburgh Airport (EDI), Scotland, is not included. Complimentary transfers (times TBD) are included from and to Edinburgh Airport on the group arrival and departure dates. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking your flights before this time, please contact our office first. Your flight itinerary must be provided to our office prior to departure. We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.

Prices Do Not Include: Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; meals and beverages (except as indicated); excess baggage charges; personal, trip, and baggage insurance; any activities not specified in the itinerary; all items of a personal nature such as laundry, medical expenses, and room service; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour and other items not listed as included.

Payments: A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to "EOS-Passenger Account-DC HikingScotland9/23." Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by personal check, ACH transfer, or wire transfer only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.

Participant Cancellation Fees: All requests by participants for cancellations must be received in writing by Alumni Global Adventures. Cancellations received at least 180 days prior to departure (March 6, 2023) are fully refunded. Cancellations received between 179 and 90 days prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$250 per person. Cancellations received between 89 and 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.

**Note:** Prices are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of publication and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, the price of fuel, services, and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices.

Prices, itinerary, accommodations, and leader are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be sent upon confirmation or upon request and can be viewed online at www.dickinson.edu/alumnitravel.

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Alumni Global Adventures

## Dickinson

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**Loch Lomond** 

# Scotland

Through Writers' Eyes: A Hiking Adventure

September 2-12, 2023 (11 days | 17 guests) with Dickinson Professor Emeritus Thomas Reed





### Alumni Global Adventures

### Scotland Through Writers' Eyes: A Hiking Adventure

September 2-12, 2023 (11 days | 17 guests) with Professor Emeritus Thomas Reed

To hold your reservation for seven days while this form and your deposit are in the mail, please contact us at 800-856-8951 or dickinson@studytours.org.

Name 1	Dickinson Class of:	
(as it appears on passport) Name 2	Dickinson Class of:	
(as it appears on passport)		
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Are you traveling with any other parties on th	his program? Yes,	
How did you hear about this tour? 🗖 eNewsle	etter □ mailing □ website □ friends/family □ other	
	ACCOMMODATIONS: (Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)	
$\square$ Double ( <i>one bed</i> ) $\square$ Twin ( <i>two beds</i> ) $\square$	Single	
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Fax: 6	603-756-2922 • Email: dickinson@studytours.org	
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