

## Trip Information



# Pilgrimage to Iona, Scotland

## A New Harmony: the Spirit, the Earth, and the Human Soul

WITH JOHN PHILIP NEWELL **SEPTEMBER 13-23, 2012**

Join acclaimed writer, poet and teacher, John Philip Newell, for a week-long pilgrimage on the Isle of Iona. Iona is a renowned pilgrimage site in Scotland's Inner Hebrides founded by St. Columba in the sixth century. It is now home to the Iona Community, an ecumenical Christian community of men and women from different walks of life.

John Philip describes the pilgrimage in this way: "We long for peace and harmony in our lives, whether as individuals and families, or as nations and species. Like never before in the history of humanity we are aware of the essential unity of life. What we do to a part, we do to the whole. Wellness is found not in separation but in relationship. In this pilgrimage, we will reflect on themes related to the oneness of the human soul and the healing of creation, asking what sacrifices we are to make in our lives as individuals, as nations, and as a species, if we and the world are to be well."

The trip includes leisurely travel to Iona with stops at scenic villages along the way. Once on Iona, the pilgrimage will include presentations shaped by ancient wisdom from the Celtic world and the emerging wisdom of new science, meditative practice using silence and simple chant, and shared reflection in small groups and plenary sessions. The focus throughout will be transformation. On one day you will be invited to walk an island pilgrimage route to reflect on the journey of our lives and universe.

**The Rev. Dr. John Philip Newell**, scholar, peacemaker, and poet, divides his time between Edinburgh with his family where he does most of his writing and the United States where he teaches and preaches across the nation. Formerly Warden of Iona Abbey, he is now Companion Theologian for the American Spirituality Center of Casa del Sol at Ghost Ranch in the high desert of New Mexico where he and his wife spend their summers. John Philip is an ordained Church of Scotland minister with a passion for peace among the great wisdom traditions of humanity. His PhD is from the University of Edinburgh and he is internationally acclaimed for his work in the field of Celtic spirituality, having authored over 15 books, including *Listening for the Heartbeat of God*, *Praying with the Earth*, and his most recent visionary work, *A New Harmony: the Spirit, the Earth, & the Human Soul*.

## ITINERARY

### September 13: Arrive in Glasgow and travel to Inveraray

We arrive in Glasgow, Scotland this morning where we board a private motor-coach at the airport and travel to Inveraray, on Loch Fyne on the West Coast of Scotland. Inveraray is the traditional county town of Argyll and ancestral home of the Duke of Argyll. We check in at the Loch Fyne Hotel in Inveraray in the early afternoon. Lunch is on your own. The remainder of the day is at leisure to relax and adjust to the time change. Dinner for the group will be served at the hotel this evening.

### September 14: Inveraray & Loch Fyne

Breakfast is included at the hotel this morning. We will tour Inveraray Castle and Gardens in the morning. Lunch is on your own. The afternoon and evening is free to explore Inveraray and the Loch Fyne area. There will be an option to travel to the world famous Loch Fyne Oyster Bar (cost of dinner not included with trip), or have dinner on your own in Inveraray. Overnight is at the Loch Fyne Hotel in Inveraray.

### September 15: Travel to Iona

Breakfast is included at the hotel, followed by check-out. We board the coach at the hotel and travel to Oban, where there will be some free time to visit the town and have lunch on your own. In the early afternoon, we board the coach and drive onto the ferry to cruise about 45 minutes to Craignure on the Island of Mull. We continue traveling about an hour across Mull to Fionnphort, where the driver will drop off the group at the ferry for Iona. We walk onto the ferry with our luggage for the short crossing to the Isle of Iona. We walk off the ferry with our luggage on Iona and travel the short distance to the St. Columba Hotel to check in.

### September 15 to September 22: Pilgrimage on Iona

John Philip will join us on the evening of September 15. During our pilgrimage week, our schedule blends reflection, learning, prayer, rest and fellowship. Below is a sample schedule. Please note that it is subject to change.

<b>8 am</b>	Breakfast
<b>Morning</b>	Worship service (the Abbey)
<b>Morning</b>	Program Session
	Lunch & early afternoon free
<b>4:30 pm</b>	Program Session
<b>6:30 pm</b>	Evening Meal
<b>9:00 pm</b>	Evening Service (the Abbey)
<b>10:00 pm</b>	Informal Gathering

The St. Columba Hotel, well-known for beautiful views and delicious, organic meals, will provide our lodging, breakfast and dinner during the pilgrimage. One day during the week, there will be a pilgrimage on the island. Strong footwear & waterproof coats are recommended for the week.

Sessions take place in the Lounge at the St. Columba Hotel and lunch is on your own each day. You may arrange for lunch at the St. Columba Hotel or at one of the other restaurants on the island.

### September 22: Travel from Iona to Glasgow

We have breakfast at the St. Columba Hotel and depart. We will walk onto the Iona ferry with our luggage and travel across to Fionnphort on Mull. There we will board a private motor-coach in Fionnphort and travel across Mull where we will board the ferry from Craignure to Oban. Traveling by motor-coach to Glasgow, we will stop en route at a pub for a lunch served to the group. We will arrive at the hotel in Glasgow at approximately

3:30 PM and check in to the Holiday Inn Glasgow City Centre Theatreland. For those who wish, we will meet a local guide for a sightseeing tour of Glasgow Cathedral and St. Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art. Enjoy the rest of the evening at your leisure in Glasgow with an independent dinner.

### **September 23: Fly from Glasgow back to the USA**

Breakfast is included at the hotel, followed by check out. Board the coach for a transfer to the Glasgow Airport, to check in for the flight(s) back to USA.

### **TOUR PRICE**

The pilgrimage price varies depending on room selection at the St. Columba Hotel. Please note there are a limited number of room types at the St. Columba and rooms will be reserved in order of reservation and deposit received. All rooms have private bath facilities.

Twin Room with back view per person .....	\$2,475.00
Single Room with back view .....	\$2,525.00
Twin Room with sea view per person .....	\$2,560.00
Twin/Double Room with sea view per person .....	\$2,560.00
Single Room with sea view.....	\$2,600.00

Single Supplement: The single supplement for two nights at the Loch Fyne Hotel and one night at the Holiday Inn Glasgow City Centre is \$120 inclusive. If a single room is not available at the St. Columba Hotel, the single supplement for the St. Columba Hotel is 250 U.K. Pounds for the week (approximately \$404). Please contact Ruth Frey regarding cost and payment for the St. Columba Hotel single supplement.

### **TOUR INCLUSIONS**

- Transportation via chartered, private motor-coach on September 13, 14, 15, 22 & 23, as outlined in the itinerary.
- Ferry transportation from Oban to Craignure on the Island of Mull, round-trip (coach and passengers)
- Ferry transportation from Fionnphort on the Island of Mull to Iona, round-trip (passengers)
- Accommodations based on double occupancy (2 persons sharing one room); in standard rooms with private bath facilities at:
  - The Loch Fyne Hotel in Inveraray (September 13 and 14)
  - The Holiday Inn Glasgow Theatreland Hotel (September 22)
- Accommodations at the St. Columba Hotel on Iona (September 15 – 21)
- Luggage handling at the hotels for one suitcase per person
- Included meals are:
  - Full Scottish Breakfasts in Inveraray on September 14 and 15
  - One three-course dinner, including table water and tea/coffee at the Loch Fyne Hotel in Inveraray on September 13. (Additional beverages are not included but are available for purchase individually).
  - Breakfast on September 16-22 and dinner September 15-21 at the St. Columba Hotel including table water and tea/coffee. (Additional beverages are not included but are available for purchase individually).
  - One packed lunch for a day exploring Iona with John Philip Newell.
  - One Lunch in a pub en route from Oban to Glasgow, including table water. (Additional beverages are not included but are available for purchase individually).
  - Breakfast at the Holiday Inn Glasgow Theatreland Hotel on September 23.
- Local, professional guide for sightseeing tour in Glasgow and Inveraray Castle and Gardens.
- Entrance to Inveraray Castle and Gardens. Glasgow Cathedral and Museum of Religious Life is free of charge
- All taxes and service charges for accommodations and included meal arrangements
- Pre-tour "Travel Tips" with suggestions for packing, money, tipping, etc.

## **TOUR EXCLUSIONS**

General exclusions to the tour prices include, but are not limited to, airfare USA to/from Glasgow, expenses for a passport and/or entry visa; gratuity for the bus driver, local guide, hotel and restaurant staff; optional travel insurance; beverages, wines or liquors; any meals not specifically included in the tour package; additional food not included as part of a set meal for the group; laundry; telephone calls; any other expense of a personal nature and any item not specifically mentioned under the inclusions above.

## **PLEASE NOTE**

- Baggage per person is limited to one (1) suitcase not to exceed 62 dimensional inches (length plus width plus height) and one (1) carry-on bag not to exceed 40 dimensional inches.
- The tour prices are based on international currency exchange rates effective on January 4, 2012 and are subject to change according to fluctuations in said exchange rates. If the value of the U.K. Pound strengthens against the U.S. Dollar by 3% or more, the additional cost will be charged to the group. Conversely, if the value of the U.K. Pound weakens against the U.S. Dollar by 3% or more, the savings will be passed along to the group. Any difference to be determined by July 30, 2012 at the latest.

## **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

- A \$500 per person payment is required to reserve a place on the trip. Please make checks payable to Seabury or register online at: [www.seabury.edu/iona](http://www.seabury.edu/iona).
- 50% of balance due by May 25, 2012
- Full payment is due by July 15, 2012

## **CANCELLATION POLICY**

- If cancellation is received prior to May 1, 2012, \$75.00 per person is nonrefundable.
- If cancellation is received on or after May 2, 2012 and prior to July 30, 2012, \$250.00 per person is nonrefundable.
- If cancellation is received on or after July 30, 2012, there is no refund.

### **Travel insurance is strongly recommended.**

Travel insurance can be purchased through Pathfinders Travel, Inc: [www.pathfinders.net](http://www.pathfinders.net) or contact Susan Hunter, Pathfinders Travel Agent, at 616-396-1983, or through AAA or other sources.

## **QUESTIONS**

Contact Ruth Frey, Director of Continuing Education at Seabury: [ruth.frey@seabury.edu](mailto:ruth.frey@seabury.edu) or 773-380-6787.

## **TO REGISTER**

Register online at [www.seabury.edu/lona](http://www.seabury.edu/lona) or send the \$500 per person deposit, along with room preference, and registration form to:

Ruth Frey  
Seabury  
8765 W. Higgins Road, Suite 650  
Chicago, IL 60631

***Space is limited. Registrations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis.***