

A Second Magical Scottish Sojourn with Pecos and Cat

ARRIVAL ON MAY 3RD AND DEPARTURE ON MAY 19TH, 2019



Exploring Scotland allows one to fall freshly in love with life all over again...

Those who have traveled with us to Scotland, Peru, Mexico, Ireland, and Iceland are lively, curious, independent folks who love to explore on their own. This is not a lock-step, hand-holding tour; rather, our careful organization is meant to stay in the background while you experience the essence of Scotland's culture and people. Our local personal relationships allow us, like chefs who find the freshest ingredients in a farmers' market, to craft the finest daily options. If we sound like a good match for you after you've read through these pages, we'd love to have you join us on our second trip to Scotland.





Jim ‘Pecos’ Petkiewicz and Cat Bordhi

We have a brother-sister relationship and have been leading groups to Latin America and Europe since 2013. We’d love to share the depth of our experiences and relationships with you.

Pecos is a grassroots philanthropist who has never been known to get cold and who has knit and gifted Felfitos and Moebius cowls all over the Americas. Small children and dogs fall in love with him in nano-seconds. He holds a BA in History from Georgetown University and a Masters in Latin American Studies from the University of New Mexico. After extensive time in language and cultural immersion programs in Bolivia and Peru beginning in 1986, Pecos and his wife Mags moved their young family to Oaxaca to work with community organizations dedicated to the protection of human rights, peace, justice, and democratic education, which evolved into their non-profit, Community Links International.

Cat is an inspiring teacher, designer, and story-teller who puts her students at ease while she nurtures the best in them. One student wrote, “Your generosity of spirit and kind attention to everyone set the stage for all to grow and learn.” Her 9 innovative knitting books, award-winning novel, *Treasure Forest*, and Youtube tutorials have reached over 5 million people. In 2003 she founded the collaborative Visionary Authors, fostering a stream of influential, spirited, and independently published knitting books. She has a BA in Russian from the University of California, a teaching credential from Western Washington University, and has done cartwheels in 9 countries.

To learn more about us, visit CatandPecos.com.



Our Itinerary—Friday, May 3 to Sunday, May 19, 2019



Aberdeen—Friday and Saturday, May 3-4, Carmelite Hotel

Like the Dee and Don Rivers, which meet the North Sea here, we too shall converge in Aberdeen to spend our first nights together. The Scottish accent is easy to understand, and people are ebullient, friendly, warm, caring, informative, gentle, and inquisitive. This port city in Northern Scotland is famous for its long sandy coastline and granite buildings built from locally quarried grey granite flecked with sparkles of silver mica. It's also home to the beautiful University of Aberdeen,

founded in 1495, and there are endless historic neighborhoods both grand and small to meander through.. While walking about the harbor or along the beach, you may even have the good fortune to spy dolphins. On Saturday, we'll stroll a mile, past the Union Terrace Gardens, visit the Wool for Ewe yarn store, and then stop on our way back to learn about handmade kilts at Georgian Dress Hire.

[HTTP://WOOLFOREWE.COM](http://woolforewe.com)

[HTTPS://WWW.GEORGIANDRESSHIRE.CO.UK](https://www.georgiandresshire.co.uk)

Aberdeen is our home base so we'll return for another night after our sojourn to the Isle of Skye, and again after our adventure to the Shetlands. You will have multiple opportunities to explore this enchanting city as you wish.





**And we're off to the Isle of Skye—
Sunday, May 5 to Friday, May 10**

After a hearty Scottish breakfast we'll board our private bus and begin our journey through the gorgeous scenery of the six-hour drive to Portree on the Isle of Skye, winding through the green forested mountain beauty of Northern Scotland on small two-lane highways that allow us to travel efficiently yet intimately. There are lochs here, there, and everywhere in so many shades of blue, reflecting the changing colors of the sky. Along the way we'll make a few brief stops, and finally

glide onto the Isle of Skye over a soaring, impressive bridge. This passageway between mainland and the Isle offers lovely vistas and a welcoming invitation to Scottish island life. Our first stop on the Isle of Skye will be a wee yarn shop called "Handspinner Having Fun" at the foot of a quay just north of the bridge.

[HTTPS://HANDSPINNERHAVINGFUN.COM](https://handspinnerhavingfun.com)

Then we'll drive an hour due north to the island's main city of Portree, to settle into our home for the next five nights, the Cuillin Hills Hotel.

[HTTPS://CUILLINHILLS-HOTEL-SKYE.CO.UK](https://cuillinhills-hotel-skye.co.uk)



Tonight, our first evening in Portree, we will gather in the hotel's restaurant for our welcome dinner. Our home is an enchanting fifteen-minute walk to downtown Portree. You'll love the magical view looking towards the port and town from so many places in our "home" — the dining rooms, breakfast nook, bar, main entrance, and the front lawn with its welcoming tables and chairs, where you can sit and knit with a cup of tea or a cocktail as you admire the beauty.



During the cool mornings, the fog and mist evoke real life versions of Brigadoon! Most afternoons the mists burn off, whitecaps dance across the blue sea, and the temperature is just refreshing enough to wrap yourself in a hand-knit sweater. The Isle of Skye's seductive landscape is simultaneously harsh and grand as well as colorful, vibrant and magical, inspiring flights of fancy and reflection. The greens are green, the blues are blue, and the heathers are heathery!

'MAKKIN' IN 'SHETLAN'

WIRSET – YARN; **RISSE GENG** – GARTER STITCH; **SOKKIELEGS** – LEG WARMERS;
ROWER – CARDED, ROLLED WOOL READY TO SPIN; **OOIE TOORIE** – WOOLLY HAT;
GRAVIT – SCARF; **MAKKIN** – KNITTING; **GANSEY** – JUMPER; **LOOPS** – STITCHES;
GRAFTER – WOOL NEEDLE; **GENG** – ROW; **SPRETTIN** – PULL BACK; **OO'** – WOOL;
KNUCKLE – MEASURE (2ND FINGER FROM TIP TO KNUCKLE); **SNÖD** – TWIST;
CLOO – BALL OF WOOL; **YOWE** – EWE; **HENTILAGETS** – LOST TUFTS OF WOOL;
GLIVS – GLOVES; **CAERDIN** – PARTY TO CARD WOOL; **JOOPIE** – WOOLLEN SHIRT;
HANK – SKEIN (APPROX 300 YARDS); **HEAD** – 4 SKEINS OF YARN; **1 AN 1** – RIBS;
ROOIN – PLUCKING WOOL FROM SHEEP; **TAK DY SOCK** – GET YOUR KNITTING;
OXTER LAY AFF – CAST OFF IN ARMPIT; **TA LAY UP** – CAST ON; **REFFEL** – TANGLE;
SWEERIE-GENG – FIRST ROW OF KNITTING; **TAAT** – THICK WORSTED RUG YARN;
LUGGIT KEP – WOOL HAT WITH EARFLAPS; **HASLOCK** – SOFTEST NECK WOOL;
HAP – HAND KNITTED SHAWL; **FITTY** – SOCK FOR FOOT ONLY; **GIEN IN** – FELTED;
HESP – YARN COUNT; **DAGS** – FINGERLESS GLOVES; **LAAG** – HANDFUL OF WOOL;
WIRSIT SLIP – WOOLLEN VEST; **CADDEL** – MARKING THREAD; **COLEIN** – SHAPING;
CÖTTIKEN – ANKLE SOCK; **MAKKIN BELT** – KNITTING BELT; **LISK** – WISP OF WOOL

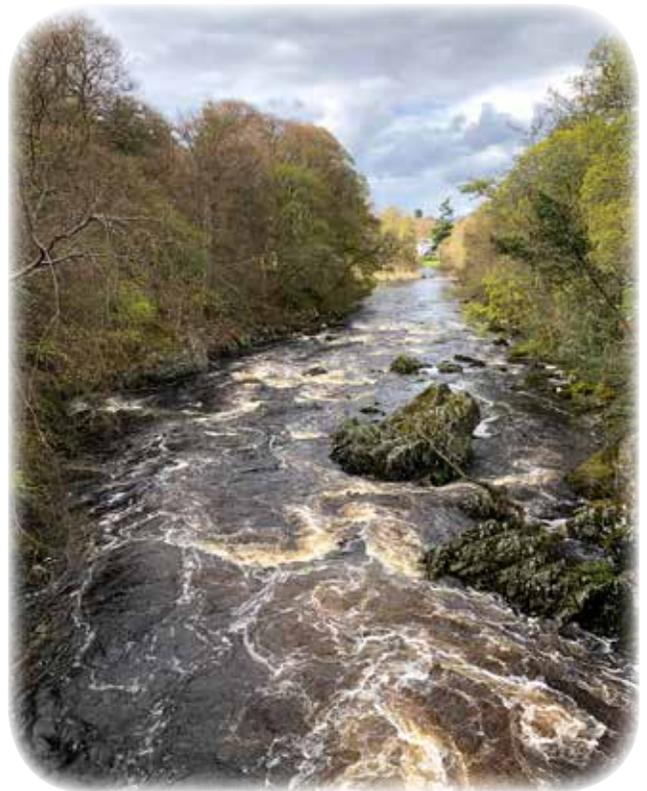
Monday, May 6 to Friday, May 10 After a hearty Scottish breakfast, we'll begin our exploration of the Isle with a series of mostly half-day trips, allowing enough of each afternoon and evening for you to wander about as you wish. As we do on all our trips, we have curated more unique personal experiences than we can fit into our time, so that we can select the best options according to the weather and vagaries of cottage industries. One possibility is a sheep farm called the Island at the Edge, perched on green hilly fields overlooking a deep blue loch, featuring yarn, knitting, and weaving, and frolicking lambs.

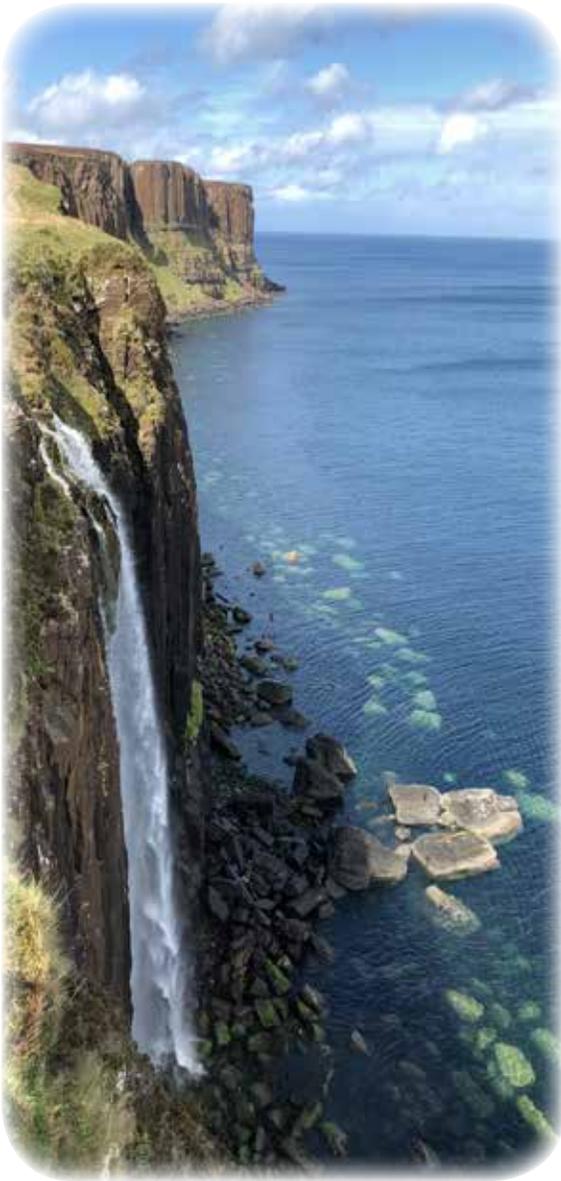
[HTTPS://WWW.ISLAND-AT-THE-EDGE.CO.UK/DEFAULT.HTML](https://www.island-at-the-edge.co.uk/default.html)

Skye Skins and YurTea Coffee will be one of our stops for a short tour and shopping as well as enjoying hot tea or cool cider at the adjacent YurTea Coffee (in a yurt!).

[HTTPS://WWW.SKYESKYNS.CO.UK](https://www.skyeskyns.co.uk)

[HTTPS://WWW.SKYESKYNS.CO.UK/SKYESKYNS/BLOG/YURTEA-AND-COFFEE-AT-SKYESKYNS](https://www.skyeskyns.co.uk/skyeskyns/blog/yurtea-and-coffee-at-skyeskyns)





We will also eat together at Skye's oldest pub.

[HTTPS://WWW.STEIN-INN.CO.UK](https://www.stein-inn.co.uk)

We'll tour the Talisker Distillery, and then head up the hill for some fresh oysters and seafood.

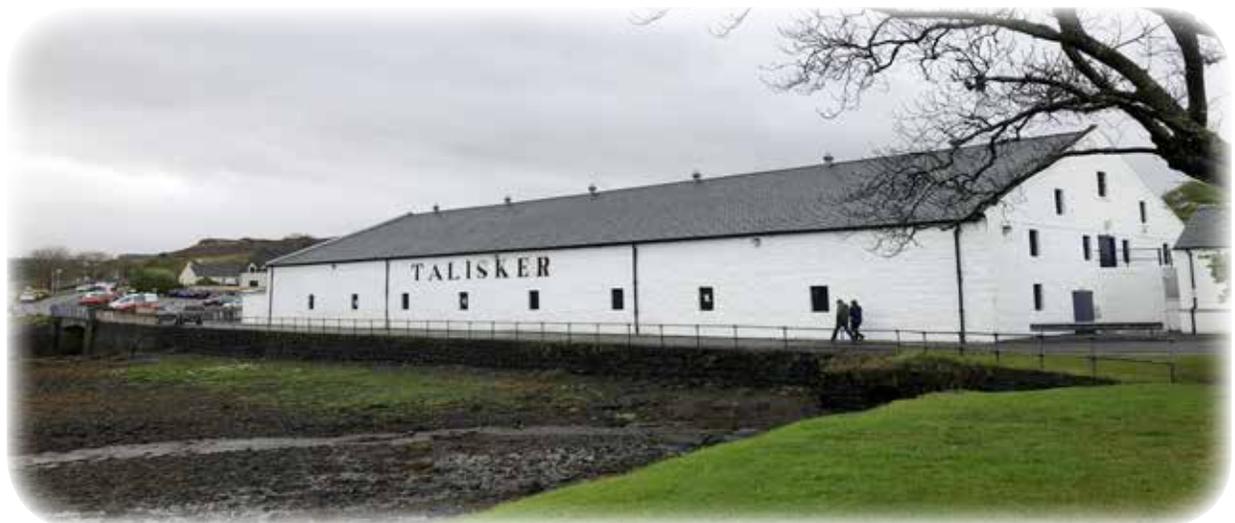
[HTTPS://WWW.MALTS.COM/EN-GB/DISTILLERIES/TALISKER?TYPE=REDIRECT](https://www.malts.com/en-gb/distilleries/talisker?type=redirect)

[HTTPS://WWW.VISITSCOTLAND.COM/INFO/FOOD-DRINK/THE-OYSTER-SHED-P882231](https://www.visitscotland.com/info/food-drink/the-oyster-shed-p882231)

We'll visit Dunvegan Castle & Gardens, too.

[HTTPS://WWW.DUNVEGANCASTLE.COM](https://www.dunvegancastle.com)

For non-knitters, there is golf, and action sports possibilities including ocean sea life/wildlife trips, axe-throwing, skeet shooting, and deep-sea and fly fishing. We will reserve a free day for you to independently pursue additional activities and explorations that especially appeal to you, and are happy to help with logistics—just ask!





Friday, May 10—Aberdeen

Friday morning we'll journey back to Aberdeen for a one-night stay at the Carmelite Hotel again. On Saturday you can take up where you left off in your Aberdeen explorations until about 4 pm, when we'll get ready to board our overnight NorthLink Ferry to Lerwick on Shetland Island.

[HTTP://WWW.NORTHLINKFERRIES.CO.UK](http://www.northlinkferries.co.uk)

We are so excited about this part of the trip (both Cat and Pecos are ferry aficionados and you will be too, if you are not already)!

The ferry leaves at 7 pm and arrives about 12 hours later. We'll have both dinner and breakfast aboard the ferry, and when you tire of the on-board entertainment, including movies, bars, and theater, you can curl up and sleep in your cozy stateroom (we try to secure ocean-view cabins). And of course, the ferry is a fantastic place to knit amongst Shetland knitters who may be on their way home. The sun sets at about 9:30 and rises at about 4:30 at this time of year, so our beautiful voyage will include views of endless blue seas fading to a starry night and dawning on blue seas again. Last year we spied puffins flying low over the ocean in search of tasty snacks, and dolphins as we left Aberdeen.



**Saturday, May 11 to Friday, May 17,
Lerwick, Shetland Island**

Lerwick, the main city in the Shetlands and our ferry's destination, is small, lovely, refreshing, accessible, and friendly. Our hotel, The Queens Hotel, is set in the middle of the historic Lodberries and the Shetlands' most historic street. The hotel is mere steps from the heart of downtown, with sailboats, rowboats, and smaller local ferries dotting the water, and lots of shops and restaurants.

[HTTP://WWW.KGQHOTELS.CO.UK/QUEENS-HOTEL.HTML](http://www.kgqhotels.co.uk/queens-hotel.html)

One of Shetland's legendary wool purveyors, Jamieson's of Shetland, is a 5-minute stroll from our hotel.

[HTTPS://WWW.JAMIESONSOFSHETLAND.CO.UK](https://www.jamiesonsofshetland.co.uk)



And the other, Jamieson & Smith, is a 5-minute taxi ride away. [HTTP://WWW.SHETLANDWOOLBROKERS.CO.UK](http://www.shetlandwoolbrokers.co.uk)

Last year Cat made nearly daily sojourns to choose more yarn (the photo shows a single day's selection), for it is relatively inexpensive, glorious, and they ship at a very reasonable rate. One potential day-long field trip would involve two very short ferry rides and take us up to Unst, the northernmost isle of the Shetlands, to visit the Unst Heritage Center, with beautiful fine lace knitting.

[HTTP://WWW.UNSTHERITAGE.COM/WEB/](http://www.unstheritage.com/web/)

And we'll have fish 'n chips at the UK's #1-rated and most northerly fish 'n chips shack.

[HTTPS://WWW.FRANKIES-SHANDCHIPS.COM](https://www.frankies-shandchips.com)



Other possible excursions from our home base in Lerwick include Burra Bears, Shetland Handspun, a search for Puffins, The Shetland Textile Museum for a private lecture, exhibits and scones, a visit to Shetland Designer and consummate colorist Wilma Malcolmson, and more!

[HTTPS://WWW.BURRABEARS.CO.UK](https://www.burrabears.co.uk)

[HTTPS://SHETLANDHANDSPUN.BLOGSPOT.COM](https://shetlandhandspun.blogspot.com)

[HTTPS://WWW.SHETLANDTEXTILEMUSEUM.COM](https://www.shetlandtextilemuseum.com)

[HTTP://WWW.SHETLANDDESIGNER.CO.UK](http://www.shetlanddesigner.co.uk)

[HTTP://WWW.UNSTHERITAGE.COM/WEB/UNST-HERITAGE-CENTRE/](http://www.unstheritage.com/web/unst-heritage-centre/)



Friday, May 17, we will board our dear Northlink Ferry for the overnight journey back to Aberdeen and our Carmelite Hotel, arriving around seven in the morning.

Saturday, May 18 is yours to do as you please in Aberdeen until we regather in the evening for our farewell dinner.

Sunday May 19, each of you will be departing according to your own travel schedule. Fare thee well, dear friends, until we meet again!



Reflections from our travelers...

The Shetland Islands have long topped my “bucket list” of places I want to visit and explore. And explore we did under Jim’s careful, but understated, planning. We saw nooks and crannies of the Islands that a casual tourist might miss. Cat’s love of handcraft graced memorable gatherings of traditional knitters, wool producers, and even school children learning to knit. The group activities were balanced nicely with individual time for solo jaunts and personal encounters with the exceedingly friendly Shetlanders. This trip with Jim and Cat was a treasure to savor again and again in my mind.
—Jane, Nevada



The colors intensified by the high mountain air make an unforgettable kaleidoscope quilt...the indigenous clothes, jagged snow-capped peaks, the fields in the varied late-autumn display. Add the sounds, some familiar some not, and you have the perfect sound track to a wonderful adventure. The knitting is a perfect interface to weave our two very different cultures together.
—Kenny, California

To get the worst part over with first—it is that I have to leave! This trip has been absolutely wonderful—in terms of the beauty, the excellent arrangements, the care of Cat and Pecos, the knitting and textiles, and most of all—the people in the group. Best. Trip. Ever. —Mary Anne, Massachusetts

Cat and Pecos, I love how you give us a certain structure each day but so much freedom to make our own journey along the way, We have a safety net and can then go out and make our own connections with people. You are not holding our hands, and it’s wonderful.—Sherri, Canada

Best trip out of the country EVER! Also first! If anyone has any concerns about travel, go with this group.
—Nancy, North Carolina

Depth of history, life focus moving through a fantastic culture with new friends. A sense of connection with each person and experience. — Peter, Washington

As a gay person on Cat and Pecos’s Peru trip, I found it very refreshing that my orientation was a non issue.
—Gill, Australia.

You walk that fine balance of being supportive while allowing us to have our own adventures instead of being in a cocoon the whole time. Cat and Pecos, you manage that beautifully. — Kat, Oregon

The highlight I’d expected was Machu Picchu but it turned out to be my experience with Matilde, an elderly vendor in Ollantaytambo. We had a really heartfelt exchange with her, and bought things from her, then noticed that she was looking at her knitting up close. Asked if she had glasses, she didn’t, so I ran home to get an extra pair of readers and gave them to her. She said *gracias*, and I wasn’t sure if it had made a big difference. We had said goodbye when suddenly there was Matilde running down the hill toward me because she wanted to give me one more gift, as a remembrance of gratitude and friendship. She had discovered what the readers did for her and wanted to express how meaningful our connection was.—Michele, Arizona

Cost of our 17-day trip

The tour fee of \$7,300 includes:

- 16 nights of a shared hotel room (single room supplement: \$1,400, limited availability).
- Our welcome dinner at Cuillin Hills Hotel in Portree on the Isle of Skye
- Our lunch at Skye's oldest Inn, the Stein Inn
- Our farewell dinner in Aberdeen
- All breakfasts. Some lunches, dinners, and snacks as well
- All ground travel for our group excursions: farm tours, Dunvegan Castle & Gardens, Talisker Distillery tour, sightseeing, Unst Heritage Center, Burra Bears, yarn shop visits & more!!
- Round trip overnight ferry voyage to Aberdeen-Lerwick, Shetlands-Aberdeen with stateroom; with dinner and breakfast on board both times!
- A private lecture, tour, exhibitions, and homemade scones and tea at The Shetland Textile Museum.
- Knitting sessions with Cat, and our travel pattern.
- Tips for hotels, drivers, guides, and group meals; you may leave additional tips, if you wish!



The tour fee does NOT include:

- Airfare from your home to and from Aberdeen, nor airport transfers from/to Aberdeen Airport. (This is very easy and we will email-guide you through your two options.)
- Most dinners and lunches.
- Incidentals like personal taxi rides, drinks, snacks, personal items, nor medical expenses.





At times the trip can be strenuous

You need not be an athlete, but must be in good health and enjoy walking at length, sometimes over uneven surfaces, while carrying a small backpack (with water, camera, snacks, etc.). It's your responsibility to take care of yourself and your luggage so that you can either keep up with everyone or bow out of activities as needed.

If you decide to come with us, you must:

- Get plenty of exercise before the trip begins
- Rest when you need to
- Measure your group time against private time as needed





Where we will be each of the 17 days

Friday, May 3 — Aberdeen, Carmelite Hotel, arrival day

Saturday, May 4 — Aberdeen, Carmelite Hotel

Sunday, May 5 — Off to Portree, Isle of Skye, Cuillin Hills Hotel

Monday, May 6 — Portree, Cuillin Hills Hotel

Tuesday, May 7 — Portree, Cuillin Hills Hotel

Wednesday, May 8 — Portree, Cuillin Hills Hotel

Thursday, May 9 — Portree, Cuillin Hills Hotel

Friday, May 10 — back to Aberdeen for the night, Carmelite Hotel

Saturday, May 11 — about 7 PM, ferry from Aberdeen to Lerwick

Sunday, May 12 — Lerwick, Queens Hotel

Monday, May 13 — Lerwick, Queens Hotel

Tuesday, May 14 — Lerwick, Queens Hotel

Wednesday, May 15 — Lerwick, Queens Hotel

Thursday, May 16 — Lerwick, Queens Hotel

Friday, May 17 — about 7 PM, evening ferry back to Aberdeen

Saturday, May 18 — Aberdeen, Carmelite Hotel, last night

Sunday, May 19 — Aberdeen, departure day



REGISTRATION FOR "MAGICAL SCOTLAND SOJOURN, MAY 3-19, 2019" WITH PECOS AND CAT

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Email: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell: _____

Emergency contact: _____

\$7,300 for double occupancy, sharing with _____

\$7,300 plus \$1,400 single supplement for a single room (limited availability)

• **Participants must be in good health.** If you have any doubts about your physical capabilities, please bring a companion who can take care of you as needed, and skip activities to stay with you as needed. We cannot alter nor slow down the program for a participant who is unable to keep up with the group. Please sign here to assure us you understand this: _____

• **We cannot assist with airport transfers or accommodations that fall outside our program dates.** You are responsible for travel between the Aberdeen Airport and our Aberdeen hotel, the Carmelite Hotel, on your own (about 20 minutes). We organize our own program as described in our itinerary, but are not a travel agency, so we cannot be responsible for coordinating your personal travel, or arranging additional days. If your schedule will differ from our itinerary, please plan to make your own arrangements.

• **We carefully craft our itinerary to develop community among our travelers,** and cannot sell partial trips to family or friends who prefer to join us later. If you wish to bring someone with you, our policy is that they must join us for the entire trip.

SO, LET'S GET YOU REGISTERED!

Step 1: Email Cat at CAT@CATBORDHI.COM to find out if we still have space. If so, go on to step 2.

Step 2: Print and fill out pages 15 and 16 and mail them to JIM PETKIEWICZ, 916 WREN DRIVE, SAN JOSE, CA 95125, with a check for \$500 (your *nonrefundable* deposit will hold your spot) made out to Community Links International. If you need to cancel, you may transfer this deposit *only if you find a replacement yourself*. *The balance is due 3 months before the trip commences.*

Step 3: Email a scan of your passport to Pecos at PECKOS@ME.COM (alternatively you may make a copy and send it with this form).

WAIVER FOR “MAGICAL SCOTLAND SOJOURN, MAY 3-19, 2019” WITH PECOS AND CAT

WAIVER: In consideration of being permitted to participate in any way in the Magical Scotland Sojourn program of Community Links International (a registered USA 501(c)(3), TIN #51- 0560531), with the collaborative participation of Cat Bordhi, herein after called “The Activity”, I, for myself, my heirs, personal representative or assigns, do hereby release, waive, discharge, and covenant not to sue the Directors, employees, consultants or agents, including Cat Bordhi, Jim Petkiewicz, or Community Links International for liability for any and all claims including the negligence of the Directors, employees, consultants or agents resulting in personal injury, accidents, or illnesses (including death) and property loss arising from, but not limited to, participation in The Activity.

Assumption of risks: Participation in The Activity carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injuries. The specific risks vary from one activity to another, but the risks range from 1) minor injuries such as scratches, bruises, sprains, gastrointestinal issues, and altitude sickness, 2) major injuries such as eye injury or loss of sight, joint or back issues, heart attacks, vehicular accidents, and concussions 3) catastrophic injuries including paralysis and death.

I have read the previous paragraphs and I know, understand, and appreciate these and other risks that are inherent in The Activity. I hereby assert that my participation is voluntary and that I knowingly assume all such risks.

Indemnification and Hold Harmless: I also agree to indemnify and hold the Directors, employees, consultants and agents, including Cat Bordhi, Jim Petkiewicz, and Community Links International, harmless from any and all claims, actions, suits, procedures, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities, including attorney’s fees brought as a result of my involvement in The Activity and to reimburse them for any such expenses incurred.

Severability: The undersigned further expressly agrees that the foregoing waiver and assumption of risks agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the state of California, legal residence of Community Links International, and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

Acknowledgment of Understanding: I have read this waiver of liability, assumption of risk, and indemnity agreement, fully understand its terms, and understand that I am giving up substantial rights, including my right to sue. I acknowledge that I am signing the agreement freely and voluntarily, and intend by my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law.

signature

print name

date

Please print this form, sign, and mail to:

Community Links International, 916 Wren Drive, San Jose, CA 95125