



## EDINBURGH

The Enlightened City

1750-1800

Part I

Monday 18 - Thursday 21 September 2017

Life for Edinburgh's educated classes in the mid-eighteenth century may well have been more intellectually stimulating, more culturally satisfying, more varied than in London, a city more than ten times Edinburgh's size. The primal darkness of medieval-inspired religious dogma in retreat if not vanquished by the economic and cultural prosperity of the British Empire. A new social class emerged whose members demanded political recognition in the form of a participatory role in civil society and government alongside the traditional landowning elite. Edinburgh enjoyed not only a commercial boom, but an outpouring of stellar events in the arenas of philosophy (David Hume and Thomas Reid), economics (Adam Smith), literature (James Macpherson and Walter Scott), science (Adam Ferguson and James Hutton), horticulture (Lord Bute), art (Allan Ramsay, Henry Raeburn and David Wilkie), and architecture (Robert Adam and the Playfair family).

The National Galleries of Scotland celebrate Scotland's achievements in the Scottish Enlightenment with three relevant exhibitions: "Scots in Italy" highlights how Grand Tourists like Lord Bute were given the equivalent of an Enlightenment University education in Italy prompting purchases of Old Master paintings to line the walls of their ancestral homes. The 'Reformation to Revolution' exhibition sets the scene for the Enlightenment, tracing the way that the great figures of Scottish Protestantism laid the foundations for Enlightenment discussions. 'The Age of Improvement' exhibition presents the face of this new society with portraiture emphasising hard work, humour, and public spirit. We complement exclusive curators' tours of these exhibitions with private views of the Georgian House on Charlotte Square and the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, the magnificent Newhailes in Musselburgh, along with a walk among the memorials to Enlightenment figures on the majestic Calton Hill overlooking the iconic Edinburgh skyline.



The Roxburghe Hotel  
38 Charlotte Square  
Edinburgh  
0131 240 5500  
theroxburghe.com

Edinburgh, a UNESCO world heritage site, includes Charlotte Square where the seven inter-connecting Georgian townhouses that form the heart of The Roxburghe hotel is set. Located on the corner of Charlotte Square and George Street, the National Trust Georgian House is a near neighbor. The Roxburghe is a hotel of two halves: a very traditional hotel in a historic Georgian building with a new wing grafted on, an airy atrium connecting the old and the new. There is 24-hour room service, and a spa with gym and health club, pool, sauna, and a steam room. The George Street Bar & Grill serves an all day menu. There are four accessible rooms.

**COST** £1345 members, £1395 non-members, Single Room Supplement £195, including three nights accommodation at Roxburghe Hotel, all breakfasts, all lunches, all afternoon teas, two dinners with wine, all entries, all private views, all lectures, all curators' tours, all travel within Edinburgh and out to Newhailes, tips, VAT and service. Includes travel from Glasgow to Edinburgh for those attending Bute tour. Excludes travel to Edinburgh for train travellers, and travel from Edinburgh at end of tour.

## Monday 18 September

**If coming from the Ardgowan and Bute tour: we will take a taxi direct from Glasgow to the Roxburghe Hotel in Edinburgh, arriving by 5 pm.**

### **If coming from London:**

Suggested train from King's Cross

- 1.00 Train for Edinburgh departs
- 5.22 Arrival Waverley station. Meet Nicholas Friend for taxis to Roxburghe Hotel
- 6.30 Meet at Hotel for Opening Reception and NF's Introduction to the Tour
- 7.30 Group Dinner in Hotel

## Tuesday 19 September

- 9.30 New Town Architectural walk to National Gallery of Scotland
- 10.30 Coffee in National Gallery of Scotland
- 11.00 Private curator-led visit of the 'Scots in Italy' exhibition
- 12.30 Lunch in National Gallery
- 2.00 Leave for architectural walk to Royal College of Physicians
- 2.30 Royal College of Physicians
- 4.00 Return to Hotel for afternoon tea

## Wednesday 20 September

- 8.50 Leave for nearby Charlotte Square residence
- 9.00 Private view at Georgian House, Charlotte Square
- 10.15 Leave by taxi for National Museum of Scotland.
- 10.30 Coffee in National Museum of Scotland
- 11.00 National Museum of Scotland for curator-led visit of the Royal Society of Antiquaries' collections
- 12.30 Leave for lunch in National Portrait Gallery.
- 2.30 National Portrait Gallery Exhibitions with exhibitions curator
- 4.30 Taxis or walk back to Hotel for afternoon tea

## Thursday 21 September

**CHECK OUT - LUGGAGE TO MINIBUS**

- 9.00 Leave by Minibus for Botanic Garden private tour of the archives
- 9.15 Private tour of Botanic Garden archives.
- 10.30 Leave for Newhailes, Musselburgh
- 11.00 Private tour of Newhailes
- 12.15 Light lunch at Newhailes
- 1.30 Leave for Edinburgh station
- 2.30 Train departs for London
- 6.50 Arrive London Kings Cross