



*A Journey to Scotland & Shetland with
Janine Bajus & Jillian Moreno
September 13th - September 27th - 2025*

Saturday 13th Sept: Depart USA for Edinburgh - Scotland

Depart on your overnight flight to Edinburgh, Scotland. Be sure to have your up-to-date passport valid for 3 months beyond date of travel, and allow a minimum of **3 hours** for check-in for your International flight.

Sunday 14th Sept: - Edinburgh - Free Time - Settle in & Welcome dinner at the hotel (D)

Arrive Edinburgh airport this morning and transfer on your own to the hotel. Your room may not be ready, but you can store your bags and explore the city. Enjoy a welcome dinner this evening at the hotel.

Intercontinental the George 19 - 21 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PB - 2 Nights

Monday 15th Sept: - Kellie Castle - Di Gilpin in Largoward (B,L)

Today after breakfast you will head north to visit Kellie Castle, a National Trust property in Pittenween, with its Art & Crafts garden. Then you continue on to Largoward, located near St Andrews in Fife to visit with Di Gilpin. Di's studio is a restored stone bothy, where the walls are lined with shelves of cashmere, cotton and linen threads, baskets of Scottish Lamb's Wool and rails of exquisitely knitted garments. Di will teach a mini-class on a Gansey Scarf, and will talk about her history as a designer over the years, and will show her latest collections. Enjoy lunch at Cocoa Tree in Pittenween before returning to Edinburgh. Free for dinner this evening in Edinburgh.

Tuesday 16th Sept: Shetland - Oliver Henry at Jamieson & Smith - Welcome dinner at the hotel (B,D)

After breakfast transfer to the airport for your early flight to Shetland. Shetlander John Odie, our long-time guide and friend, will meet you on arrival at the Sumburgh Airport and you will enjoy some exploring before checking in to the Lerwick Hotel, your home for the next four nights. You'll be free for lunch in Lerwick at your own expense. This afternoon you will visit with Oliver Henry at Jamieson & Smith. Oliver, also known as the "Wool Man" Oliver has worked with fleece of Shetland sheep for 50 years and he has many stories to tell about the preservation of the wool industry on Shetland. You will return to the hotel for some free time before your welcome Shetland dinner.

The Lerwick Hotel - 15 South Road, Lerwick Shetland ZE1 ORB - 4 nights

Wednesday 17th Sept: Garth's Croft on Bressay - R.A.M. Studio - St Ninian's Isle (B,D)

- Class with Elizabeth Johnston After breakfast you will travel to Bressay by ferry to visit Garth's Croft. Garth's Croft is a sustainable agricultural holding run by professional archaeologist and historian Chris Dyer, focusing on native and traditional breeds, within the landscape of spectacular natural beauty and historical heritage. You will also visit with Roisin McAtamney at R.A.M. studio, a fun and fresh knitwear design company creating unique fashion using Shima Seiki design systems and industrial knitting machines.



This afternoon you will enjoy a scenic drive around the Mainland (as the largest island is called), with a stop at the beautiful St Ninian's Isle, a small island connected by a lovely long tombolo. Return to the hotel for an early dinner. After dinner you have a three hour class on Shetland lace with Elizabeth Johnston.

Thursday 18th Sept: Unst & Yell - Unst Heritage Center - Victoria House - Frankie's Fish & Chips You will have early departure from the hotel to visit Unst & Yell. (for those counting, this means you have visited 7 islands!) Unst the most northerly inhabited island in the United Kingdom is known for its scenic beauty, rich history and knitting traditions. You will stop at the Unst Heritage Center, who will be happy to introduce you to the knitting belt. Enjoy tea & treats at the Victoria House before returning to Lerwick. On the way home you will enjoy fish & chips at Frankie's before returning to the hotel. Free for the remainder of the evening. **(B,L,D)**

Friday 19th Sept: Uradale Farm - Burra Bears & Red Houss Studio - Visit with Donna Smith - Class with Janette Budge Today you will visit a number of independent makers, with plenty of creative inspiration and opportunities to shop. After breakfast visit Ronnie at Uradale Farm for a chat and to shop the beautiful Uradale organic Shetland yarn. The sheep are naturally multi-colored, so the Uradale knitting yarns reflect the natural colors of the flock. Continue to East Burra to visit Wendy Inkster at Burra Bears and Mike Finnie at Red Houss. Wendy makes her bears from Fair Isle patterned woolen jumpers. You will also visit with Mike Finnie at "Red Houss to see his water colors and silver jewelry Inspired by Fair Isle knitting. You will also visit with Donna Smith at her studio and shop. You are free for lunch and exploration in Lerwick in the afternoon. Dinner on your own. This evening a class on Fair Isle knitting with Janette Budge. Janette is a passionate knitwear designer and teacher. She will also bring samples of her work to share with you. **(B)**

Saturday 20th Sept: Flight from Shetland to Inverness - Isle of Skye (B,D)

After breakfast you will take a morning flight from Shetland to Inverness and upon arrival you will be picked up by the transportation company. You will have a leisurely drive across Scotland to your hotel on Skye for check in and some relaxation time before dinner at the hotel.

Skeabost House Hotel - Skeabost Bridge Isle of Skye IV51 9NP- 3 Nights

Sunday 21st Sept: Island at the Edge - Dunvegan Castle - Neist Point Lighthouse (B,L)

A morning visit to "Island at the Edge" where you will find a group of crofters that breed the rare native Hebridean, and the rare Black Cheviot and North Ronaldsay sheep. The visit will include a talk about the croft and the sheep. You will have lunch before your visit to Dunvegan Castle & Gardens - The castle is one of the great Hebridean castles and the only Highland fortress that has been continuously occupied by the same family for 800 years. There will be time to visit the café for tea and treats at your own expense. You will also visit Neist Point Lighthouse before returning to the hotel. Dinner on your own this evening.

Monday 22nd Sept: Shilasdair Yarns - Scenic Drive - Dorset Button Class at the hotel with Tania Jane - TJ Frog Breakfast at the hotel. Later this morning you will visit Shilasdair Yarns in Culnacnoc to hear the story from Eva Lambert, who will share her knowledge of natural dyeing and how Shilasdair Yarns has blossomed from a small cottage industry to a world renowned business. Lunch will be included on this day along with a scenic island drive. Return to the hotel where a room has been reserved for a class with Tania Jane - TJ Frog - on patterned Dorset buttons made with yarn and wire. Early dinner at your own expense this evening before returning to the hotel for your class. **(B,L)**

Tuesday 23rd Sept: Skye Weavers - Scenic drive from Skye to Argyll - Kilmartin Museum (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out. Your last visit on Skye will be to visit Skye Weavers a small weaving and sewing business based on Skye. All the products are woven on bicycle pedal powered looms in a small weaving shed next to an old croft house. You will meet with Roger and Andrea and hear their story. You will then travel south to visit the Kilmartin Museum, located at the heart of an internationally important landscape on the west coast of Scotland. A docent at the museum will introduce the collection. Kilmartin Museum displays fascinating bronze-age artifacts close to the sites where they were discovered.

Continue on to the Crinan Hotel in Argyll. Dinner at the hotel this evening.

The Crinan Hotel - Crinan, Lochgilphead Argyll PA31 8SR - 1 Night

Wednesday 24th Sept: Argyll to Edinburgh - Loch Lomond Arms for Tea & Scones (B, Tea & Scones at Loch Lomond Arms)

Breakfast at the hotel and check out. Journey along Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. Stop to enjoy tea or coffee and scones at the Loch Lomond Arms Hotel. Continue on to Edinburgh and check in to the hotel. The remainder of the day is to explore Edinburgh. Dinner on your own this evening.

Intercontinental the George 19 - 21 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PB - 3 Nights

Thursday 25th Sept: Dovecot Studio Tour - Balmoral Hotel for Afternoon Tea Experience

This morning will be at leisure to do whatever takes your fancy. In the early afternoon you will visit Dovecot Studios for a tour. Dovecot is a well renowned tapestry studio in the heart of Edinburgh and a landmark center for contemporary art, craft and design. The trip would not be complete without a visit to the Balmoral Hotel for an over-the-top afternoon tea experience in the Palm Court. Choose from a selection of 20 exclusive loose-leaf teas while enjoying finger sandwiches and fresh pastries. The remainder of the day is free with dinner on your own (should you feel hungry!) this evening. **(B, Afternoon Tea)**

Friday 26th Sept: Edinburgh - Free day to explore - Farewell dinner (B,D)

A free day to explore Edinburgh for last minute adventures, shopping, relaxing, and packing. Gather tonight for a farewell dinner to reminisce on your knitting adventure.

Saturday 27th Sept: Departure Day

Depart for Edinburgh airport and your return flight to the US. Please allow **3 hours** for check-in, for your International flight. Transfers will be provided for those departing today.

This itinerary is subject to change for a better experience and for circumstances beyond our control. Janine & Jillian will advise you of any changes during the course of the trip.

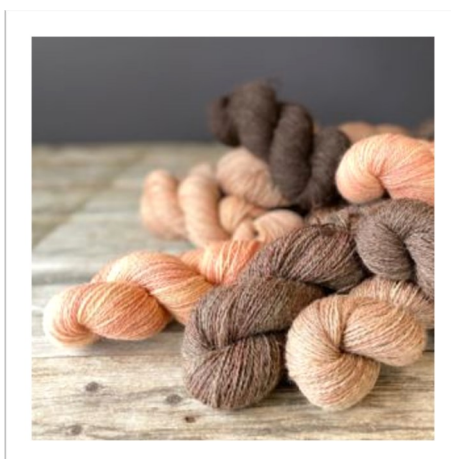
HOTELS:

Edinburgh - InterContinental the George www.edinburgh.intercontinental.com

Lerwick (Shetland) - The Lerwick Hotel www.shetlandhotels.com

Argyll - The Crinan Hotel www.crinanhotel.com

Skye - Skeabost House Hotel www.sonascollection.com



Key: B = Breakfast; D = Dinner L = Lunch

COST: \$8850 per person (based on sharing a room)

Single Supplement: \$2600 (Singles are limited)

Plus airfare: Approximately \$1,400 - \$1,500 - (*Edinburgh airport roundtrip*)

Tour Includes:

- * Accommodation for 15 days/13 nights
- * Breakfast each morning
- * 7 Dinners/4 Lunches/1 Afternoon tea/Tea or Coffee & Scones at the Loch Lomond Arms
- * Transportation with a professional driver/guide on mainland Scotland from Sept 15th to Sept 16th and Sept 20th to Sept 24th.
- * Transportation with a professional driver/guide on Shetland from Sept 16th to Sept 20th
- * Airport transfers for those departing on the 27th Sept from your hotel to Edinburgh to the International airport
- * Pre-Paid tips to your driver/guide in Scotland and Shetland

Classes:

- * Gansey scarf mini-class and visit with **Di Gilpin** - www.digilpin.com
- * Fair Isle knitting class with **Janette Budge** - www.janettebudge.com
- * Shetland Lace class with **Elizabeth Johnston**
- * Dorset Button Class with **Tania Jane** - <https://tjfrog.co.uk/>
- * Knitting help from **Janine & Jillian** throughout the trip

Visits:

- * **Kellie Castle** - <https://www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/kellie-castle>
- * **Dunveg Castle** - www.dunvegancastle.com
- * **Jamieson & Smith** - <https://www.shetlandwoolbrokers.co.uk/>
- * **Uradale Farm** - <https://www.uradale.com>
- * **Burra Bears** - www.burrabears.co.uk
- * **Red Houss Studio** - www.redhouss.co.uk
- * **Garth's Croft on Bressay** - www.garthscroftbressay.com
- * **R.A.M Studio on Bressay** - www.r-a-m-knitwear.co.uk
- * **Donna Smith** at her studio - www.donnasmithdesigns.co.uk
- * **Unst & Yell and the Unst Heritage Center** - www.unstheritage.co.uk
- * **St Ninian's Isle** - www.shetland-heritage.co.uk/st-ninians-isle
- * **Island at the Edge** - www.island-at-the-edge.co.uk
- * **Shilasdair Yarns** - www.Shilasdair-yarns.com
- * **Skye Weavers** - www.skyeweavers.co.uk
- * **Neist Point Lighthouse** - www.isleofskye.com/.../neist-point-lighthouse
- * **Kilmartin Museum** - <https://www.kilmartin.org/>
- * **Dovecot Studio** - www.dovecotstudios.com

Not Included:

- * International Airfare
- * Items of a personal nature (Laundry, drinks, meals not specified, etc)
- * Yarn purchases and mailing expenses
- * Tips at the hotels



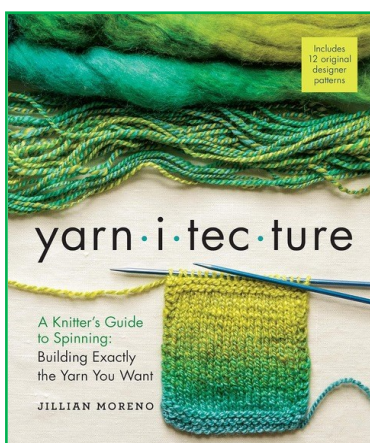
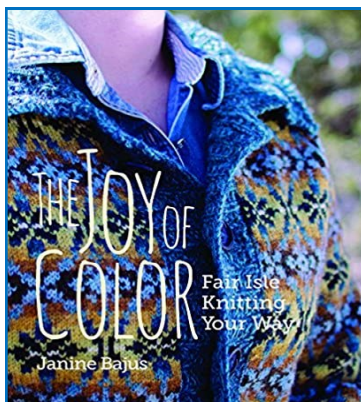
Your Hosts



Janine Bajus (Also known as the Feral Knitter)

Janine fell down the rabbit hole of Fair Isle knitting years ago, and she loves helping knitters express themselves through color and pattern. Janine's approach to Fair Isle knitting is modern and very personal; her goal is to share her deep appreciation for this type of knitting. She is the author of **The Joy of Color & Fair Isle - Knitting Your Way**. You can learn more about her classes and designs at www.feralknitter.com

What is a Feral Knitter? A Feral Knitter is someone who loves color knitting, playing with color combinations and garment shapes, and learning about construction and fit.



Jillian Moreno Jillian is the author of the best selling book **Yarnitecture: A Knitters Guide to Spinning: Building exactly the yarn you want.**

She is passionate about exploring the structure of yarns and using them in intentional and creative ways in knitting, stitching and weaving. Through exploration, curiosity and play, she enthusiastically encourages her students and readers to feel confidence and joy making with yarn. Jillian writes about yarn and spinning for *Ply Magazine* and teaches whenever she can. Keep up with her fiber exploits at www.jillianmoreno.com

Visits



Di Gilpin

Di Gilpin began her designing career in 1983 while living on the Isle of Skye. Since then she has designed for major labels as well as under her own name; her signature is using traditional forms or motifs in modern garments. Di's most recent book, written with Sheila Greenwell, is *The Gansey Knitting Sourcebook*. She now has her own range of gorgeous yarns. Di's current studio is north of Edinburgh.



Janette Budge

Janette was born and raised in Shetland and now lives in the South Mainland of Shetland, near St Ninian's Isle. Like many she was taught to knit at around 6 years of age. She has always been drawn to color in her Fair Isle patterns. Janette gets her inspiration from everywhere: from nature and through the landscape at particular times of the year, or from a person through their personality and character. Her involvement in Shetland Wool Week and other organizations has fueled her desire to return to her first love, especially Fair Isle Yoke sweaters.



Elizabeth Johnston

Elizabeth is one of Shetland's most famous handspinners, deeply connected to the textile heritage of the islands. Growing up in Shetland, she appreciates the unique charm of the island. Elizabeth has been teaching and sharing her approach to knitting, spinning, and natural dyeing for years. Her expertise extends to workshops in Shetland-style knitting, and spinning yarn for Shetland handspun lace, and blending colors in Fair Isle knitting.

Visits



TJ Frog

TJFrog, aka The Button Lady, launched at the Edinburgh Yarn Festival in 2015. (*TJFrog refers to her first and middle names, Tania Jane, and Frog a homage to her lifelong collection of frogs.*) A chance opportunity to learn about Dorset Buttons led to her career sharing the technique of making these colorful buttons.



Shilasdair Yarns

Eva Lambert started Shilasdair over 40 years ago in Waternish on Skye. Eva's knowledge of natural dyes is exceptional and has taken Shilasdair Yarns from a small cottage industry to a world-renowned business.



R.A.M Studio

Roisin Alexandra McAtamney, aka R.A.M. has been crafting beautiful knitwear designs that are not only luxurious but also eco-friendly. Roisin's knitwear designs are made from Merino wool, lambswool, and silk, but what makes them even more special is that they're created using surplus or end of production yarns. This not only makes the garment sustainable, but also adds unique or end of production yarns. This not only makes the garment sustainable, but also adds unique and unexpected twist to each piece. The end result unique, contemporary

Covid & Other Illnesses

Covid & Other Illnesses Covid Policy: By now we've all had experiences with Covid. Our request is that everyone be responsible and communicative. We suggest that everyone brings hand sanitizer and an extra face mask and also some Covid tests. (just in case) that can be used as needed. We request that you let us know if you feel even a little sick and we will make decisions together.



*We gather local roots, barks, leaves and with a mindful
processes reveal nature's secret colors*

Shilasdair Yarns