

2012 AMIS High School
Honor Band & Female Choir Festival
Aberdeen, Scotland
“Nuts & Bolts!”

Welcome to Scotland!

On behalf of the International School of Aberdeen, I want to extend our warmest wishes to you! ISA is proud to host this year's AMIS Honor Band and Women's Choir Festival! We will do our very best to be sure that you receive the best care and attention at ISA! We also hope that you enjoy your short stay in The Highlands!

Below are a few details to assist you with the planning of your trip to Scotland. We are neither the easiest nor the cheapest place to visit but keep your chins up and enjoy the travel! If I am missing any pertinent information, please let me know.

Best wishes,
Kent Walter
AMIS Host Organizer

Airport Arrivals & Departures

Your arrival to Dyce International Airport should run smoothly. We are a wee airport in the northeast. If you are flying from London, you have already cleared UK customs and will walk through the domestic door. Flying in from a location outside of the UK finds you in International Arrivals. There you will have to queue for customs and passport control.

Once you have your luggage depart the airport through the main door. To your left you will see the taxi stand. A taxi journey will cost you around £30.00 from the airport to the hotel – depending on traffic. If you arrive late in the evening, this may be your only option. If there are no taxis already in the queue, someone at the stand will order you one.

To your right you will find the bus stop. Take the Jet (Stagecoach) bus line to Union Square, the last stop on the line. This will cost you approximately £5.00 for a round trip ticket, valid through your stay in Scotland.

The first bus out of Union Square on Sunday morning is at 06:30. If you have a very early Sunday flight, you may need to book a taxi for your return journey. You can book at taxi from Rainbow Taxis at 01224 878787 or 01224 494949. More than likely you won't be able to book a taxi until Saturday. If calling outside of the UK, the UK country code is +44.

Below are the websites for Stagecoach and Rainbow Taxis:

www.stagecoachbus.com
<http://www.rainbow87.com>

Currency

Scotland has its own note currency. Unfortunately, it is only accepted within Scotland. Be sure to exchange your Scottish currency before you leave Aberdeen on Sunday. British pounds are accepted throughout Scotland.

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Emergency Numbers/Waiver

Aberdeen is a quaint, friendly city. However, it can get pretty colourful on a Friday or Saturday evening! While you are on the ISA campus, we will guarantee your safety and well-being.

Once you leave the ISA campus, ISA waives this responsibility. Please ensure that your students are chaperoned at all times while you are off of the ISA campus.

In case of an emergency:

- Police, ambulance, fire: call 999
- Aberdeen Royal Infirmary Accident and Emergency, call 0845 45 66 000
- Medical advice, call NHS 24 on 08454 24 24 24

ISA Campus address and numbers:

International School of Aberdeen
North Deeside Road
Pitfodels House Pitfodels
Cults, Aberdeen AB15 9PN
01224 730 300

After the first of the year I will complete the Festival Risk Assessment with our Safety Officer. If you require a copy of this assessment for your school, please let me know and I will email it off to you.

Hotel Information

You will stay at the Jury's Inn at Union Square. We hope you are going to love it! It is connected to the new shopping mall with loads of great shops, cinemas and restaurants. If the weather is not nice, don't worry about getting wet! You won't have to leave the building! It is also within walking distance to the 'colourful' Union Street! There you can find some history, some food, some shops and some very, very interesting people!

The hotel restaurant is small but eager to accommodate our group. Breakfasts will be divided into shifts. Please respect the shift that you are in and adhere to your scheduled time. If you miss breakfast, the ISA cafeteria team can make you something but you will be charged for this breakfast. Likewise, all breaks and directors' snacks will be provided at designated times and areas. Any purchases directly from the ISA Cafeteria need to be paid for at the time of purchase.

Here is the hotel website for more information: jurysinnaberdeen@jurysinns.com

Thursdays are 'late night shopping' in Aberdeen! Lots to do in your hotel area!

The hotel has requested that the students not be in the bar area at any time. Thank you.

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Schedule

Nearly complete! I hope to have this in your hands by the end of February!

Directors Dinner/Student Activity Evening

On Friday evening, the directors will have their dinner at Ardoe House Hotel. We are planning a Scottish Buffet with some great Scottish entertainment!

The ISA HS Student Council will host a movie, photo booth, pool party, pizza party, climbing wall fun and other activities to entertain them this evening. There will be a small cost for this which I am guessing at the moment will be about £5.00. Be sure your students bring comfortable clothing, swim attire and comfortable shoes for the party. I am organizing the schedule now; the students will not leave the campus on Friday evening until 10pm. Some information for planning ahead!

Gala Concert Tickets

As you know, we are having two Gala Concerts this year. The first will be at 3:30pm and the second at 7:30pm. Both concerts will be the same. Attending the afternoon concert would give visitors the opportunity to have a nice dinner at many great restaurants around Aberdeen. ISA is located on bus route No. 19 which goes to city center. If visitors are attending the evening concert and arrive early on Saturday morning, they visit some of the castles on the outskirts of Aberdeen (Crathes, Drum and Dunnottar). Having a rental car will make travel to these castles much easier. Alternatively there are many great activities, shops and historical spots in town to visit before the evening concert.

Although the concerts are free, the audience must reserve tickets for the concert. Could you please inform all parents, friends and family attending the festival to complete the following ticket information and email to:

Judy Plahn - plahn6@yahoo.com with the subject: **AMIS CONCERT TICKETS**

NAME:

SCHOOL:

WHICH CONCERT?: 3:30 or 7:30

NO. OF TICKETS

Men in Kilts!

Gentlemen, if you are interested in donning a kilt for the Gala Concert, now is your chance!

McCall's is a family-owned kilt hire and Scottish attire shop just around the corner from your hotel. ISA does a lot of business with McCall's and when you mention ISA, you will receive a 20% discount off the hire price.

Visit their website for booking your kilt:

www.mccalls.co.uk

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When you register, please complete the form with your name and the address of the International School of Aberdeen. You will need to charge the hire to your own credit card. On Sunday, leave your kilt at the Jury's Inn front desk. I will collect them Monday and return them to McCall's. Once you receive the festival schedule you can schedule your fitting and pickup time.

Ladies, do not fear! There are a lot of great Scottish items for you too! Have a look!

That is all for now! Have a great holiday and see you in March!