

Embrace the spirit of Scotland on January 25th for Robert Burns Day! Join us in celebrating with a special focus on Aged Care, discovering meaningful ways to engage and commemorate the occasion in elderly communities.



Robert Burns, affectionately known as the national poet of Scotland, left an indelible mark on literature and culture. The day originated as a heartfelt tribute by nine close friends on the fifth anniversary of his passing, turning into a lively celebration of his life and contributions.

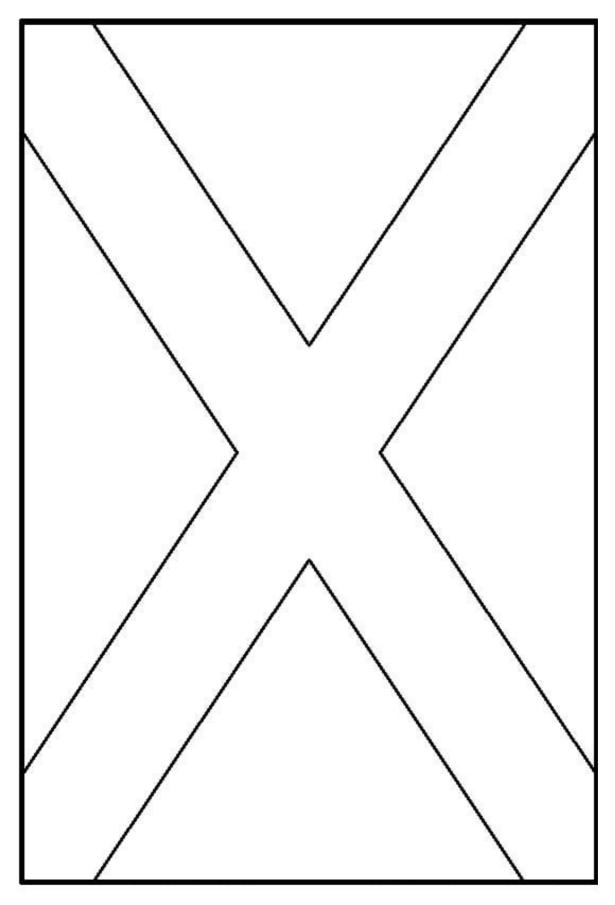
### Ideas for Festive Decor



Transform your space into a Scottish haven by decking it out with vibrant Scottish decorations. Residents can join in the fun by crafting flags on pop sticks to adorn tables or creating charming bunting to hang around. The immersive atmosphere sets the stage for a memorable celebration.



Elevate your experience with our activity-ready printable template! Grab it now and let the good times roll!





### **Poetry Recitation**



Dive into the poetic world of Robert Burns by reciting some of his famous works. Classics like "A Red, Red Rose" and "My Heart's in the Highlands" can fill the air with the lyrical beauty that defines Burns' legacy. It's a wonderful opportunity for residents to connect with the rich literary tradition of Scotland.

# A Red, Red Rose by Robert Burns

#### A RED, RED ROSE

O my Luve is like a red, red rose That's newly sprung in June; O my Luve is like the melody That's sweetly played in tune.

So fair art thou, my bonnie lass, So deep in luve am I; And I will luve thee still, my dear, Till a' the seas gang dry. Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear, And the rocks melt wi' the sun;I will love thee still, my dear, While the sands o' life shall run.

And fare thee weel, my only luve! And fare thee weel awhile! And I will come again, my luve, Though it were ten thousand mile.



# My Heart's In the Highlands by Robert Burns

#### **MY HEART'S IN THE HIGHLANDS**

My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here, My heart's in the Highlands, a-chasing the deer; Chasing the wild-deer, and following the roe, My heart's in the Highlands, wherever I go.

Farewell to the Highlands, farewell to the North, The birth-place of Valour, the country of Worth ; Wherever I wander, wherever I rove, The hills of the Highlands for ever I love.



Farewell to the mountains, high-cover'd with snow,

Farewell to the straths and green vallies below; Farewell to the forests and wild-hanging woods,

Farewell to the torrents and loud-pouring floods.

My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here,

My heart's in the Highlands, a-chasing the deer;

Chasing the wild-deer, and following the roe, My heart's in the Highlands, wherever I go.

#### Scottish Entertainment



For an authentic touch, consider inviting bagpipers adorned in kilts and traditional Scottish attire. Their melodies can resonate through the halls, creating an ambiance that pays homage to Burns' heritage. If live performances aren't feasible, explore the vast world of Scottish dancing on YouTube for a virtual celebration.



### **Culinary Delights**



Engage the taste buds with a Scottish feast! Collaborate with the kitchen to prepare a Burns Night staple—Haggis with mashed potatoes. For those with a sweet tooth, a cooking group can whip up delectable Scottish shortbread, perfect for a cozy teatime gathering after the main meal.

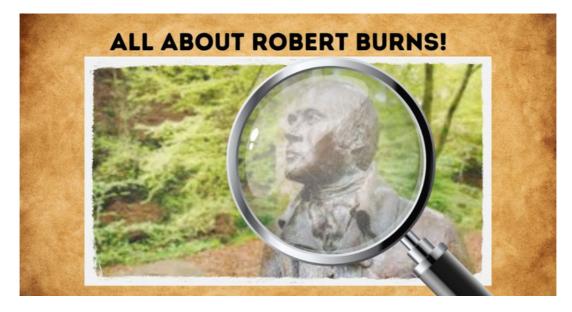
### Dress Up for Burns Day



For a dazzling Robert Burns Day, don your best Scottish attire! Embrace the timeless charm of kilts, paired with a smart sporran and traditional accessories like a tartan scarf or tie. Ladies, indulge in the elegance of a tartan dress or skirt, complemented by stylish accessories.



# Fascinating Facts about Robert Burns



Unearth some intriguing facts about the man behind the poetry. From his various monikers like Robbie Burns and Rabbie Burns to his prolific yet tragically short life, Robert Burns remains a captivating figure. Did you know that he penned his first poem at the tender age of 15 to impress a young lady named Nellie?

### Here are 10 fascinating facts about Robert Burns:

- Robert Burns, affectionately known as Rabbie Burns, was born on January 25, 1759, in Alloway, Ayrshire, Scotland.
- Despite departing at the young age of 37 on July 21, 1796, Burns left an indelible mark through his extensive collection of poetry and songs. Statues paying homage to him can be found globally, such as the one in Australia.
- Initially spelling his name as "Burnes," Burns is a beloved figure in literature.
- A talented poet from a young age, Burns composed his maiden poem at just 15.
- Demonstrating linguistic versatility, Burns crafted his poems in Scots, standard English, and Scots dialect.
- In his personal life, Burns dedicated numerous verses to women and fathered 12 children, nine with his wife Jean Armour.



- Originally considering a move to Jamaica, Burns changed course when his poetry collection, "Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect" (or the Kilmarnock Volume), gained traction. He opted for Edinburgh, where the second edition of his book was published.
- Despite achieving fame, Burns remained connected to his humble beginnings, addressing issues of social equality and expressing his love for farming in his writings.
- As a prolific lyricist, Burns contributed over 100 songs to "The Melodies of Scotland," including the iconic "Auld Lang Syne" (with added lyrics to a traditional Scottish tune) and "A Red, Red Rose."
- Robert Burns' enduring legacy continues to be cherished worldwide, transcending generations and making his literary contributions accessible to all.

As you prepare to celebrate Robert Burns Day, let the spirit of Scotland fill your aged care community with joy, laughter, and a touch of poetic magic.