

Mary Queen of the Scots Activity Book



Solve Puzzles and Learn About Scottish History

Based on “Mary Queen of the Scots, the Forgotten Reign”
by Laurel A. Rockefeller

Fill in the Blank: Queen Mary's Story

Word Bank:

*Note: some words are used more than once.

Paris Linlithgow David Riccio James Hepburn
Henry James François Charles Catherine de Medici
Tudor Guise Darnley John Knox Seton queen
half-brother catholic protestant Lords of the Congregation
secretary cardinal prince consort Elizabeth
dancing falconry singing sumptuary laws crown matrimonial
Edinburgh Castle Kirk o' Field Lochleven Castle
Edinburgh France Scotland England VI
Stirling Castle Fotheringhay Castle king

Queen Mary Stuart was born on the 8th of December, 1542 at _____ Palace to King _____ V of _____ and his queen, Mary of _____. As the queen gave birth to Mary, the king was on campaign fighting against King _____ VIII of _____. Two weeks after Mary's birth, the king died and Mary was proclaimed _____ of _____. When Mary was just four years old _____ Beaton was murdered in St. Andrews. At trial _____ was found guilty of plotting the murder and was sentenced to ten years of hard labour on French prison ships.

With the country quickly becoming _____, Mary's mother decided that Scotland was no longer safe for a _____ queen and sent her to _____ to grow up with Prince _____ in hopes that she would marry him when they were old enough. Growing up in the capital city of _____ and in the many palaces owned by King Henri II and Queen _____, Queen Mary became very French and adopted the customs of the French court – including _____ and _____. At sixteen years, Queen Mary married her prince and, with the death of her father-in-law soon became queen of France.

King _____ II and Queen Mary were happy for a time. Then he died without a son and his brother _____ became king of France. To avoid confusion and solidify the reign of the new king, Queen Mary and her friends, including Mary _____ returned to _____ to take up Mary's throne in her own right.

While she was away, Scotland became a very different country, Mary's _____ religion was now outlawed and it was a crime to go to mass. Fortunately, Mary was very tall and beautiful and persuaded her _____ James Stewart to let her worship in private in her rooms in _____ Castle.

Lonely and a widow, Mary knew her duty was to marry and bear a son to be _____ after her. The problem was there were not many princes in Europe who were not already married. Those who were unmarried were usually ugly, stupid, and of bad temper. She had two choices: marry a lesser nobleman or marry the one prince she found acceptable, a cousin of hers by her grandmother Margaret _____'s second marriage, _____ Stewart, also known as Lord _____.

At first Queen Mary was very happy with her second husband. They enjoyed many of the same things, including _____ and hunting on horseback. Because she was queen, the normal rules based on a person's class called _____ did not apply to her and she was able to hunt with any bird she liked.

But Darnley had a dark side. He drank too much. When he became drunk, he grew very mean and was often violent. At first, he kept his bad side to his friends and to the local people in Edinburgh he drank with. But in time, he brought his bad behaviour home to the queen. He would forget that she was queen and he was her _____. One day, Queen Mary's friend and favourite singer _____ saw him being mean to the queen. Like a good friend, he stood up to Darnley's bullying and defended his queen. This made Darnley very mad. He decided that because the queen swore to obey him as her husband this meant he was entitled to rule Scotland as king. But to become king and replace Queen Mary on the throne, he needed to make Mary sign a document giving him that power.

There was one problem: Queen Mary made her friend _____ and therefore, a very powerful man able to not only give her advice, but also counter many of the things that Darnley wanted to do. After weeks of plotting, Darnley made his move. During a private dinner in the queen's apartments, Darnley broke in uninvited. His men attacked the queen's guests while he held the pregnant queen hostage. He demanded the _____ which made him king after her death. She refused. His men took out their swords and murdered _____ in front of her.

The plot did not work. Even after briefly imprisoning the queen, Darnley could not make her sign the paper he needed to become king. Instead, he was forced to welcome his replacement for the throne when Mary gave birth to their son _____ in a room in _____ on the 19th of June, 1566. Three months later, Queen Mary secured a _____ baptism for her son at _____ where she too was baptised and christened.

With the prince safe at Stirling Castle, Queen Mary plotted with _____ to stop her husband's abuse once and for all. In February, 1577 Lord Darnley was strangled before his palace called _____ was blown up by several kegs of gun powder. Mary was free! Or so she thought.

What she didn't know was that Hepburn was in a conspiracy with the _____ to remove her from power. On the 15th of May, 1567 she was taken prisoner at _____. In July, she was forced to abdicate and her son became King James ___ of Scotland.

Nineteen years would pass of great sadness and misery. Queen Mary fled Scotland and became the political prisoner to her cousin _____. Finally, on the 8th of February, 1587 she was beheaded on orders of her cousin at _____.

Word Search: Landmarks from Mary Queen of Scots Reign

Landmarks

X F T T L I H W B X J N H V Q E C P F E
Z L G Z Q R L M F O Y C D V T G V B X D
B L O V V B O Q I B F M D U V C O K H I
B I Y U M C C M T S V P K B M S L V O N
T N B U O S K D V S L N I M D F R K L B
Y L E X F Q L N S N H Y R L F T T L Y U
P I I O G O E L O X H N K N M O O B R R
J T L G K U V G L M R M O D L I I N O G
O H E S C Q E G L C M G F B O Z J P O H
N G D A K M N T J K N D I C D H D E D T
R O G U C Z Z H O L S E E F K M C G E E
Z W N D J J O L S V S F L N X P O V C H
G G G X Z U P U G Y L R D N G G N U I G
M L J Q X P R T U J E C H V D X G G F M
D X E C H A M B O U R D W K E T D M N B
B Q Y I I Z I P Z I I S A G F A J C K N
L E I N T H R Q A V H K C Z O O Y Q D C
Z L U U K H V U D R J Q Q O O X I Z N C
R C V W S Z H K Y A I Y F U A Y G X G A
I N J B Q E V A V L B S V H O F X E O M
D U L M I F Q K R V B Q Y P B D A Z Y E
X Y T R F D K Z P B X E N J Z R E E Y A
D K C K Y L Q E S P O Y E E S E L E X F
Z M Q K I I K I R K N R T V G P Y E G N
U C G I Y W S T I R L I N G P V P T P U

LEITH HARBOR

LINLITHGOW

KIRK O FIELD

CHAMBOURD

LOCKLEVEN

STIRLING

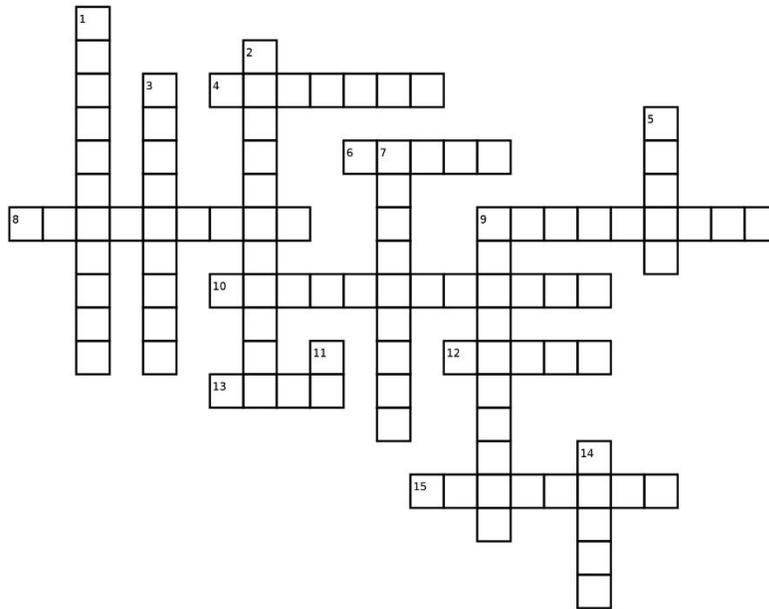
EDINBURGH

PARIS

HOLYROOD

Crossword: Queen Mary Stuart's Life and Times

Queen Mary Stuart's Life and Times



Down:

1. breaking from the Roman Catholic church
2. a medieval dance that mimics washing clothes
3. the Scottish capital city
5. the name of Queen Mary's son
7. the queen's cousin in England
9. Queen Mary's birth place
11. the weapon used to cut off Mary's head.
14. the capital city of France

Across:

4. the most handsome bachelor in Europe
6. the harbor near Edinburgh for sailing to mainland Europe
8. King Henri II's favourite palace
9. the fortress that became Mary's prison
10. a set of popular European dances performed in a line of couples
12. the Italian singer turned trusted secretary
13. the queen's best friend and worst enemy
15. the country once known as "Alba."

Answer Keys:

Fill in the Blank. Correct answers are in bold type.

Queen Mary Stuart was born on the 8th of December, 1542 at **LINLITHGOW** Palace to King **JAMES V** of **SCOTLAND** and his queen, Mary of **GUISE**. As the queen gave birth to Mary, the king was on campaign fighting against King **HENRY VIII** of **ENGLAND**. Two weeks after Mary's birth, the king died and Mary was proclaimed **QUEEN** of **SCOTLAND**. When Mary was just four years old **CARDINAL** Beaton was murdered in St. Andrews. At trial **JOHN KNOX** was found guilty of plotting the murder and was sentenced to ten years of hard labour on French prison ships.

With the country quickly becoming **PROTESTANT**, Mary's mother decided that Scotland was no longer safe for a **CATHOLIC** queen and sent her to **PARIS** (**FRANCE** is also acceptable) to grow up with Prince **FRANÇOIS** in hopes that she would marry him when they were old enough. Growing up in the capital city of **PARIS** and in the many palaces owned by King Henri II and Queen **CATHERINE DE MEDICI**, Queen Mary became very French and adopted the customs of the French court – including **SINGING** and **DANCING**. At sixteen years, Queen Mary married her prince and, with the death of her father-in-law soon became queen of France.

King **FRANÇOIS II** and Queen Mary were happy for a time. Then he died without a son and his brother **CHARLES** became king of France. To avoid confusion and solidify the reign of the new king, Queen Mary and her friends, including Mary **SETON** returned to **EDINBURGH** to take up Mary's throne in her own right.

While she was away, Scotland became a very different country, Mary's **CATHOLIC** religion was now outlawed and it was a crime to go to mass. Fortunately, Mary was very tall and beautiful and persuaded her **HALF-BROTHER** James Stewart to let her worship in private in her rooms in **EDINBURGH** Castle.

Lonely and a widow, Mary knew her duty was to marry and bear a son to be **KING** after her. The problem was there were not many princes in Europe who were not already married. Those who were unmarried were usually ugly, stupid, and of bad temper. She had two choices: marry a lesser nobleman or marry the one prince she found acceptable, a cousin of hers by her grandmother Margaret **TUDOR**'s second marriage, **HENRY** Stewart, also known as Lord **DARNLEY**.

At first Queen Mary was very happy with her second husband. They enjoyed many of the same things, including **FALCONRY** and hunting on horseback. Because she was queen, the normal rules based on a person's class called **SUMPTUARY LAWS** did not apply to her and she was able to hunt with any bird she liked.

But Darnley had a dark side. He drank too much. When he became drunk, he grew very mean and was often violent. At first, he kept his bad side to his friends and to the local people in Edinburgh he drank with. But in time, he brought his bad behaviour home to the queen. He would forget that she was queen and he was her **PRINCE CONSORT**. One day, Queen Mary's friend and favourite singer **DAVID RICCIO** saw him being mean to the queen. Like a good friend, he stood up to Darnley's bullying and defended his queen. This made Darnley very mad. He decided that because the queen swore to obey him as her husband this meant he was entitled to rule Scotland as king. But to become king and replace Queen Mary on the throne, he needed to make Mary sign a document giving him that power.

There was one problem: Queen Mary made her friend **SECRETARY** and therefore, a very powerful man able to not only give her advice, but also counter many of the things that Darnley wanted to do. After weeks of plotting, Darnley made his move. During a private dinner in the queen's apartments, Darnley broke in uninvited. His men attacked the queen's guests while he held the pregnant queen hostage. He demanded the **CROWN MATRIMONIAL** which made him king after her death. She refused. His men took out their swords and murdered **DAVID RICCIO** in front of her.

The plot did not work. Even after briefly imprisoning the queen, Darnley could not make her sign the paper he needed to become king. Instead, he was forced to welcome his replacement for the throne when Mary gave birth to their son **JAMES** in a room in **EDINBURGH CASTLE** on the 19th of June, 1566. Three months later, Queen Mary secured a **CATHOLIC** baptism for her son at **STIRLING CASTLE** where she too was baptised and christened.

With the prince safe at Stirling Castle, Queen Mary plotted with **JAMES HEPBURN** to stop her husband's abuse once and for all. In February, 1577 Lord Darnley was strangled before his palace called **KIRK O' FIELD** was blown up by several kegs of gun powder. Mary was free! Or so she thought.

What she didn't know was that Hepburn was in a conspiracy with the **LORDS OF THE CONGREGATION** to remove her from power. On the 15th of May, 1567 she was taken prisoner at **LOCKLEVEN CASTLE**. In July, she was forced to abdicate and her son became King James **VI** of Scotland.

Nineteen years would pass of great sadness and misery. Queen Mary fled Scotland and became the political prisoner to her cousin **ELIZABETH**. Finally, on the 8th of February, 1587 she was beheaded on orders of her cousin at **FOTHERINGHAY CASTLE**.

Word Search: Landmarks from Mary Queen of Scots Reign

Landmarks

X F T T L I H W B X J N H V Q E C P F E
Z I G Z Q R L M F O Y C D V T G V B X D
B L O V V B O Q I B F M D U V C O K H I
B I Y U M C C M T S V P K B M S L V O N
T N B U O S K D V S L N I M D F R K L B
Y L E X F Q L N S N H Y R L F T T L Y U
P I I O G O E L O X H N K N M O O B R R
J T L G K U V G L M R M O D L I I N O G H
O H E S C Q E G L C M G F B O Z J P O H
N G D A K M N T J K N D I C D H D E D T
R O G U C Z Z H O L S E E F K M C G E E
Z W N D J J O L S V S F L N X P O V C H
G G G X Z U P U G Y L R D N G G N U I G
M L J O X P R T U J E C H V D X G G F M
D X E C H A M B O U R D W K E T D M N B
B Q Y I I Z I P Z I I S A G F A J C K N
L E I N T H R Q A V H K C Z O O Y Q D C
Z L U U K H V U D R J Q Q O O X I Z N C
R C V W S Z H K Y A I Y F U A Y G X G A
I N J B Q E V A V L B S V H O F X E O M
D U L M I F Q K R V B Q Y P B D A Z Y E
X Y T R F D K Z P B X E N J Z R E E Y A
D K C K Y L Q E S P O Y E E S E L E X F
Z M Q K I I K I R K N R T V G P Y E G N
U C G I Y W S T I R L I N G P V P T P U

LEITH HARBOR

LINLITHGOW

KIRK O FIELD

CHAMBOURD

LOCKLEVEN

STIRLING

EDINBURGH

PARIS

HOLYROOD

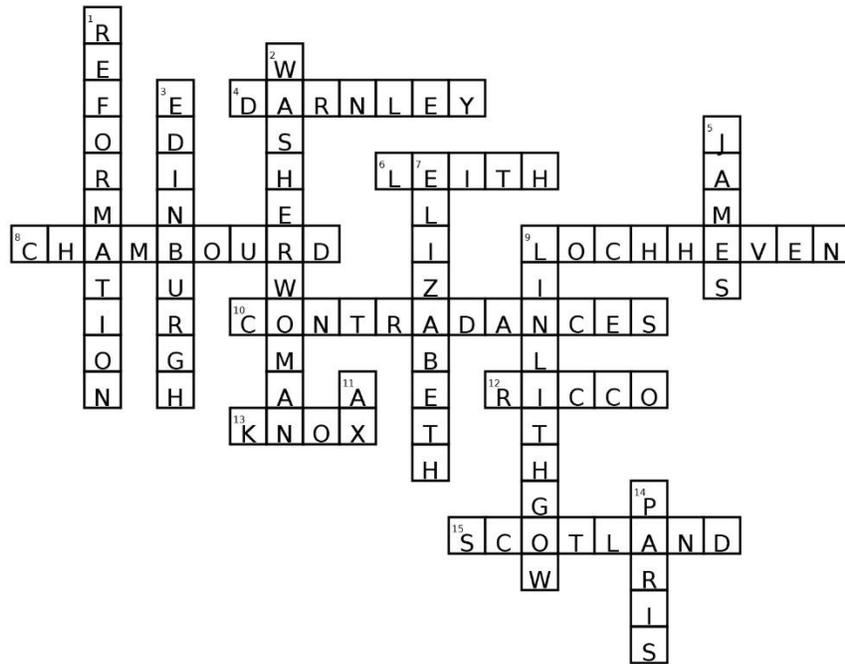
Word Scramble

HENRY STEWART
LORD DARNLEY
JAMES STEWART
JAMES V OF SCOTLAND
MARY OF GUISE
FRANCOIS II
CATHERINE DE MEDICI
LORDS OF THE CONGREGATION
PARLIAMENT
JOHN KNOX
MARY SETON
ELIZABETH I TUDOR OF ENGLAND
DAVID RICCO

Secret phrase: LONG LIVE THE QUEEN!

Crossword Puzzle

Queen Mary Stuart's Life and Times



Down:

1. breaking from the Roman Catholic church
2. a medieval dance that mimics washing clothes
3. the Scottish capital city
5. the name of Queen Mary's son
7. the queen's cousin in England
9. Queen Mary's birth place
11. the weapon used to cut off Mary's head.
14. the capital city of France

Across:

4. the most handsome bachelor in Europe
6. the harbor near Edinburgh for sailing to mainland Europe
8. King Henri II's favourite palace
9. the fortress that became Mary's prison
10. a set of popular European dances performed in a line of couples
12. the Italian singer turned trusted secretary
13. the queen's best friend and worst enemy
15. the country once known as "Alba."

Excerpt: Mary Queen of the Scots: the Forgotten Reign

Chapter One: Paris

“The king is dead! Long live the queen!” cried the herald. Lights and sounds blurred together as the five-year-old Mary stirred from her sleep. Was it a memory or just a dream?

Rising from her bed Mary patiently took still as servants dressed her in a miniature version of one of the gowns her mother and regent wore, “Where is mama?”

“In her office,” replied one servant as she pulled on the queen’s over-gown and laced it up in back.

“I want to see mama!”

“I am sorry Your Majesty but you will not see her for a very long time.”

“Why?”

“Today we are taking you to Leith harbour where you will board a ship bound for France.”

“Why?”

“Many reasons.”

“Tell me.”

“To keep you safe, to make sure nobles who do not like your mother cannot use you to hurt the country.”

“There’s something else, isn’t there?”

“Before he died last year, your great uncle King Henry the Eighth of England wanted you to marry his son Prince Edward. Now that Edward is king of England, there are many who are more determined than ever that you should marry him and unite the realms of Scotland and England in the process.”

“Why is that bad?”

“Well to start with, England has always been our enemy.”

“Always?”

“Sadly yes.”

“Why?”

“Well because for as long as people have written down history the English have tried to conquer our peoples. They invade and we fight back to defend ourselves. Sometimes we have invaded England too to make our kingdom bigger or to make it safer against the English. To make things even more confusing, there are many nobles from England who own land in Scotland and many Scots who own land in England; the division between our kingdoms has never been all that clear. That is another reason why we are at war so much. Where does England stop and Scotland begin? Sometimes that depends on the day!” explained the servant.

“But if I marry King Edward, maybe the fighting will stop! Maybe it would be good to live in England.”

“That is not what your mother wants.”

“Well maybe my mother does not know everything. I am queen!”

“Yes, you are queen; you are also five years old! It is very naughty for you to want to disobey her! That is a sin, Mary.”

“Is sin bad?”

“Very bad! You do not want to spend eternity in hell, do you?”

“What is hell?”

“A very bad place. I am not a priest though; I am only a woman and cannot teach you about these things.”

“You sound as if being a woman is bad.”

“Yes, it is very bad, Your Majesty. God made men better than us. We are weak and do bad things because we are weak. But you must speak to a priest. There will be one on the ship to France you can talk to.”

“Will I be the only Scottish lass in France?”

“No, of course not. Many girls are coming with you, sent to France by their parents to protect them.”

“Protect them from what?”

“Bad people who want to do bad things.”

“Here in Scotland?”

“Yes.”

“Who?!”

“Your Majesty, we must go!”

“I don’t want to go!”

“Your Majesty, please!”

Mary paced and pouted, jumping up and down in a tantrum. Finally, after letting out her emotions a little she eyed the servant, “I still do not want to go.”

“Will you come with me now?”

“Yes.”

“Thank you, Your Majesty.”

Two hours later Queen Mary found herself walking up the ramp to the beautiful sailing ship moored in Leith harbour in Edinburgh. Running playfully around the top deck she spotted four girls, all of them also named Mary, playing hide and seek. Queen Mary ran up to them, “Can I play too?”

“Who are you?” asked Mary Seton.

“I’m the queen!”

“You are not!” giggled Mary Fleming.

“Yes, I am,” asserted Queen Mary.

“Yes, you are,” affirmed the queen’s half-brother Lord James Stewart. Kneeling he kissed the queen’s hand, “I am forever at Your Majesty’s service.”

“Who are you?” asked Queen Mary.

“James Stewart.”

“My last name is Stewart too! Are we related?”

James laughed, “I am your brother!”

“If you are my brother, why are you not king?”

“Because Queen Mary of Guise is not my mother.”

“I do not understand.”

“You will, my queen!”

“Is your mother alive?”

“Very much so. She wants me to tell you that she prays every day for your majesty’s health.”

“Does my mother know your mother?”

“Yes.”

“Does she know you?”

“Yes.”

“How old are you?”

“Seventeen.”

“I am only five.”

“You were born just a few days before our father the king died, God rest his soul.”

“Are you coming to France with us?”

“For a little while, yes. That is if you don’t mind having a brother.” Queen Mary opened her arms. James hugged her tightly and kissed her cheek, “Everything will be okay, Your Majesty.”

“Call me Mary; we are family!”

“Depairte, depairte, allace I most depairte. From hir that hes my hairt with hairt full soir; again’s my will in deid and can find no remeid, I wait the pan’s of deid can do no moir!” sang the ten-year-old Queen Mary as she played her lute, the Scottish lyrics of the song feeling oddly alien after five years in Paris.

“Marie! Marie! News from London!” cried Prince François excitedly.

“Quelles nouvelles?” asked Queen Mary in French.

“Your cousin, King Edward the Sixth!”

“What about him?” puzzled Mary.

“He’s dead! He died of consumption three weeks ago.”

Mary crossed herself, “Poor lad!”

“There is more, ma chérie. Your cousin Lady Jane Grey, granddaughter of your great aunt Mary and the duke of Suffolk Charles Brandon, she is now imprisoned in the Tower of London!”

“For what crime?”

“The king tried to override his father’s last will and testament by making her queen instead of Queen Mary. For nine days she ruled as Queen Jane before the queen and her sister the Lady Elizabeth entered London to claim the throne officially. As soon as Queen Mary arrived, all support for Queen Jane disappeared.”

“The people have spoken! Let us pray that through the wisdom of Queen Mary we might see England restored to the true religion.”

François crossed himself, “In nómine Patris et Filii et Spíritus Sancti. Amen.”

“Amen,” echoed Mary with a playful smile as she kissed his cheek. Grinning, François took her hand and kissed it.

Paris glittered excitedly as King Henri the Second, Queen Catherine de Medici, princes and princesses, cardinals, bishops, the queen’s half-brother Lord James Stewart, and all manner of nobles gathered for the long-awaited wedding of Queen Mary to Prince François at Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Paris. Now fifteen, Queen Mary dazzled the crème de la crème of French society in her brilliant white wedding gown with its royal train. Two girls walked behind the queen, carrying her long train and helping her navigate its luxurious volume. The most beautiful diamond necklace in all of 16th century France adorned the angelic teenaged queen. A golden coronet rested gracefully on her brow. Yet for all the sparkle and glamour of these, nothing compared to the joy bubbling within Queen Mary’s heart as she said her vows to François and became his wife. It was a moment she would never forget; a moment doomed to yield to sorrow, pain, and death.