

LOCH NESS 🌀 ISLE OF SKYE 🌀 OUTLANDER



HIGHLAND EXPLORER TOURS

INVERNESS DEPARTURES



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- 🌀 Outlander
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Tripadvisor
Travellers
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PASSIONATE
TRUSTED
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OVER 96% OF OUR
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Image: Eilean Donan Castle



PASSIONATE

ALL SCOTLAND

Subtle flavours and magnificent mountains, friendly locals and frantic battles, beautiful lochs and boisterous traditions. We share all of Scotland's secrets, beauty and history with a passion.

LOCAL GUIDES

Knowledgeable as Celtic Druids and as fiery as Viking Warriors, our local guides reveal all the stories and history with a passion that truly brings Scotland to life. *Should I tip my guide?* Tipping is not compulsory, but if you'd like to recognise great service then please feel free to do so. 100% of tips are retained by our team, not the company.

AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

Discover and explore places only the locals know. We're proud to show you the treasures that won't be found in a guidebook.

MULTI-DAY TOURS INCLUDE ACCOMMODATION IN THE PRICE

See page 20 for more information about accommodation.

PASSIONATE
TRUSTED
UNIQUE



TRUSTED

MULTI-AWARD WINNING

With twenty years' experience, and Tripadvisor's 'Traveller's Choice'; it's no secret that we deliver an exceptional standard of service.

SUSTAINABILITY

We protect the environment we're passionate about. This commitment is recognised by our Gold Green Tourism award and proven by our innovative Eco Scheme where we match every £2 you donate. See page 5 for more details.

OUR GUARANTEE

Our fleet is built for your comfort with USB charging points. We promise a fantastic time, but don't just take our word for it - see our reviews on Tripadvisor.

UNIQUE

EXPLORE MORE

Our trips give you versatility and the choice to see Scotland your way. Saunter around a beautiful town, delve into a historic castle, or jump on the Jacobite Steam Train; it's your trip, and it's your choice.

SAVINGS

Mini Groups | Save 10% when '4 or more' people book any day tour together.

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AUDIO GUIDES

We offer free foreign language audio guides, see page 4 for more information.

HIGHLAND DAY TOURS

TOUR ROUTE

ISLE OF SKYE & EILEAN DONAN CASTLE

TOUR ROUTE

HARRY POTTER TRAIN & THE SCENIC HIGHLANDS

TOUR ROUTE

LOCH NESS, WHISKY & OUTLANDER

TOUR ROUTE

LOCH NESS, MALLAIG & THE GLENFINNAN VIADUCT

TOUR ROUTE

CAWDOR CASTLE & CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK

TOUR ROUTE

FAIRY POOLS, ISLE OF SKYE & DUNVEGAN CASTLE

TOUR ROUTE

JOHN O'GROATS, DUNROBIN CASTLE & THE NORTH COAST 500



Image: Isle of Skye



FREE AUDIO GUIDES

We offer FREE foreign language audio translations in German, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, French and Mandarin. We are the only tour company in Scotland to offer this service on all of our tours allowing the best customer experience possible for all our travellers.

Audio guides are available for free download once you have purchased your tour.

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® experiences are thoughtfully chosen for their positive social or environmental impact across Scotland's communities. Look out for the MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® logo throughout this brochure.

Find out more: highlandexplorertours.com/about-us/sustainability/make-travel-matter



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We're all about protecting the Scotland you'll fall in love with.



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Partnering with The TreadRight Foundation, we're taking steps towards Net Zero, following a science-based climate action plan that focuses on cutting carbon and reaching zero emissions by 2050.

Find out more: highlandexplorertours.com/about-us/sustainability/were-going-net-zero



TREADRIGHT®
FOUNDATION
TreadRight.org

RE-WILDING WITH TREES FOR LIFE

We support Trees for Life through an optional £2 donation when you book your tour, matched by us. All donations go to this award-winning charity, helping restore the ancient Caledonian Forest in the Scottish Highlands.

Find out more: treesforlife.org.uk

Trees for Life

A FAMILY OF BRANDS

We at The Travel Corporation (TTC), Highland Explorer Tours parent company, have been creating an enriching travel experience for 100 years. We provide a rich tradition of expertise, delivering exceptional hospitality, outstanding quality and superb value no matter which of our companies you choose to travel with.

Find out more: ttc.com



1 DAY TOUR

ISLE OF SKYE & EILEAN DONAN CASTLE

HIGHLIGHTS ★

MYSTERIOUS LOCH NESS
ROMANTIC EILEAN DONAN CASTLE
OLD MAN OF STORR
ISLAND TOWN PORTREE
THE STRIKING QUIRAING AND KILT ROCK



INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
LIVE COMMENTARY &
STORYTELLING IN ENGLISH
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Black Cuillins | Kilt Rock (right)



ALL YEAR

Every day

Departs 7:45am
Returns 7:45pm

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Eilean Donan Castle*

Leave behind the 'Capital of the Highlands' for a full day adventure through the rugged Highlands to the enchanting Isle of Skye. On this trip, it is as much about the journey to get there as it is about the island destination. The ancient mountains, unique rock formations and dramatic coastlines will take your breath away.

We depart the city of Inverness and drive alongside Loch Ness onwards through the mountains towards the west coast. We stop at the romantic Eilean Donan Castle, where you have the option of doing a tour.*

After crossing the Skye Bridge, your guide will entertain you with stories of local legends and folklore, as well as the true tales of rival clans and a fugitive prince. Enjoy lunch in Portree, where you can visit the colourful harbour.

Marvel at the Old Man of Storr, Kilt Rock and the Quiraing before we return to the mainland. We arrive back into Inverness in the evening.



BOOK NOW



PAY LOCALLY



EILEAN DONAN CASTLE

Eilean Donan Castle is situated on a sea loch surrounded by magnificent Highland scenery. This magical and idyllic setting is what makes this one of Scotland's most iconic attractions. Take a tour* to find out about the castle's colourful history.

* There may be some days where Eilean Donan Castle is closed.

ISLE OF SKYE
& EILEAN
DONAN
CASTLE



Bucket list tour ticked. Isle of Skye is definitely one of the most beautiful and scenic places in Scotland. Iain our tour guide was great with his information and hospitality. UZOL | DECEMBER 2025



1 DAY TOUR

HARRY POTTER TRAIN & THE SCENIC HIGHLANDS

HIGHLIGHTS ★

- WORLD-FAMOUS JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN
- ICONIC GLENFINNAN VIADUCT
- LEGENDARY LOCH NESS
- COMMANDO MEMORIAL
- SCENIC VIEWS OF BEN NEVIS

INCLUSIONS

- JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN
- RETURN COACH FROM INVERNESS
- PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
- LIVE COMMENTARY & STORYTELLING IN ENGLISH
- AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Jacobite Steam Train | Loch Shiel (right)
Fort Augustus (below)



APRIL - OCTOBER

Monday, Wednesday,
Friday & Sunday

Departs	7:30am
Returns	7:30pm

Full refund if cancelled more than 48 hours in advance.

Enjoy a full day of stunning scenery and fresh Highland air, as we travel all the way around Loch Ness and along the idyllic West Coast. Our journey reveals ancient ruins, a poignant war memorial, and beautiful beaches - with mountain backdrops never far from sight. Hop aboard the Jacobite Steam Train for a magical two hour ride along stunning coastal scenery and over the iconic Glenfinnan Viaduct. Made famous by the Harry Potter films, and voted one of the world's most scenic railways, this is a trip you'll never forget!

We depart Inverness and begin our journey along the world-famous Loch Ness, stopping for photos above the ruins of Urquhart Castle. We continue south and visit the Commando Memorial which

overlooks the Nevis Range; home to the UK's highest mountain, Ben Nevis. Next, it's time to set your sights upon the Jacobite Steam Train and hop aboard at Fort William.**

Your journey through magnificent landscapes will end in the fishing port of Mallaig where you can try fresh seafood for lunch or explore the town.

Watch as awe-inspiring scenery unfolds before you as we take the stunning 'Road to the Isles' en route to the charming Highland village of Fort Augustus. Here, we get the chance to explore the Caledonian Canal and take a stroll by the shores of Loch Ness. Finally, we visit Dores Beach on the banks of Loch Ness, arriving back into Inverness in the evening.



BOOK NOW





Iain was an excellent tour guide. Learned so much about Scotland and its history. Amazing sites and taken to and from seamlessly. Would recommend for anyone who loves Harry Potter as you get to ride the train and as a good way to see so much of the Highlands.
TODD | OCTOBER 2025

HARRY POTTER
TRAIN &
THE SCENIC
HIGHLANDS



1 DAY TOUR

LOCH NESS, WHISKY & OUTLANDER EXPLORER

HIGHLIGHTS ★

FAMOUS LOCH NESS
ANCIENT URQUHART CASTLE
WHISKY DISTILLERY VISIT
CULLODEN BATTLEFIELD
CLAVA CAIRNS STANDING STONES

INCLUSIONS

URQUHART CASTLE ENTRY
BEAULY PRIORY
LOCH NESS BOAT CRUISE
PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
LIVE COMMENTARY &
STORYTELLING IN ENGLISH
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Loch Ness (left) | Urquhart Castle (right)
Loch Ness Cruise (below) | Clava Cairns (below right)




ALL YEAR

Every day

Departs 8:15am
Returns 5:00pm

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Highland Whisky
Distillery Experience 
Culloden Visitor Centre 

Join us on a jam-packed journey in the Highlands and enjoy many iconic Scottish experiences in just one day. Our adventure begins at the legendary Loch Ness, where you will take a cruise and visit the ruins of Urquhart Castle for ideal monster spotting opportunities. After lunch in beautiful Beaulieu we visit a Highland whisky distillery, where the best way to learn about the 'water of life' is to taste it! Learn the true story which inspired *Outlander* at Culloden Battlefield and attempt your own journey through the stones at Clava Cairns.

Depart central Inverness and journey to the world-famous Loch Ness, where you will join a cruise to the ruins of the 13th century Urquhart Castle. Then, there's free time to

enjoy lunch in one of the charming local cafés in beautiful Beaulieu and walk it off exploring Beaulieu Priory; featured in the *Outlander* book *Dragonfly in Amber*. Our next stop is a Highland whisky distillery, where you can learn about whisky and sample a wee dram from the bar.

Listen to tales of the Jacobite rebellions and the brutal Battle of Culloden, on our visit to Culloden Battlefield. *Outlander* fans will love the mysterious burial chambers and standing stones at Clava Cairns. When you've heard the harrowing history behind the *Outlander* story, you might not want to travel back in time to meet Jamie Fraser after all! We return to Inverness in the early evening.



BOOK NOW



 PAY LOCALLY

LOCH NESS,
WHISKY &
OUTLANDER
EXPLORER

“ Enjoyed our experience taking the cruise along Loch Ness, exploring the beautiful ruins of Castle Urquhart, visiting Culloden museum and Battlefield, and exploring Clava Cairns. Craig was our driver and guide, and we enjoyed his sharp wit, sense of humor, and keen knowledge of Scotland and the sites we visited. **SHERRY | JULY 2025**



**LOCH NESS CRUISE
& URQUHART CASTLE**

Enjoy this fully guided cruise on the mysterious Loch Ness including entry to the ruins of Urquhart Castle situated on the northwest shores of the Loch.



1 DAY TOUR

LOCH NESS, MALLAIG & THE GLENFINNAN VIADUCT

HIGHLIGHTS ★

MYSTERIOUS LOCH NESS
COMMANDO MEMORIAL & BEN NEVIS
FISHING VILLAGE OF MALLAIG
TRAIN JOURNEY OVER GLENFINNAN VIADUCT*
FORT AUGUSTUS, ON THE BANK OF LOCH NESS

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
LIVE COMMENTARY &
STORYTELLING IN ENGLISH
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Mallaig | Ben Nevis (right)
Glenfinnan Viaduct (below)



MAY - OCTOBER

See website for departure days

Departs 8:00am
Returns 8:15pm

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Train Journey Along
The West Highland Line*



There's something special about seeing the Glenfinnan Viaduct the way it was meant to be seen - by train. On this full-day adventure, you'll have the option to travel across the world-famous 'Harry Potter Bridge' on the very line used by the *Harry Potter* film series' Hogwarts Express. On selected dates, you can add on a 1.5-hour rail journey between Fort William and Mallaig. On other departures, the experience follows the same incredible route by road, giving you more flexibility to join the day. Either way, expect sweeping Highland scenery, a relaxed pace, and a proper bucket list experience.

The day begins with a journey along Loch Ness and a stop at the Highland village of Fort Augustus. We continue south and visit the Commando Memorial, overlooking the Nevis Range and the UK's highest mountain.

Before continuing to Mallaig, we stop at the Glenfinnan Viaduct, instantly recognisable from *Harry Potter* and the Chamber of Secrets. You'll then have free time in Mallaig to grab lunch and explore

the harbour. From here, the day splits depending on your departure: On selected dates, you'll have the option to board the train* for a spectacular journey to Fort William along the West Highland Line, made famous by the Hogwarts Express. The train curves across the Glenfinnan Viaduct and winds through stunning lochs and open moorland before you'll disembark the train in Fort William, where your driver guide will pick you up. On other departures, we continue by coach along the scenic Road to the Isles, following a stunning coastal route with wide Highland views. This route takes us directly to Invermoriston, giving you more time to soak up the scenery along the way. Whichever way you travel, the adventure continues at Invermoriston, where we pause to admire the old stone bridge over the River Moriston. From there, we make our way back towards Inverness, with a final view above the iconic ruins of Urquhart Castle along the way.



BOOK NOW



LOCH NESS,
MALLAIG & THE
GLENFINNAN
VIADUCT



We had a lovely day with Karen, who was an excellent tour guide and very knowledgeable about Scotland. The stops on the tour were interesting and made for good photo opportunities and memories and we felt like we got to see a lot of Scotland in just one day. Would definitely recommend! HANA | OCTOBER 2025



1 DAY TOUR

JOHN O'GROATS, DUNROBIN CASTLE & THE NORTH COAST 500

HIGHLIGHTS ★

DUNROBIN CASTLE & GARDENS
 BIRD & SEA LIFE SPOTTING - INCLUDING PUFFINS!*
 THE VERY NORTH OF MAINLAND UK, JOHN O'GROATS
 DRAMATIC DUNCANSBY HEAD
 NORTH COAST 500

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
 LIVE COMMENTARY &
 STORYTELLING IN ENGLISH
 AUDIO GUIDE



Images: John O'Groats | Duncansby Stacks (right)
 Dunrobin Castle & Atlantic Puffins (below)



APRIL - OCTOBER

See website for departure days

Departs 8:30am
 Returns 8:00pm

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Dunrobin Castle & Gardens

From a magnificent castle right out of a fairy tale to striking sea cliffs by the most northerly point of the Scottish Highlands. Indulge in some of the most spectacular sights of the world-famous North Coast 500 in as little as one day!

Visit the glorious Dunrobin Castle and explore its enchanting interiors and gardens, soak in the impressive sight of the Duncansby Head sea stacks and keep your eyes open for birds and sea life along the way. This full-day trip from Inverness is a must for Scotland enthusiasts with little time at hand, bringing together stunning coastal scenery, quaint fishing villages, sea life spotting, and Scottish history aplenty.

Our tour starts in the morning as we make our way from Inverness to Dunrobin

Castle, a glorious 19th century residence historically inhabited by the Dukes of Sutherland, where we have the option to explore its enchanting interiors and gardens.

We keep venturing north and stop for lunch at the quaint Highland village Brora. Keep your eyes peeled for the adorable Atlantic puffins nesting around the coastline as we visit the rural village of John O'Groats, home to the most famous signpost in Scotland. A few minutes away from the village we get the chance to marvel at the striking Duncansby Head sea stacks against sheer cliffs and more bustling wildlife.

Our return journey takes us to the charming fishing port of Helmsdale where we get to enjoy its stunning sea views before arriving back in Inverness in the late evening.



BOOK NOW



PAY LOCALLY

JOHN O'GROATS,
DUNROBIN
CASTLE & THE
NORTH COAST 500



*Tim was absolutely phenomenal. Very knowledgeable about Scotland's history and told plenty of jokes along the way. Tim showed us landmarks and sites one could only dream of. We learned about Scottish folks tales and got to listen to Scottish music along the way. Great balance of leisure and information. **DANNY | MARCH 2025***



1 DAY TOUR

FAIRY POOLS, ISLE OF SKYE & DUNVEGAN CASTLE

HIGHLIGHTS ★

ICONIC LOCH NESS
REMOTE FAIRY POOLS
DUNVEGAN CASTLE, SEAT OF CLAN MACLEOD
PORTREE, CAPITAL OF ISLE OF SKYE



INCLUSIONS

WALK TO THE FAIRY POOLS*
PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
LIVE COMMENTARY &
STORYTELLING IN ENGLISH
AUDIO GUIDE



Image: Sligachan



APRIL & OCTOBER

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Saturday & Sunday

MAY & JUNE

Tuesday, Thursday,
Saturday & Sunday

JULY & AUGUST

Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday

SEPTEMBER

Selected dates

Departs 7:30am
Returns 8:00pm

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Dunvegan Castle 

Let us take you deep into the Highlands and across to the Isle of Skye, with plenty of chances to get off the bus and explore on foot. You'll walk to the Fairy Pools, visit Scotland's oldest continuously inhabited castle, and enjoy a relaxed stop in Skye's capital, Portree.

Setting out from Inverness in the morning, you'll start your day with a visit to the lush woodland trails of Rogie Falls and wide-open views across Loch Carron - two striking Highland landscapes that set the tone before crossing over to 'The Misty Isle'.

Next up are the Fairy Pools. This beautiful trail sits beneath the dramatic Cuillin Mountains and follows a river dotted with small waterfalls and still, clear pools. Once you're there, it's easy to see why places like

this have inspired folk tales of fairies for centuries.

Our, the journey continues to Dunvegan, where you'll have the option to visit Dunvegan Castle, the oldest continuously inhabited castle in Scotland and the ancestral home of the Clan MacLeod for over 800 years. You can explore its historic halls and formal gardens and enjoy lunch in the village nearby.

From there, we wind our way through Skye, stopping in the island's colourful capital Portree before a final photo break at Sligachan.

Our return route includes more postcard-worthy stops at places like Eilean Donan Castle and Urquhart Castle on Loch Ness, returning to the city in the late evening.



BOOK NOW



 RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING



WALK THE FAIRY POOLS*

Enjoy a 75-minute walk to the Fairy Pools, a real highlight of the day. The trail runs along a rocky glen at the base of the Cuillin Mountains, following a stream with clear pools and small waterfalls. The terrain is mostly gravel with some uneven sections and river crossings using stepping stones, so take your time and soak in the magical landscape around you.

HIGHLIGHTS ★

LEGENDARY CAWDOR CASTLE
CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK
ANCIENT SCOTS PINE FOREST
MYSTERIOUS CLAVA CAIRNS STONES
MEET A HIGHLAND COW



1 DAY TOUR

CAWDOR CASTLE & CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK



INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
LIVE COMMENTARY & STORYTELLING IN ENGLISH
AUDIO GUIDE



Image: Highland Cow

From ancient Bronze Age sites like the Clava Cairns stones to the legendary Cawdor Castle, each place that you'll visit on this trip offers a unique glimpse into Scotland's storied past. Along the journey, you'll encounter local wildlife, meet a highland cow and explore the rare ancient Scots Pine forests. Take a midday lunch stop in the lively town of Aviemore before heading to Cairngorms National Park to soak in its spectacular mountain scenery. A splendid day full of history, nature, and local culture!

Begin your journey at the ancient Clava Cairns, one of Scotland's most well-

preserved Bronze Age sites. Explore the legendary Cawdor Castle* as you wander through its historic halls and beautifully landscaped gardens. At our next stop, you'll get to meet one of Scotland's favourite four-legged locals - the iconic hairy coo^ - before taking a stroll through the ancient Scots Pine Forest.

After lunch in Aviemore, we'll venture into Cairngorms National Park, taking in the stunning scenery, and, with luck, maybe even wildlife sightings! As the day winds down, we'll head back to Inverness, arriving in the early evening.

MAY - SEPTEMBER

Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday & Friday

OCTOBER

Thursday & Friday

Departs	8:45am
Returns	5:00pm

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Cawdor Castle & Gardens* 



CAWDOR CASTLE*

Enjoy a discounted entry fee when visiting Cawdor Castle and its gardens on this trip. Wander through enchanting gardens, explore the castle where Shakespeare's Macbeth was set, and discover the legendary thorn tree at the heart of this unique Scottish gem.

* Please note that there are limited alternative activities nearby, so booking the castle entrance in advance is essential to make the most of your time here. Please note the pay locally price is £17.00.

^ The order of stops may vary, so you might see highland cows at a different point in the journey.



BOOK NOW



 RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING

1 DAY TOUR

HIGHLAND GAMES

HIGHLIGHTS ★

- PIPING COMPETITIONS
- HIGHLAND DANCING & HIGHLAND DRESS
- CABER TOSSING
- HAMMER THROWING
- TUG O' WAR



INCLUSIONS

- SCENIC DRIVE THROUGH THE HIGHLANDS
- TICKET TO THE HIGHLAND GAMES
- PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
- LIVE COMMENTARY & STORYTELLING IN ENGLISH
- AUDIO GUIDE



MAY - SEPTEMBER

Selected dates, see below

Departs 8:00am
Returns 7:45pm*

Full refund if cancelled more than 48 hours in advance.

GAMES PROGRAMME 2026

Sunday 17 May	Gordon Castle*
Saturday 4 July	Forres*
Saturday 22 August	Lonach
Saturday 5 September	Braemar

*Gordon Castle and Forres returns 5:00pm

Enjoy an action-packed day at one of Scotland's Highland Games. Taking place in towns and villages across the Highlands, each gathering showcases traditional sports, music, and dance, all set against breathtaking scenery. We've created four different itineraries over the summer, so you can pick the event that fits your travel plans best.

The Highland Games are a celebration of strength, skill, and tradition, with roots

stretching back over 900 years. Expect a fantastic spectacle of Highland dancing, pipe bands, hammer throwing, tug-of-war, and caber tossing.

Our day tours take you to a range of gatherings across Scotland, each with its own local character and atmosphere. Highlights include a special visit to the world-famous Braemar Gathering, taking place in September, and attended by the Royal Family since Queen Victoria in 1848.



BRAEMAR GATHERING

Known as 'The Games' and originating from those believed to have been held by Malcolm III in the 11th century, an annual Highland Games Gathering is held at Braemar in Royal Deeside on the first Saturday in September. This Gathering is one of the most famous. Her Majesty, the late Queen Elizabeth II, was a patron and frequently attended.

BOOK NOW





We had the most lovely day going to the Highland Games with Charlie! She was so sweet and knowledgeable and has excellent taste in music! She also gave us great stories and recommendations on the way back, definitely take this tour! JOSH | MAY 2025



HIGHLAND HOSPITALITY

Accommodation is included in all our multi-day tours. On the '3 Day Isle of Skye, Loch Ness & West Highlands' and '5 Day Isle of Skye Volunteer Adventure', you'll stay at The Skye Inn, our very own Deluxe B&B in Portree on the Isle of Skye. Experience modern Scottish comforts and warm island hospitality, with cosy ensuite rooms, home-cooked meals, and local beers or drams by the fire.



Image: Portree



Image: The Skye Inn

THE SKYE INN
PORTREE

The Skye Inn is located a short walk from the main square and colourful harbour with an excellent range of restaurants. Your stay includes a traditional Scottish cooked breakfast every morning with gluten-free, vegan, and vegetarian options available.

ROOM TYPES*

TWIN ROOM

One room with two separate beds suitable for one adult in each bed.

DOUBLE ROOM

One room with one bed suitable for two adults.

FAMILY 3

One room with two separate beds. One bed suitable for two adults and one bed suitable for one adult/child.

SINGLE

One room with one bed suitable for one adult.

*For the '5 Day Isle of Skye Volunteer Adventure', accommodation is included on a twin-share basis. Single travellers will be allocated a twin room to share with another member of the group.

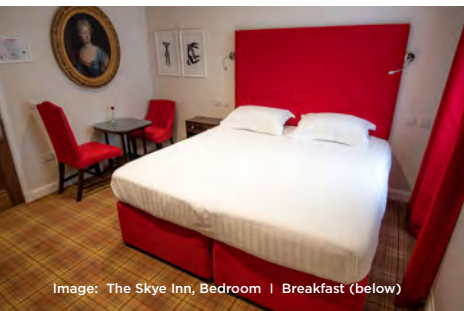


Image: The Skye Inn, Bedroom | Breakfast (below)



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ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

We are committed to making your tour with us as enjoyable as possible no matter what your individual needs are. Nevertheless, there are certain limitations that may arise due to the local and rural nature of Scotland.

WHEELCHAIRS AND MOBILITY IN THE HIGHLANDS

Our guides are not able to assist with wheelchairs or offer physical assistance when embarking or disembarking from the bus. Passengers should be able to board and disembark the coach themselves using the access stairs or with the assistance of a travelling companion. Due to the rural nature of Highland towns and villages, getting to and from the accommodation establishments may require short to medium-distance walking some of which may involve walking on sloping streets and uneven paths.

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Guest houses and B&Bs only provide breakfast whereas hotels have dinner and breakfast options available. There will always be vegetarian options available but in more rural locations, gluten free and dairy free options may be limited. It will not be possible for guests to prepare their own food in guest house, B&B or hotel kitchens.

If you have any accessibility requirements, please contact us before booking. One of our experienced reservations staff will be more than happy to assist with your enquiry.

For our full accessibility statement, go to highlandexplorertours.com/essential-info/accessibility

The West Highland Line has been voted 'Top Rail Journey of the World' in Wanderlust Magazine for several years and you'll understand why as soon as you hop on board.

JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN



Image: Glenfinnan Viaduct

Starting in Mallaig or Fort William, the train visits Arisaig, Britain's most westerly railway station, and from the coast you can see the 'Small Isles' of Rum, Eigg, Muck, and the stunning white beaches used in films such as *Local Hero* and *Highlander*.

The Jacobite Steam Train then passes through Glenfinnan where Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard to begin his ill-fated claim to the throne in 1745.

The Jacobite Steam Train was featured in a number of Harry Potter movies as the 'Hogwarts Express', crossing

over the 21 arches of the impressive Glenfinnan Viaduct with breathtaking views of Loch Shiel.

The Jacobite Steam Train is an outstanding way to take in the beautiful scenery of the Scottish West Coast and we guarantee it is an experience you will never forget.

CONNECT WITH US



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@HIGHEXTOURS



@HIGHEXTOURS



Eilean Donan Castle @rach.carbone



Isle of Skye @cate.hanlon



Loch Ness @thescottishkiwi

3 DAY TOUR

ORKNEY ISLANDS & THE NORTHERN HIGHLANDS

HIGHLIGHTS ★

JOHN O'GROATS, NORTHERNMOST POINT OF BRITAIN
 DRAMATIC YESNABY CLIFFS
 NEOLITHIC SKARA BRAE
 KIRKWALL, CAPITAL OF ORKNEY
 ANCIENT RING OF BRODGAR



INCLUSIONS

2 NIGHTS B&B ACCOMMODATION
 SKARA BRAE
 ITALIAN CHAPEL
 FERRY CROSSING TO ORKNEY
 PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
 LIVE COMMENTARY & STORYTELLING IN ENGLISH
 AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Ring of Brodgar | Skara Brae (right)
 Yesnaby Cliffs (below)



APRIL - SEPTEMBER

Monday

Departs 7:30am
 Returns 6:00pm

ACCOMMODATION

B&B accommodation is included.
 See page 20 for details.

Please see T&Cs on website for cancellation policy.



Set off from Inverness and experience the best of Scotland's history and scenery. Marvel at Dunrobin Castle, enjoy fresh coastal air at John O'Groats, and cross the Pentland Firth - who knows, you might spot a whale! Explore Kirkwall's Norse heritage, uncover the ancient wonders of Skara Brae, and stand in awe at the Ring of Brodgar.

DAY ONE | We leave Inverness and head north to admire the iconic Dunrobin Castle, overlooking the stunning Moray Firth. Journeying along the legendary North Coast 500, we reach John O'Groats, the UK mainland's most northerly point. After exploring this famous landmark, we sail to the Orkney Islands, where you might spot grey seals or orcas crossing the Pentland Firth. Enjoy free time in Kirkwall, wandering its charming streets and soaking in local culture, before heading to our accommodation.

(Overnight: Kirkwall)

DAY TWO | Today, we delve into Orkney's rich history and striking landscapes. Visit the Standing Stones of Stennes and the prehistoric Ring of Brodgar. Explore Skara Brae, a perfectly preserved Stone Age village, and take a scenic walk to the Yesnaby Cliffs with dramatic sea stacks. End the day at Brough of Birsay, a tidal island with archaeological wonders and stunning views. (Overnight: Kirkwall)

DAY THREE | Before leaving Orkney, we visit the charming hairy pigs at a local farm and the moving Italian Chapel, built by Italian WWII prisoners. After a morning of discovery, we sail back to the mainland, stopping at Duncansby Head for sweeping North Sea views. Finally, we explore Lybster on the Caithness coast and the historic town of Dornoch with its beautiful cathedral, returning to Inverness by early evening.



BOOK NOW



2 OVERNIGHT STAYS

ORKNEY
ISLANDS & THE
NORTHERN
HIGHLANDS



Wow, what a great experience. From the first second, everything just fit. We were a harmonious, very nice group. The places we saw and visited were breathtakingly beautiful and very well selected. Our bus was very cozy and our tour guide Iain took us safely from place to place.

SVEN | SEPTEMBER 2025



3 DAY TOUR

ISLE OF SKYE, LOCH NESS & THE WEST HIGHLANDS

HIGHLIGHTS ★

- WORLD-FAMOUS JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN*
- ENCHANTING FAIRY POOLS
- ICONIC EILEAN DONAN CASTLE
- CLAVA CAIRNS
- HIGHLAND WHISKY DISTILLERY EXPERIENCE



INCLUSIONS

- 2 NIGHTS B&B ACCOMMODATION AT THE SKYE INN
- FERRY CROSSING TO THE ISLE OF SKYE
- PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
- LIVE COMMENTARY & STORYTELLING IN ENGLISH
- AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Jacobite Steam Train | Fairy Pools (right)
Whisky Distillery Experience (below)



APRIL - OCTOBER

Friday

Departs 7:30am
Returns 5:00pm

ACCOMMODATION

Deluxe B&B accommodation is included. See page 20 for details.

Please see T&Cs on website for cancellation policy.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

- Jacobite Steam Train* R
- Whisky Experience P

Prepare for a spectacular experience of the Highlands and the enchanting Isle of Skye. Venture through a range of iconic scenery and get the chance to ride the world-famous Jacobite Steam Train*. Be inspired by Scottish myths and legends as you take in many local gems: from the legendary Loch Ness and Eilean Donan Castle to cascading waterfalls and the Fairy Pools on the Isle of Skye. Every part of this journey uncovers a little more of Scotland's unique heritage.

DAY ONE | We depart Inverness in the morning and begin our journey along the mysterious Loch Ness before stopping at the Commando Memorial with views of Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain. We embark the Jacobite Steam Train* for a scenic two-hour ride with spectacular views of the Highlands and Scotland's scenic west coast, before taking the ferry over to our island destination, the Isle of Skye. **(Overnight: Portree)**

DAY TWO | We begin our morning exploring the enchanting Fairy Pools, a series of natural waterfalls with crystal clear water on the River Brittle. We drive to the quaint village of Dunvegan for lunch before taking a fabulous walk through the Quiraing. Our journey continues to the impressive the Kilt Rock and

the iconic Old Man of Storr before arriving back in Portree with free time to explore. **(Overnight: Portree)**

DAY THREE | We bid farewell to the Isle of Skye and visit the romantic Eilean Donan Castle, said to be Scotland's most photographed castle. We replenish our energy with lunch in the village of Beaulieu before sampling the 'water of life' at a Highland whisky distillery. Our adventure resumes with a visit to the historic Culloden Battlefield, followed by the standing stones of Clava Cairns, arriving back in Inverness in the early evening.



BOOK NOW



- 2 OVERNIGHT STAYS**
- P PAY LOCALLY**
- R RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING**

* Limited availability. Summer only: April - October. Please see website for winter itinerary.



Torquil is the best tour guide we've ever had - he made the 3 days so fun with his music, stories, and the energy he brought to the group. He also planned everything perfectly, so all we had to do was relax and enjoy the incredible beauty of Scotland.

JENNIFER | JUNE 2025



5 DAY TOUR

ISLE OF SKYE COMMUNITY & OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

HIGHLIGHTS ★

TORMORE FOREST VOLUNTEER PROJECT
IMMERSIVE GAELIC LANGUAGE WORKSHOP
FAIRY POOLS
TORABHAIG DISTILLERY
EILEAN DONAN CASTLE



INCLUSIONS

4 NIGHTS B&B
TWIN-SHARE
ACCOMMODATION
AT THE SKYE INN*
GAELIC LANGUAGE WORKSHOP
PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
LIVE COMMENTARY &
STORYTELLING IN ENGLISH
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Tormore Forest | Eilean Donan Castle (right)
Five Sisters of Kintail (far right) | Isle of Skye (below right)



19 OCTOBER 2026 &
15 MARCH 2027

Monday

Departs 8:30am
Returns 5:30pm

ACCOMMODATION

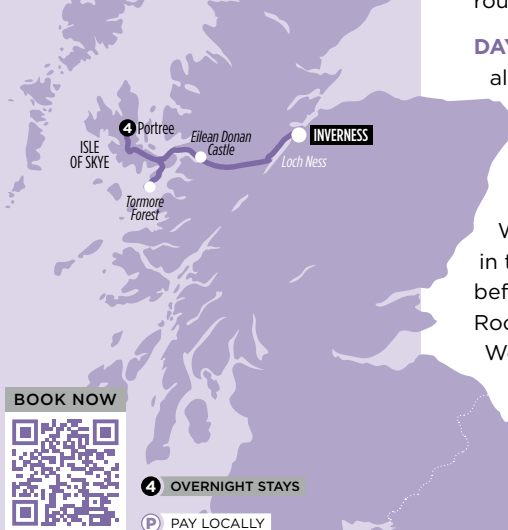
Deluxe B&B accommodation is included.
See page 20 for details.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Eilean Donan Castle

Torabhaig Distillery

*Single travellers will be allocated a twin room to share with another member of the group.



BOOK NOW



4 OVERNIGHT STAYS

PAY LOCALLY

Ready to get stuck into something meaningful while exploring Skye off the beaten path? Spend five days on the Isle of Skye helping transform Tormore Forest on the Sleat Peninsula.

Each morning, you'll be out planting trees, building paths, or making the forest easier to explore - all alongside the locals of Sleat who are passionate about their community. The afternoons are yours to discover Skye's quieter side: following trails to waterfalls, learning some basic Gaelic, sampling whisky at a local distillery, and uncovering hidden spots away from the usual tourist routes.

DAY ONE | We depart Inverness, driving along Loch Ness to the west coast with a chance of spotting its legendary creature 'Nessie'. Journey through Glen Shiel, steeped in historic battles, before visiting Eilean Donan Castle. We head to the Isle of Skye for lunch in the capital island town of Portree, before exploring iconic landmarks like Kilt Rock, Old Man of Storr, and the Quiraing. We arrive back in Portree to check into The Skye Inn, our warm and cosy home for the next four nights.

(Overnight: Portree)

DAY TWO | After a hearty Scottish breakfast, we journey past the rugged Cuillin Mountain Range, delving into captivating stories of clan feuds and warfare. We arrive in Tormore Forest, where we meet the Sleat Community Trust team for tree planting and path repair. After lunch, we explore the enchanting Fairy Pools, nestled against steep-sided mountains. (Overnight: Portree)

DAY THREE | Our journey resumes with another busy morning in the forest - a lovely boost for the soul! In the afternoon we learn more about the founding language of Scotland at the National Centre for Gaelic Language and Culture, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig. Our visit includes a tour, lecture, and Gaelic tutoring taster session. (Overnight: Portree)

DAY FOUR | Our physical effort this morning is balanced with a laid-back afternoon exploring Sleat and its hidden beaches and rocky shorelines, art galleries and local shops - the perfect opportunity to pick up a souvenir from your time on Skye. (Overnight: Portree)

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

See page 5



Just came back from the most brilliant week!! Perfect combination of small group travelling, doing fun and meaningful work on the Isle of Skye and seeing many, many stunning castles, views, mountains, pools, glens and villages on Skye. Taking (mountain) walks and having great dinner at The Skye Inn. Terrific accommodation with the most comfy beds and lovely staff. LISET | MARCH 2025

DAY FIVE | Our morning volunteering on the Isle of Skye will be well-rewarded after lunch with a visit to the distillery at Torabhaig, the second ever licensed Single Malt Scotch Whisky Distillery on the Isle of Skye. You will have the opportunity to take an optional tour, learn the secrets to the 'water of life' and make a toast to all the hard work and positive changes we have made – Slàinte! The perfect way to celebrate our week of hard work and adventure before returning through the stunning Highland scenery to Inverness.



THE TORMORE FOREST PROJECT

Tormore Forest sits on the Sleat Peninsula of the Isle of Skye, with open views across to the Scottish mainland and nearby islands. The woodland is community-owned and home to the remains of historic settlements that the local community is gradually bringing back into use. By joining this tour, you support the development of a meaningful local project and help improve access within the forest for future visitors.



TOURS AT A GLANCE

Please arrive 15 minutes before departure for check-in

1 DAY TOURS		Operating Season	Day of Departure	Departs	Returns
Isle of Skye & Eilean Donan Castle		All Year	Every day	7:45am	7:45pm
Harry Potter Train & The Scenic Highlands		April – October	Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Sunday	7:30am	7:30pm
Loch Ness, Whisky & Outlander Explorer		All Year	Every day	8:15am	5:00pm
Loch Ness, Mallaig & The Glenfinnan Viaduct		May – October	See website for departure days	8:00am	8:15pm
John O’Groats, Dunrobin Castle & The North Coast 500		April – October	See website for departure days	8:30am	8:00pm
Fairy Pools, Isle of Skye & Dunvegan Castle		April & October	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday	7:30am	8:00pm
		May & June	Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday		
		July & August	Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday		
		September	Selected dates		
Cawdor Castle & Cairngorms National Park		May – September	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday	8:45am	5:00pm
		October	Thursday & Friday		
Highland Games		May – September	Saturday & Sunday (Selected dates)	8:00am	7:45pm*

MULTI-DAY TOURS		Operating Season	Day of Departure	Departs	Returns
3 Day	Orkney Islands & The Northern Highlands	April – September	Monday	7:30am	6:00pm
3 Day	Isle of Skye, Loch Ness & The West Highlands	April – October	Friday	7:30am	5:00pm
5 Day	Isle of Skye Community & Outdoor Adventure	19 October 2026 & 15 March 2027	Monday	8:30am	5:30pm

* Forres and Gordon Castle return 5.00pm. All times and dates are correct from April 2026 and are subject to change.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION | HOW TO BOOK

IN PERSON

- Our Office | 60 High Street | Edinburgh | EH1 1TB
- Your Concierge, B&B or Guest House Reception

BY PHONE | +44 (0) 131 558 3738

ONLINE | highlandexplorertours.com

EMAIL | info@highlandexplorertours.com

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

- Facebook: @HIGHLANDEXPLORERTOURS
- Instagram: @HIGHEXTOURS
- TikTok: @HIGHEXTOURS

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

highlandexplorertours.com/about-us/newsletter/

Photography credits

Haley Plotkin | Essi Eskelinen | April Bright | Shae MacLean | Stephen Bridger | VisitScotland: Kenny Lam, Paul Tomkins
Jiang Li Photography | Eve Livesey | Cescassawin | Jeff Carpenter | Graham Niven | Yvonne Richmond

ALL TOURS DEPART FROM

15 Union Street | Inverness | IV1 1PP
(Across from the entrance to the Victorian Market)

Please arrive 15 minutes before departure time.

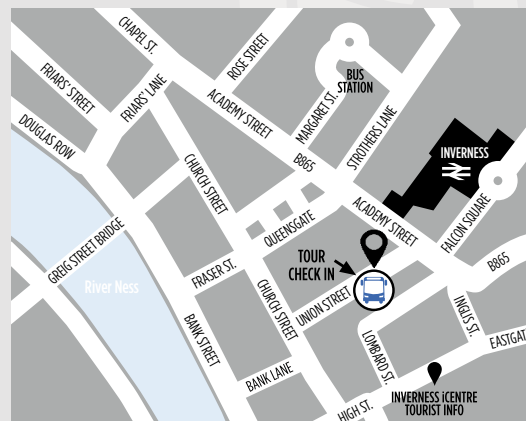
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Highland Explorer Tours is part of Radical Travel Group and the Travel Corporation.

APRIL 2026



Please pass on or recycle. Also available online.