

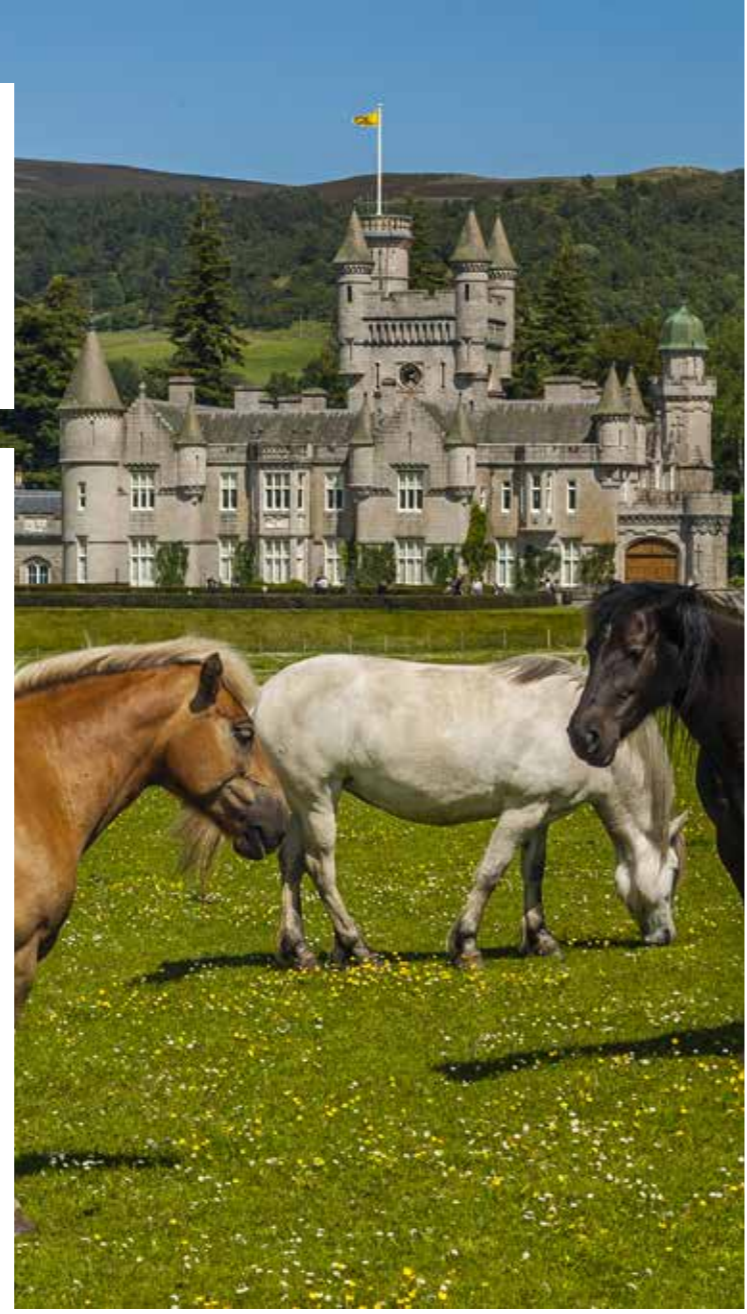
DISCOVER THE BEAUTY OF SCOTLAND

April-June 2025



BEST TRAVEL COMPANY
FOR
COACH HOLIDAYS

Scotland's stunning gardens, incredible wildlife and historic treasures await...



We are pleased to present a wonderful selection of tours for spring and early summer, allowing you to make the most of nature's reawakening after the long winter months.

A time of blossoming beauty and long-awaited renewal, this time of year in Scotland offers the perfect chance to get outdoors and explore. The rugged landscapes take on a majestic character as Mother Nature lays on spectacular displays: shades of purple, yellow and more carpet the countryside and animals such as golden eagles, puffins, red squirrels and orcas appear once again.

Boasting the addition of quieter destinations with fewer crowds, longer days and more favourable weather, this is a great time of year to see the best of Scotland. From atmospheric islands and glorious highlands to Aberdeenshire and beyond, all of our meticulously planned itineraries at this time of year are designed to showcase the country's stunning locations at its peak.

With over 30 years of experience, exclusive access to private gardens and expert tour managers, you're guaranteed a unique holiday to savour wherever you choose to explore.

We look forward to your company.

Best wishes,

Alison Wilson
Managing Director

P.S: Please keep an eye on our website as new tours and departure dates are being added all the time!

A *unique* holiday experience

Unique destinations and innovative itineraries

Choose from a range of award-winning holidays - a curated collection of the very best spots to delve into, with all tours expertly planned, allowing you to enjoy every step.

Exclusive access to private gardens

Explore botanical sanctuaries, many private and exclusive to our tours, and discover more about rare, tropical and stunning gardens. Delve into the latest discoveries and learn what goes on behind the scenes.

Solo travellers welcome

Many of our guests are single travellers and we have a large number of holidays where there is no single supplement to pay. Just look for the 'NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT' message on the tour page.

Expert Tour Managers

With their knowledge and passion, our tour managers are with you from start to finish, ensuring you enjoy your holiday to the fullest.



We make it easy to join your Brightwater Holiday with a full UK Travel service. If you need help travelling in the UK, with overnight airport accommodation or regional flights, we are here to help.

Look forward to *spring* and *early summer* in Scotland

Journey on the Jacobite Steam Train

Spring in the Highlands signifies the return of the spectacular Jacobite Steam Train. Meandering from Fort William to Mallaig, this is one of the most scenic railway journeys in the world, passing sparkling lochs and rugged mountains in all their springtime glory and along the iconic Glenfinnan Viaduct. **See page 6 for full tour**



Look out for Shetland pony foals

The most delightful part of spring on this archipelago is when adorable Shetland pony foals start to appear. Bursting into life once more, wildflowers also paint beautiful colours across the landscapes, skylarks and oystercatchers can be heard again and seabirds return to the coastline. **See page 8 for full tour**

Meander along the North Coast 500

The landscapes begin to re-awaken once more, with primroses and bluebells dotting the roadside and vivid colours transforming landmarks such as the Castle of Mey. Returning birdsong echoes through magical forests and red deer can be seen grazing in the woodlands too. **See page 11 for full tour**



Enjoy a spot of birdwatching on Mull

The beautiful island of Mull is a haven for wildlife, particularly during the spring migration when seabirds can be seen in the estuaries. Elsewhere, watch otters playing along the coastline, spot white-tailed and golden eagles over the mountains or look out for Atlantic grey seals and dolphins. **See page 11 for full tour**

Take an early summertime trip to historic treasures

Follow in the footsteps of royalty and retreat to a host of castles and their impressive estates over the warmer months. Just a few highlights include Linlithgow Palace, the birthplace of Mary, Queen of Scots, Glamis Castle (believed to be the setting for Macbeth) and Scone Palace, the crowning place of Scottish kings. **See page 12 for full tour**



Get in touch with an *expert*

Give our Specialist Sales Executives a call, Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm, on:

01334 230 048

Alternatively, send us an email to:
info@brightwaterholidays.com

For further details, please visit our website:
www.brightwaterholidays.com

Discover stunning beaches to rival the Caribbean



Luskentyre

A Grand Tour of the Outer Hebrides

5 DAYS from £1,195 | 6 DAYS from £1,595

PICK-UP POINTS: Dundee, Perth, Kinross, Dunfermline, Edinburgh, Glasgow

Whether you choose our five or six day itinerary, our best-selling grand tour takes in all the beauty and diversity of this very special environment with ten different islands and four ferry trips included. Two comfortable hotels ensure that this holiday is as relaxing as possible while at the same time offering great variety and the sense of a true journey of discovery which will live long in the memory. Our odyssey begins as we travel via Glencoe, Fort William and Glenfinnan to Mallaig. From here we take the ferry to Lochboisdale in South Uist and cross the causeway to Benbecula, the 'stepping stone' between the Uists, before visiting the islands of Eriskay, Vatersay and Barra.

A captivating journey follows as we travel through the magnificent mountain scenery of Harris, the rolling moorland of Lewis, and on to Stornoway. We continue with visits to the Standing Stones of Callanish (*the main Callanish site will be closed until early 2026 and we will visit the nearby smaller circles instead), the tranquil little Norse Mill and the distinctive Black Houses at Gairrannan.

Day 1 We depart from our designated pick-up points for Mallaig, where we take the ferry to Lochboisdale, with dinner served on board. On arrival we continue to our hotel in **Benbecula**. (D)

Day 2 We drive south to the island of **Eriskay** and continue by ferry to **Barra**. We will visit **Castlebay** with views of **Kisimul Castle**; watch as the plane lands on the beach which serves as the island's runway, and visit **Vatersay** with its amazing beaches of white sand and turquoise sea. (B, D)

Day 3 We travel north today as we take the ferry from Berneray to Leverburgh on the isle of **Harris**, visiting **St Clement's Church** at Rodel before continuing through the mountains to **Lewis** and our hotel in Stornoway. (B, D)

Day 4 The 5,000-year-old **Standing Stones of Callanish***, **Black Houses of Gairrannan** and **Norse Mill** at Shawbost await us today. (B, D)

Day 5 We visit **Lewis Castle and Museum** and **St. Columba's Ui Church**, one of the most important archaeological sites in the area. We then see the **Port of Ness** and the **Butt of Lewis**. (B, D)

Day 6 We take an early ferry to **Ullapool** and return to our original pick-up points. (B)

*Our Stornoway to Benbecula itinerary operates in reverse, with two nights in Stornoway and three nights in Benbecula. *The main Callanish site will be closed until early 2026 and we will visit the nearby smaller circles instead.*

Inc. meals: B: Breakfast, D: Dinner

5-DAY ITINERARY

We also offer a five-day itinerary exploring the delights of these charming islands. Highlights include: Cockleshell Beach, the Standing Stones of Callanish*, the Norse Mill at Shawbost and much more.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Four nights' dinner, bed & breakfast: two nights at the Dark Island Hotel, Benbecula and two nights at the Cabarfeidh Hotel, Stornoway (one dinner and one breakfast served on board the ferry)
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel and all ferry crossings
- ▶ All visits as outlined in the itinerary
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON BENBECULA TO STORNOWAY

14 - 18 Apr	£1,195
Single Supplement	£200

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES 6-DAY ITINERARY

- ▶ Five nights' dinner, bed & breakfast: two nights at the Dark Island Hotel, Benbecula and three nights at the Cabarfeidh Hotel, Stornoway (one dinner and one breakfast served on board the ferry)
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel and all ferry crossings
- ▶ All visits as outlined in the itinerary
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON BENBECULA TO STORNOWAY

8 - 13 Jun	£1,695
Single Supplement	£250

Visit the iconic waterfront of Tobermory on Mull



Eilean Donan Castle

Scenic Journeys of the Highlands and Islands

7 DAYS from £1,995

DEPARTURE POINT: Glasgow

The Highlands and Islands of Scotland provide such a wealth of scenic journeys that it can be a daunting prospect to work out how best to take them all in. This tour aims to provide the answer to this Caledonian conundrum with an itinerary that ticks off a whole host of visual gems while at the same time providing a series of relaxing, undemanding journeys by train, coach and boat.

Our tour begins with one of the most visually stunning rail journeys in Scotland, the West Highland Line to Fort William, with views of Loch Lomond and the wild, open expanse of Rannoch Moor. This is followed by an excursion to the Isle of Mull, with three different ferry crossings involved. We then enjoy a cruise on Loch Linnhe, a drive through the haunting glacial valley of Glen Coe and a round trip on the Jacobite steam train, over the final section of the West Highland Line. Heading north to Inverness, we enjoy possibly the most scenic of all the Scottish railway routes to Kyle of Lochalsh and a visit to iconic Eilean Donan Castle. Finally we take the funicular railway to the top of the magnificent Cairngorms and then it's 'downhill all the way' as we ride the Highland Railway from Aviemore to Glasgow.

Day 1 Assembling at Glasgow Queen Street Station where our tour begins, we depart on a rail journey for **Fort William**, with views of mountains, lochs and glens. (D)

Day 2 Today we drive down to **Oban** and take the ferry to **Mull** to visit **Duart Castle** and **Tobermory** before crossing by ferry to Morvern and returning to our hotel. (B, D)

Day 3 After a look at the canal locks known as **Neptune's Staircase**, we cruise on **Loch Linnhe** and take a scenic drive through the magnificent mountain scenery of **Glen Coe**, an ancient volcanic caldera. (B, D)

Day 4 A treat lies in store as we ride aboard the **Jacobite steam train** forging over the **Glenfinnan Viaduct** to **Mallaig**, following 'The Road to the Isles'. (B, D)

Day 5 We cruise on **Loch Ness**, with views of the ruins of **Urquhart Castle**, and travel to the shores of the **Moray Firth** where we hope to spot the resident pod of dolphins. (B, D)

Day 6 Using the scheduled diesel train service from Inverness, our route takes us through **Strath Bran** and the isolated little station at **Achnasheen**, on into **Strath Carron** to the head of Loch Carron, passing **Stromeferry**, the one-time terminus of the line, before we reach the current terminus at **Kyle of Lochalsh**. This afternoon, we visit the iconic **Eilean Donan Castle**. (B, D)

Day 7 Board the **Cairngorm funicular railway** for sweeping views. Later, we'll catch the train from Aviemore to Glasgow, where the group will disperse or make onward connections. (B)

Inc. meals: B: Breakfast, D: Dinner



The Jacobite

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Six nights' dinner, bed & breakfast: three nights in the Fort William area and three nights at the Carrbridge Hotel, Carrbridge (or similar)
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel, ferry crossings and standard class rail travel
- ▶ All visits as outlined in the itinerary
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON


15 - 21 Jun	£1,995
Single Supplement	£195



The Jacobite steam train

A Classic Scottish Steam Break

4 DAYS from £795 | NO/LOW SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

 **PICK-UP POINTS:** Aberdeen, Stonehaven, Forfar, Dundee, Perth, Kinross, Dunfermline, Edinburgh

Steam locomotion has an enduring fascination for many of us and combined with the wonderful scenery of Scotland it becomes utterly irresistible. The Jacobite steam train, from Fort William to Mallaig, is one of the longest steam-hauled rail journeys available in Britain today, an 84-mile round trip through some spectacular scenery that also includes the 21-arch Glenfinnan Viaduct. A gentler pace is set as we sail 'Doon ra Watter' on the world's last seagoing paddle steamer, the PS Waverley*, still elegantly plying her trade on the Clyde. There can be no better way to enjoy the gentle beauty of the Argyll hills and the Kyles of Bute than from the deck of this grand old lady. We also enjoy a taste of steam as we cruise aboard the newly restored SS Sir Walter Scott on the calm waters of Loch Katrine amid the spectacular scenery of the Trossachs, and take a trip on the Falkirk Wheel, the world's first rotating boat lift and a modern engineering marvel. We offer two different packages for this tour following the same itinerary: one staying at the Arrochar Hotel and one staying at the Stirling Highland Hotel.

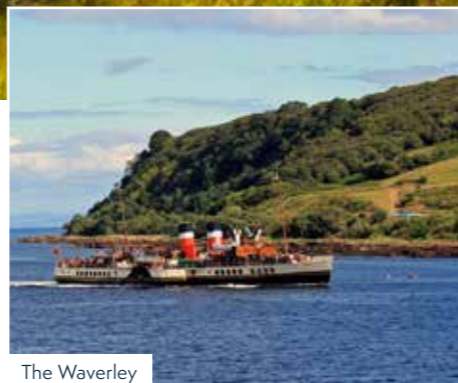
Day 1 We depart from our designated pick-up points and travel to the **Falkirk Wheel**, the world's first rotating boat lift. Once the wheel has made its ascent to join the **Union Canal** 35m above, we sail under the Antonine Wall, the Romans' most northern frontier. We continue to our hotel. (D)

Day 2 Today is long but rewarding as we journey back in time aboard the **Jacobite steam train** and experience one of the most spectacular railway journeys in the world, the **Fort William to Mallaig line**. From the slopes of Ben Nevis, the line runs through rugged mountains, past sea and inland lochs and on to the coast at Mallaig. (B, D)

Day 3 Today we sail on the world's last seagoing paddle steamer, the **Waverley***, built in 1946 to replace the 1899 Waverley, which was sunk at Dunkirk. We leave the ship at Tighnabruaich and our coach will take us back to the hotel. (B, D)

Day 4 Following breakfast we cruise on **Loch Katrine**, set among the Trossachs. We continue by Aberfoyle, the Duke's Pass and Loch Venachar to **Callander**, where free time awaits before we return to our original pick-up points. (B)

Inc. meals: B: Breakfast, D: Dinner



The Waverley

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- ▶ Three nights' dinner, bed & breakfast at the Arrochar Hotel or 4-star Stirling Highland Hotel
- ▶ Comfortable coach and standard class rail travel on the Jacobite steam train
- ▶ All visits as outlined in the itinerary
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

ARROCHAR HOTEL

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

24 - 27 Apr	£795
8 - 11 May	£845
25 - 28 Jun	£945
Single Supplement	£90

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT IN APRIL

STIRLING HIGHLAND HOTEL

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

23 - 26 May	£925
Single Supplement	£160

*Please note that the itinerary is subject to confirmation of the Waverley's sailing schedule. The Waverley does not sail in Apr & May therefore we will enjoy a cruise on Loch Lomond and a visit to Inveraray Castle instead.



Glenfinnan Viaduct

Enjoy the scenic Strathspey Railway

Scenic Scottish Railways

4 DAYS from £895

 **DEPARTURE POINTS:** Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Kinross, Perth

The north of Scotland is blessed with some wonderfully scenic railway lines. The challenge of building railways through difficult terrain was taken up by the great engineers of the Victorian age. Their legacy is in the sweeping curves and majestic viaducts of the single track lines which cross wild moors and lonely glens. Highlights on this short break include a visit to the much-photographed Eilean Donan Castle, a ride aboard the Jacobite steam train that takes us over the iconic Glenfinnan Viaduct and a visit to Boat of Garten on the Strathspey Line, which you may recognise from the BBC series, Monarch of the Glen.

Day 1 We depart from our designated pick-up points and travel by coach to Aviemore for a return trip on the **Strathspey Railway**. Our train of maroon-liveried coaches will be hauled by a lovingly restored steam locomotive as we travel to Boat of Garten and Broomhill, with the Cairngorm Mountains providing a scenic backdrop. We continue our journey by coach to our hotel. (D)

Day 2 We transfer to **Inverness** and board the morning diesel train service to **Wick**. The line takes us along the shores of the **Cromarty and Dornoch Firths** and follows the spectacular coastline as far as **Helmsdale**, where it turns inland before reaching the terminus at **Wick**. We re-join our coach and return to our hotel by the more direct but equally scenic coastal route. (B, D)

Day 3 We depart by diesel train from Inverness, this time heading for **Kyle of Lochalsh**, travelling over what is often considered to be the most scenic of all of Scotland's railway lines. In the afternoon we explore the iconic 13th century castle of **Eilean Donan**, with its impossibly romantic setting on Loch Duich. (B, D)

Day 4 Today we travel to Fort William, where we join **'The Jacobite'** steam train and experience one of the most memorable and spectacular railway journeys in the world, crossing the famous **Glenfinnan Viaduct** as we steam on a return trip to **Mallaig**. After some free time and an opportunity for lunch (not included) in Mallaig, we return on the train to Fort William. We then return by coach to our original pick-up points. (B)

Inc. meals: B: Breakfast, D: Dinner



Strathspey Steam Railway

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Three nights' dinner, bed & breakfast at the Carrbridge Hotel, Carrbridge (or similar)
- ▶ Comfortable coach and standard class rail travel throughout
- ▶ All visits as outlined in the itinerary
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

7 - 10 May	£895
Single Supplement	£120



St Ninian's Isle

Highlights of Orkney & Shetland

6 DAYS from £1,845

 **PICK-UP POINTS:** Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Kinross, Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen

Sail away to lands steeped in history, wildlife and stunning scenery – the Orkney and Shetland Isles. Many people have landed there before us, some as early as 3000 BC, with the most famous being the Vikings. Both Orkney and Shetland have their own identities - Orkney is green and fertile, while Shetland has rugged cliff and sea loch landscapes. However, both share a colourful history of Picts, Norsemen, ancient antiquities and seafaring legends – bound together with an independent spirit that sets them apart from the rest of Scotland. Sailing from Aberdeen to Lerwick, we enjoy four full days of exploring.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ One night's dinner, bed and breakfast at the Scalloway Hotel, Shetland (or similar) and three nights' bed and breakfast (plus two dinners) at the Kirkwall or Shore Hotel, Orkney
- ▶ All ferry crossings, including one night's accommodation in two-berth inside cabins on Serco Northlink Ferries MV Hrossey/Hjalmland on the outward sailing
- ▶ One breakfast and two dinners on board ship
- ▶ Visits to Scalloway, cliffs of Eshaness, Mavis Grind, the Norse settlement of Jarlshof, Sumburgh Head, Lerwick, Maeshowe, Standing Stones of Stenness, Barnhouse, Neolithic village Skara Brae, Skail House, Kirkwall, Churchill Barriers & Italian Chapel
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel throughout
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

12 - 17 May	£1,945
26 - 31 May	£1,945
Single Supplement	£450
Outside Cabin Supplement	£55



Lerwick

Orkney & Shetland by Air

5 DAYS from £2,095

 **DEPARTURE POINTS:** Aberdeen or Edinburgh

You asked and we listened! As it's a long way by road and sea, we have launched this alternative itinerary that explores the glorious and wild Orkney and Shetland Isles by air. Over five memorable days, we explore lands steeped in history, wildlife and stunning scenery, far from the jostling crowds as we lose ourselves in the haunting beauty and historic treasures of the Orkney and Shetland Isles. Both islands, but particularly Shetland, have virtually no darkness in summer and the beauty of this 'Simmer Dim', as it is called locally, has to be seen to be realised.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Two nights' dinner, bed and breakfast at the Busta House Hotel, Shetland and two nights' dinner, bed and breakfast at the Kirkwall or Shore Hotel, Orkney
- ▶ Flights from Aberdeen to Sumburgh, Sumburgh to Kirkwall, and Kirkwall to Aberdeen (Edinburgh flight supplement £225pp)
- ▶ Visits to Sumburgh Head, the Norse settlement of Jarlshof, Cliffs of Eshaness, Lerwick, Mousa, Kirkwall, Churchill Barriers, Italian Chapel, Maeshowe, Standing Stones of Stenness, Barnhouse, Neolithic village Skara Brae & Skail House
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel throughout
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON


5 - 9 May	£2,095
Single Supplement	£275



Jarlshof

An Archaeologist's View of Orkney and Shetland

6 DAYS from £1,795

 **PICK-UP POINTS:** Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Kinross, Perth, Dundee

The islands of Orkney and Shetland are littered with archaeological remains, with excavations ongoing to uncover new information. The islands are therefore of enormous interest to anyone who enjoys first-hand contact with ancient settlements and buildings as well as the people who once lived here. Highlights on Shetland include the uninhabited island of Mousa with its 2,000-year-old full size broch and the Prehistoric and Norse Settlement of Jarlshof. On Orkney, we visit the Italian Chapel and the Churchill Barriers, Maeshowe (the finest chambered tomb in Western Europe), stone circles, the famous site at Skara Brae and more.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ One night's dinner, bed and breakfast at the Scalloway Hotel, Shetland and three nights' bed and breakfast (plus two dinners) at the Kirkwall or Shore Hotel, Orkney
- ▶ All ferry crossings, including two dinners and one night's accommodation in two berth inside cabins on Serco Northlink Ferries MV Hrossey/Hjalmland on the outward sailing
- ▶ Visits to Sumburgh Head, Jarlshof, St Ninian's Isle, Scalloway, Lerwick, Shetland Museum, Mousa, Clickimin Broch, Churchill Barriers, Italian Chapel, St. Magnus Cathedral, Earl's Palace, Bishop's Palace, the Orkney Museum, Maeshowe, Standing Stones of Stenness, Barnhouse, Skara Brae & Skail House
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel throughout
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

14 - 19 Apr	£1,795
Single Supplement	£450
Outside Cabin Supplement	£55



Dun Carloway Broch

Ancient Stones of the Outer Hebrides

5 DAYS from £1,395 | NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

 **PICK-UP POINTS:** Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Kinross, Perth, Inverness

In about 1800 BC, at around the time that the Middle Kingdom of Ancient Egypt was flourishing, an equally vigorous civilisation was leaving its mark on the far flung islands of the Outer Hebrides. In the company of a specialist guide we will tour a succession of sites, from Lewis in the north to Harris in the south. Highlights include the Bosta Iron Age Village, the Standing Stones of Callanish* and St Clement's Church at Rodel.

*The main Callanish site will be closed until early 2026 and we will visit the nearby smaller circles instead

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Four nights' dinner, bed & breakfast at the Cabarfeidh Hotel, Stornoway
- ▶ Visits to Bosta Iron Age Village, Stones of Callanish*, St Columba's Uì Church, Harris, St Clement's Church, the Genealogy Centre at Northton, Clach Mhic Leoid standing stone, Lews Castle, Dun Carloway Broch, Black Houses, Norse Mill & Clach an Trushal
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel throughout
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

22 - 26 Apr	£1,395
NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	



Dolphins, Moray Firth

Highland Wildlife Safari

4 DAYS from £995 | LOW SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

PICK-UP POINTS: Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Kinross, Perth

Scotland's natural environment is second to none with a more diverse range of habitats than almost any other country of comparable size. This tour of the Highlands aims to provide close encounters with a wide range of wildlife, all set against a backdrop of magnificent scenery.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Three nights' dinner, bed & breakfast at the Carrbridge Hotel, Carrbridge (or similar)
- ▶ One lunch
- ▶ Visits to Loch of the Lowes Wildlife Reserve, Highland Wildlife Park, Dolphin Cruise on the Moray Firth, House of Aigas Field Centre, Beinn Eighe National Nature Reserve, Inverewe Gardens, Abernethy National Nature Reserve & Pitlochry Dam and Fish Ladder
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel throughout
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

25 - 28 Jun	£995
Single Supplement	£120



Achmelvich beach

Scotland's Extreme North West

4 DAYS from £775 | LOW SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

PICK-UP POINTS: Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Kinross, Perth, Inverness

The rugged and remote north-west coast of Scotland takes on a majestic character in the early spring months as Mother Nature lays on a spectacular display of beauty. The coastal views and landscapes are breathtaking, particularly along the iconic North Coast 500 and the warmth of our highland hotel is very welcoming at this time of year.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Three nights' dinner, bed & breakfast at the 3-star Kinlochbervie Hotel
- ▶ Visits to Assynt, Lochinver, Oldshoremore, the beautiful church graveyard of Balnakeil in Durness, the chocolatier at Cocoa Mountain, Smoo Cave, the old Norse settlement at Tongue, Loch More, Loch Shin, Lairg, Bonar Bridge & Tain
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel throughout
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

18 - 21 Apr	£775
Single Supplement	£120



Ardreck Castle

Scotland's Northern Edge featuring the North Coast 500

5 DAYS from £1,245 | LOW SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

PICK-UP POINTS: Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Kinross, Perth, Inverness

On the northern edge of Scotland, where ancient rock meets restless sea, the views are among the most spectacular to be found in the British Isles. Dunnet Head in particular, the most northerly point on the mainland, offers extensive sea views, as do the cliffs at Duncansby Head. Following much of the North Coast 500, one of the world's most scenic road trips, along this iconic route you can experience an array of stunning beaches, historic castles, and the breath-taking landscapes of the wild Northern Highlands. Highlights of the tour include the Castle of Mey, the impressive Smoo Cave and the North West Highlands Geo Park.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Four nights' dinner, bed & breakfast: two nights at the Station Hotel, Thurso (or similar) and two nights at the 3-star Kinlochbervie Hotel
- ▶ Visits to Duncansby Head, John O' Groats, Castle of Mey, Dunnet Head, Tongue, Smoo Cave, Knockan Crag visitor centre, Ardreck Castle, Highlands Geo Park, Lochinver, Highland Stoneware, Laxford Bridge, Loch More, Loch Shin, Lairg & Bonar Bridge
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel throughout
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

6 - 10 May	£1,345
9 - 13 Jun	£1,245
25 - 29 Jun*	£1,245
Single Supplement	£120

*Itinerary operates in reverse



Duart Castle

Mull, Staffa and Iona

4 DAYS from £1,595

PICK-UP POINTS: Aberdeen, Stonehaven, Forfar, Dundee, Perth, Kinross, Dunfermline, Edinburgh, Glasgow

The Isle of Mull is a place of tumbling burns, high peaks, dramatic views, and a silent, lonely beauty. We will explore some of the highlights of the island including the multi-coloured buildings that line the waterfront of the island's principal town, Tobermory. We sail on a wildlife cruise that takes us to the Treshnish Isles, and the little island of Staffa, whose natural cathedral of basalt columns is one of the wonders of the west coast. We also visit Duart Castle, the 13th century home of the Chief of Clan MacLean and the sacred isle of Iona.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Three nights' dinner, bed & breakfast at a comfortable hotel on the Isle of Mull
- ▶ One packed lunch
- ▶ Visits to Oban, Mull, Iona, Iona Abbey, Tobermory, Treshnish Isles, Staffa, Fingal's Cave & Duart Castle
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel and all ferry crossings
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON


28 Jun - 1 Jul	£1,595
Single Supplement	£420



Balmoral

Historic Houses of Aberdeenshire

4 DAYS from £995

 PICK-UP POINTS: Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Kinross, Perth, Dundee

Aberdeenshire is dotted with historic houses and castles, many of them outstanding examples of Scots Baronial architecture. Each one has a fascinating story to tell with countless legends and several royal connections including Balmoral, sadly now remembered as the place where Her Majesty The Queen passed away.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Three nights' dinner, bed and breakfast at the 4-star Ardoe House Hotel, Aberdeen
- ▶ Visits to Drum Castle and Gardens, Haddo House, Fyvie Castle, Castle Fraser, Craigievar Castle, Balmoral & Crathes Castle
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel throughout
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

9 - 12 Jun	£995
Single Supplement	£150



Falkland Palace

Castles, Palaces and Abbeys of Eastern Scotland

4 DAYS from £995 | NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

 PICK-UP POINTS: Glasgow, Edinburgh

The East of Scotland is home to a fine collection of historic castles and palaces. Our tour begins at the birthplace of Mary, Queen of Scots, Linlithgow Palace. Heading north into Angus, we visit Glamis Castle, said to be the setting for Shakespeare's Macbeth. Scone Palace is also fascinating, set in the heart of Perthshire countryside and most famous as the crowning place of Scottish Kings. Continuing with connections to Mary, Queen of Scots we visit one of her places of refuge, Falkland Palace, and also the site of her imprisonment, Loch Leven Castle. We also visit the resting place of many Scottish royals.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Three nights' dinner, bed breakfast at the Salutation Hotel, Perth
- ▶ Visits to Linlithgow Palace, Stirling Castle, Glamis Castle, Scone Palace, Falkland Palace and Gardens, Loch Leven Castle, Culross Palace & Dunfermline Abbey and Palace
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel throughout
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

3 - 6 Jun	£995
15 - 18 Jun	£995
Single Supplement	£150
NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT ON 3 JUN	



Lord of the Glens

Lord of the Glens - Voyage Through the Heart of Scotland

7 DAYS from £2,395

 DEPARTURE POINT: Inverness

This six-night cruise combines both fresh and saltwater cruising, as the Lord of the Glens sails from Oban to the Isle of Mull and through the Caledonian Canal and Loch Ness to Inverness. Highlights include Loch Ness, Loch Oich and Loch Lochy and Thomas Telford's engineering masterpiece Neptune's Staircase, a series of eight interconnected locks that takes vessels back to sea-level near Fort William. There is also a full programme of shore excursions including visits to the tranquil little island of Iona, colourful Tobermory on the Isle of Mull, the Glenfinnan Viaduct, Culloden Battlefield and prehistoric Clava Cairns.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Six nights' accommodation in a lower, middle or upper deck twin en-suite cabin on a full board basis
- ▶ Visits to Culloden, Clava Cairns, Loch Ness, Castle Urquhart, Fort Augustus, Glenfinnan Viaduct, Tobermory, Isle of Iona, Duart Castle, Oban & McCaigs Tower
- ▶ Return coach transfers from Inverness

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

Oban to Inverness	
17 Apr	
Lower Deck	£2,395
Middle Deck	£2,995
Middle Deck Superior	£3,495
Upper Deck	£3,495
Single Supplement	from £1,400



Urquhart Castle

Lord of the Glens - Secrets of the Highlands & Islands

8 DAYS from £3,595

 DEPARTURE POINT: Inverness

This seven-night cruise aboard the Lord of the Glens sails through the Caledonian Canal from Inverness to the islands of Skye and Mull, featuring some of the remote and breathtakingly beautiful scenery of Scotland's west coast, and concluding in Kyle of Lochalsh. We also enjoy visits to Armadale on the Isle of Skye, the little islands of Eigg and Iona, colourful Tobermory on the Isle of Mull, romantic Eilean Donan Castle, the Glenfinnan Monument, Culloden Battlefield and prehistoric Clava Cairns. With well-equipped state cabins and panoramic views of the Highland scenery on deck, this is a summer treat to be savoured.

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Seven nights' accommodation in a lower, middle or upper deck twin en-suite cabin on a full board basis
- ▶ Visits to Skye, Mull, Loch Ness, Loch Oich, Loch Lochy, Neptune's Staircase, Fort William, Armadale, Eigg, Iona, Tobermory, Eilean Donan Castle, Glenfinnan Monument, Culloden Battlefield, Clava Cairns & Kyle of Lochalsh
- ▶ Return coach transfers from Inverness

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

Inverness to Kyle of Lochalsh	
19 May	
Lower Deck	£3,595
Middle Deck	£4,195
Middle Deck Superior	£4,795
Upper Deck	£4,795
Single Supplement	On request

NEW TOUR

Cruising Loch Ness, keeping an eye out just in case...



Lord of the Glens

Gardens of Western Scotland Cruise aboard the Lord of the Glens

8 DAYS from £3,695

 DEPARTURE POINT: Inverness

Scotland boasts a diverse collection of gardens which are home to a vast collection of plants from around the world, in spectacular natural settings. On this horticultural extravaganza, experience the rich diversity of Scotland's west coast gardens and explore botanical beauty while also enjoying the stunning Highland scenery from the MV Lord of the Glens. Visit some of the area's best kept secrets including Attadale in Wester Ross, the RHS Partner Garden of the Year in Scotland in 2023, and Ardochattan Priory.

Day 1 Travel under own arrangement to Inverness (rail/air connections can be arranged on request). A coach transfer is provided from Inverness Airport or Inverness city centre to Kyle of Lochalsh, where we embark the MV Lord of the Glens. Alternatively, you may travel independently to Kyle, via the scenic railway line from Inverness. (D)

Day 2 Today we visit **Attadale Gardens**, voted RHS Partner Garden of the Year for Scotland in 2023. Attadale is a gem of a garden on the shores of Loch Carron, where the Gulf Stream influenced micro-climate nurtures 20 acres of outstanding water gardens, old rhododendrons, unusual trees and a fern collection in a geodesic dome. We continue to the woodland gardens of **Armada Castle**, originally laid out by Lord Macdonald in the early 19th century. (FB)

Day 3 Today we visit **Lip na Cloiche**, a remote, hidden garden situated on a steep hillside on the northwest coast of Mull which features Chilean and New Zealand rarities. The garden was planned for long-season interest, with primulas, mecanopsis, gunneras and other damp-loving specialities. (FB)

Day 4 After breakfast we visit **Ardochattan Priory Garden**, originally planted by medieval monks and boasting breathtaking views. Highlights here include herbaceous borders, roses, a rockery, ornamental trees and a wildflower garden. After sailing through Loch Linnhe, we travel to **Glenfinnan**, where the 18m-high monument provides a poignant reminder of the clansmen who gave their lives to the Jacobite cause. (FB)

Day 5 After breakfast we ascend **Neptune's Staircase**, an impressive flight of eight inter-connected locks that lifts the vessel 103 feet above sea level to Banavie. We then sail through peaceful **Loch Lochy** and **Loch Oich** and various man-made sections of the **Caledonian Canal**, which was started in 1803 to plans produced by Thomas Telford. (FB)

Day 6 A scenic sail of **Loch Ness** leads us to **Abriachan Garden**, a uniquely beautiful woodland garden with a fantastic mix of native and exotic plantings, and the most northerly botanic garden in Britain. The garden also affords views across Loch Ness. (FB)

Day 7 Our final visit is **Cawdor Castle Gardens**, forever immortalised in Shakespeare's 'Macbeth.' The castle boasts three very different gardens, each with their own unique history, appearance and ever-changing nature. The gardens include large herbaceous borders, collections of rhododendrons and azaleas, whole borders full of lilies and galtonias, flowering trees and shrubs, archways of rambling roses and laburnum, spring bulbs and contemporary sculptures. (FB)

Day 8 Following breakfast we disembark. A coach transfer is provided to Inverness city centre (approx. 0930hrs) and Inverness Airport (approx. 1000hrs). Alternatively, you may return home independently – extensions are also available on request. (B)

Inc. meals: B: Breakfast, FB: Full Board, D: Dinner



Lord of the Glens - Lounge



Cawdor Castle

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Seven nights' accommodation in a lower, middle or upper deck twin en-suite cabin on a full board basis
- ▶ Shore excursions as described in the itinerary
- ▶ Return coach transfers from Inverness

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

12 - 19 May	
Lower Deck	£3,695
Middle Deck	£4,395
Middle Deck Superior	£4,995
Upper Deck	£4,995
Single Supplement	On request

Discover this island treasure known as Scotland in miniature



Blackwaterfoot

Arran, Scotland in Miniature

5 DAYS from £1,395

 PICK-UP POINTS: Aberdeen, Stonehaven, Forfar, Dundee, Perth, Kinross, Dunfermline, Edinburgh, Glasgow

Often described as "Scotland in Miniature", Arran has a blend of Highland and Island scenery with granite peaks and deep glens to the north of the island, contrasting with its rolling and lush farmlands to the south. From our base in Blackwaterfoot, we visit Brodick Castle and its wonderful gardens, we enjoy a circular tour of Arran that passes through Whiting Bay, Lamlash, Corrie and Sannox, and we can look forward to both a tour and a tasting at the Isle of Arran Distillery.

Day 1 We depart from our designated pick-up points and head to Ardrossan for our ferry to Arran and transfer to our hotel in **Blackwaterfoot**. (D)

Day 2 Today we have a **circular tour** visiting **Whiting Bay, Lamlash, Brodick, Corrie, Sannox, Catacol, Pirnmill** and **Isle of Arran Distillery**. Only 56 miles around its coastline, the small villages are compared to 'jewels on a necklace' strung out like pearls around the island. (B, D)

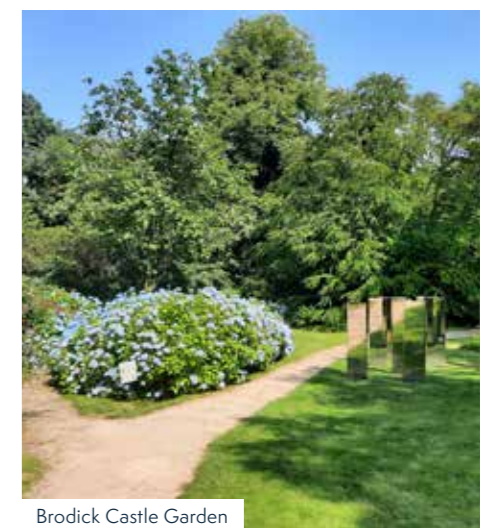
Day 3 Explore at your leisure or take an optional excursion to the little Hebridean **island of Gigha** including a visit to **Achamore Gardens**. Nestling close to the mainland just off the Kintyre peninsula, this is a gem of an island often

overlooked by the island-hopper. Sir James Horlick came here in 1944 and created a woodland garden. The mild climate combined with high levels of rainfall means that there is always something in bloom. (B, D)

Day 4 This morning we visit **Brodick Castle and Gardens**, looking east across the Firth of Clyde. The present garden dates from 1932 when the Duchess of Montrose started an ambitious woodland garden with a collection of rhododendrons. (B, D)

Day 5 After breakfast we depart on the morning ferry to Ardrossan and return to our original pick-up points. (B)

Inc. meals: B: Breakfast, D: Dinner



Brodick Castle Garden

YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Four nights' dinner, bed & breakfast at the 3-star Best Western Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot
- ▶ Return ferry crossings
- ▶ All visits as outlined in the itinerary
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel throughout
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON


19 - 23 May	£1,395
8 - 12 Jun	£1,395
Single Supplement	£325
Optional excursion Gigha:	£85

"Excellent! Loads of interesting places visited and of course the experience of seeing Up Helly Aa. Very well organised thanks to Alastair when plans had to change due to the weather."

Guest - January 2024

Up Helly Aa - Shetland's Festival of Fire - 2026

 5 DAYS from £1,345pp

 PICK-UP POINTS: Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dunfermline, Kinross, Perth, Dundee, Forfar, Stonehaven, Aberdeen

A wander through the streets of Lerwick is normally a quiet, peaceful experience, but take a walk there at the end of January and it's quite likely that you will bump into a squad of very large, bearded Vikings, in gleaming chain-mail and winged helmets. Later, the Vikings and their fancy-dressed followers fill the narrow streets, their flaming torches illuminating the winter skies, their boisterous songs filling the air. A 30-foot Viking longship is carried aloft before it is set alight with a thousand blazing brands. As the sky over Lerwick shimmers with heat and light, fireworks explode and the gloom of winter is lifted for another year.



YOUR TOUR INCLUDES

- ▶ Four nights' dinner, bed and full breakfast at the Scalloway Hotel
- ▶ Two nights' accommodation in two-berth cabins on Serco Northlink Ferries Hrossey or Hjaltland with dinner and full breakfast
- ▶ Visits include: Scalloway, Jarlshof and Sumburgh Head, Yell and Unst, Foula, Sandness and a full day in Lerwick at the Up Helly Aa festival
- ▶ Comfortable coach travel and all ferry crossings
- ▶ Services of an expert tour manager

DEPARTURES & PRICES PER PERSON

25 - 29 Jan 2026	£1,345
Single Supplement	On request
Outside cabin supplement	£60
Shetland Hotel supplement	£150