

LOCH NESS ● ISLE OF SKYE ● OUTLANDER



HIGHLAND EXPLORER TOURS



RESERVATIONS: +44 (0)131 558 3738 ● [HIGHLANDEXPLORERTOURS.COM](https://www.highlandexplorertours.com)



- Award-Winning Tours
- Passionate Local Guides
- Free Packed Lunch on Loch Ness Day Tour
- Jacobite Steam Train
 - Loch Lomond
- Outlander Filming Locations
 - Edinburgh Tattoo
 - Highland Games



PASSIONATE
TRUSTED
UNIQUE

OVER 96% OF OUR TRAVELLERS
RECOMMEND US ON TRIPADVISOR



Image: Old Man of Storr, Isle of Skye



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 cost - see page 20 for more information about accommodation.

PASSIONATE
TRUSTED
UNIQUE



TRUSTED

MULTI-AWARD WINNING

With eighteen years' experience, 5-star award from VisitScotland 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 £1 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' adults book any day tour together. **Multi Trip Deals** | 10% when two day tours are booked together.

AUDIO GUIDES

We offer free foreign language audio guides on all day tours, see page 4 for more information.

HIGHLAND DAY TOURS

TOUR ROUTE

LOCH NESS EXPLORER

TOUR ROUTE

SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS & THE JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN

TOUR ROUTE

WHISKY & WATERFALLS

TOUR ROUTE

LOCH LOMOND, STIRLING CASTLE & THE KELPIES

TOUR ROUTE

ALNWICK CASTLE & THE BORDERS

TOUR ROUTE

OUTLANDER EXPLORER

TOUR ROUTE

CASTLES, WEST HIGHLANDS & LOCH LOMOND

Please note: white dots on all maps don't necessarily mean the tour stops there, we may just pass by. Please check with our reservations team to avoid disappointment.



Image:wEilean Donan Castle



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 scheduled day tours, allowing the best customer experience possible for all our travellers.

DOWNLOAD



PAGE 4



Entdecker mit Leidenschaft...

Wir sind bestrebt, Ihnen jeden Tag die allerbesten Reiseerlebnisse zu bieten. Unsere Reisetouren sind darauf ausgelegt, das Beste aus Ihrer Zeit in unserem atemberaubenden Land zu machen, damit Sie das authentische Schottland erfahren. Unsere Mission ist es, Ihre Erwartungen zu übertreffen, ein Engagement, das von VisitScotland mit 5 Sternen ausgezeichnet wurde und sich in den gleichbleibend ausgezeichneten Bewertungen unserer Kunden widerspiegelt. Auf all unseren Reisetouren stehen Audioführer zur Verfügung.



Pasión por descubrir...

Trabajamos cada día para ofrecerle las mejores experiencias en viajes. Nuestras visitas guiadas están programadas de modo que pueda sacar el máximo partido de su visita en nuestro impresionante país y vivir una auténtica experiencia escocesa. Nuestra misión es sobrepasar sus expectativas, un compromiso constatado por nuestra acreditación de 5 estrellas por parte de VisitScotland, y las continuas opiniones favorables de nuestros clientes. Existen audio-guías a su disposición en todas nuestras visitas.



Amanti della Scoperta...

Siamo dediti a garantire ogni giorno le migliori esperienze di viaggio. I nostri tour sono strutturati in modo che possiate godervi il tempo che passerete nel nostro stupendo paese e per farvi vivere la vera Scozia. La nostra missione è quella di andare oltre le vostre aspettative, un impegno riconosciuto dal nostro punteggio di 5 stelle nella classifica VisitScotland e dai costanti commenti positivi dei nostri clienti. Le Audio Guide sono disponibili in tutti i nostri tour.



Passionnés de découvertes...

Notre objectif est de vous apporter ce qu'il y a de mieux pour vos voyages. Nous avons donc conçu des circuits qui, à chaque instant, vous feront découvrir notre extraordinaire pays et vous permettront de vous donner un véritable gout de l'Écosse. Nous avons pour mission d'aller au-delà de vos attentes, tel est le sens de l'engagement que nous avons souscrit conformément à notre accréditation 5 étoiles de VisitScotland et aussi en réponse aux commentaires élogieux reçus de notre clientèle. Des guides audio sont à votre disposition pour chacun de nos voyages.



Paixão Pela Descoberta...

Dedicamo-nos a proporcionar as melhores experiências de viagem todos os dias. As nossas visitas guiadas foram concebidas para aproveitar o máximo da sua estadia no nosso maravilhoso país e para lhe proporcionar uma autêntica experiência da Escócia. A nossa missão é exceder as suas expectativas, um compromisso que é reconhecido pela nossa acreditação de 5 estrelas da VisitScotland e pela consistência do excelente retorno por parte dos nossos clientes. Encontram-se disponíveis Guias Audio em todas as nossas visitas guiadas.



热衷于发现之旅...

我们专注于每天提供最优秀的旅游体验。我们的旅游路线力图帮助您最大限度地利用您在我们这美丽无比的国家所度过的旅游时光，并给您一个真正的苏格兰体验。我们的使命是超越您的期待，我们有游览苏格兰5星级认证，也一直得到积极的客户评价反馈。我们所有的旅游路线都提供导游音频设备。



DOWNLOAD



DOWNLOAD



DOWNLOAD



DOWNLOAD



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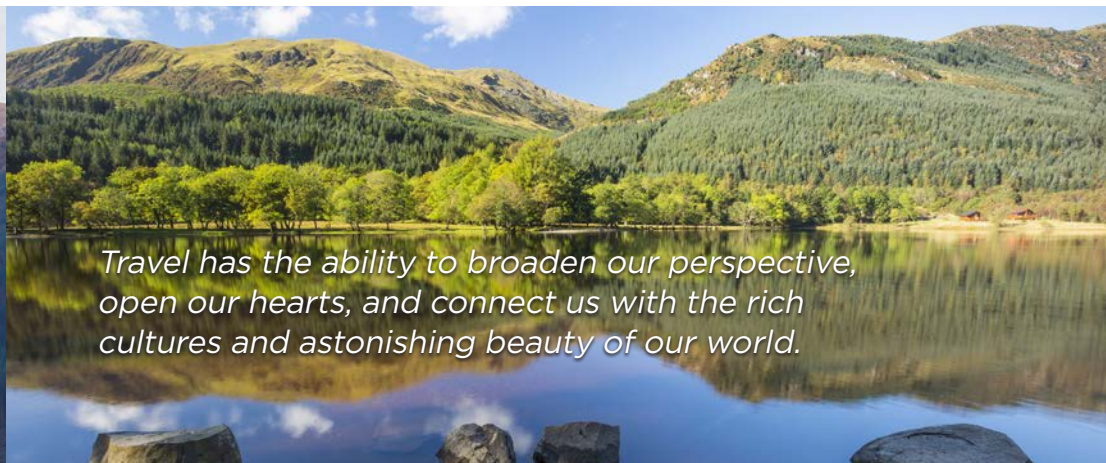
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To ensure that the environment and communities we visit remain welcoming and intact in the future, we developed How We Tread Right (HWTR), our new 5-year Sustainability Strategy as a joint initiative with the TreadRight Foundation. We're going Net Zero and have developed a five-point Climate Action Plan - committing to carbon reductions and reaching Net Zero by 2050. Find out more: highlandexplorertours.com/about-us/we-are-going-net-zero



OUR GREEN STORY



Travel has the ability to broaden our perspective, open our hearts, and connect us with the rich cultures and astonishing beauty of our world.




MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER[®] experiences are conscious travel experiences offered on our tours. They are chosen with great care based on the positive environmental or social impact they have on Scotland's communities and those who experience them. Look out for the MAKE TRAVEL MATTER[®] logo throughout this brochure!



RE-WILDING WITH TREES FOR LIFE

We have pioneered an Eco Scheme where you can make an optional £2 donation when booking any tour. We will match every £1 you donate, with proceeds going to a leading Scottish environmental charity; Trees for Life. Trees for Life are an award-winning charity working to restore the Caledonian Forest in the Highlands of Scotland. 

5 DAY TOUR



ISLE OF SKYE VOLUNTEER ADVENTURE

DEPARTS FROM INVERNESS

28 October 2024 & 17 March 2025

We are constantly seeking new opportunities to involve conscious travel experiences in our itineraries that make a positive environmental and social impact on Scotland's unique landscapes and communities. If you've always wanted to mingle with the locals in Scotland and love being active in the outdoors, then the 5-day Isle of Skye Volunteer Adventure ticks all the boxes.

Check out our [website for more information](#)



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. As a fourth-generation family-owned business, 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.



1 DAY TOUR

LOCH NESS EXPLORER

HIGHLIGHTS ★

BOAT CRUISE ON MYSTERIOUS LOCH NESS
FORT AUGUSTUS, HIGHLAND VILLAGE
DRAMATIC GLEN COE
CALEDONIAN CANAL AND THE GREAT GLEN

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
PACKED LUNCH
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Glen Coe | Loch Ness (right)



ALL YEAR

Every day

Departs 7:30am
Returns 7:45pm

Adult from **£62.00**

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

EXPLORE MORE

Loch Ness Cruise  from £17.00

A fantastic tour to Loch Ness visiting a diverse range of classic Highland scenery including many 'must see' sights and the chance to go monster hunting on Loch Ness! Other highlights include dramatic Glen Coe, mighty Ben Nevis, the Great Glen and Highland Perthshire.

We cross the wilds of Rannoch Moor before stopping at dramatic Glen Coe, scene of the infamous massacre in 1692. Our journey takes us through Fort William, passing Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain, before entering the Great Glen.

Arriving at Fort Augustus on the banks of Loch Ness, you have the chance to take a boat cruise on the loch, go for a walk or just relax by the Caledonian Canal in this charming Highland village.

Our return journey takes us past shimmering Loch Laggan before climbing over the wild and lonely Drumochter Pass in the Cairngorms National Park. Heading south, we enter Perthshire, a land of forests, rivers and mountains, where we stop in a wee village. We continue south over the Firth of Forth where we view the spectacular Forth Bridges before arriving back in Edinburgh in the evening.



BOOK NOW



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LOCH NESS CRUISE

A cruise on the mysterious and beautiful Loch Ness is an unforgettable experience, offering you the chance to catch a glimpse of Nessie. The boat uses the very latest hi-tech colour sonar and underwater imaging systems to enhance the hunt. You can also relax with a coffee or beer in the on-board bar. Reserve your cruise at time of booking to guarantee your seat. Cruise duration is approximately 50 minutes.

 RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING

1 DAY TOUR

LOCH NESS EXPLORER



We had a wonderful time during our trip. The locations we stopped at were stunning. But what made the trip especially worth while was the beautiful scenery along the bus route. In addition our bus driver and guide Cara made this route even more enjoyable by providing all sorts of lovely stories, historic facts and witty commentary. Highly recommended!
BRAM | NOVEMBER 2023



1 DAY TOUR

SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS & THE JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN

HIGHLIGHTS ★

JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN - AKA HOGWARTS EXPRESS
GLENFINNAN VIADUCT
GLEN COE
FORTH BRIDGES

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Jacobite Steam Train | Loch Shiel (right)



APRIL - OCTOBER

Every day*

Departs 7:15am
Returns 8:30pm

Adult from **£180.00**

Full refund if cancelled more than 48 hours in advance.
*There may be some days when this tour doesn't run.

Escape the city for the day and follow in the footsteps of the world's most famous wizard, Harry Potter. Scotland has played a huge part in the story of Harry Potter, from the scenic filming locations and inspiring architecture to the coffee shop where J.K. Rowling is said to have written the first novel.

Riding the Jacobite Steam Train is a bucket-list experience for any traveller, but even more so for Harry Potter fans who know that they are in fact boarding the Hogwarts' Express! Our passionate guides will immerse you in all the magic of Harry Potter, plus the real-life beauty and history of Scotland.

Learn all about Edinburgh's connections to Harry Potter as we depart the city and travel towards the Highlands, past the magnificent Forth Bridges.

Feast your eyes upon the Glenfinnan Viaduct on the stunning drive up the west coast, before travelling across its iconic arches on the Jacobite Steam Train from Mallaig!

After your ride on the Hogwarts' Express we visit Scotland's most dramatic landscape, Glen Coe, which was used as the backdrop for some much-loved scenes in Harry Potter.

We continue the scenic drive south, entertaining you with tales from Scotland's past, before arriving back into Edinburgh in the late evening.



BOOK NOW



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1 DAY TOUR

SCOTTISH
HIGHLANDS &
THE JACOBITE
STEAM TRAIN



This tour was amazing - a must do for all Harry Potter fans! Seeing the Viaduct, going on the Jacobite train while soaking in the views of all the beautiful picturesque Scottish Highlands, I can't recommend this any higher! The tour guide was very informative and friendly. Absolutely loved this day out and getting to see more of Scotland. ALLANA | SEPTEMBER 2023



1 DAY TOUR

CASTLES, WEST HIGHLANDS & LOCH LOMOND

HIGHLIGHTS ★

DOUNE CASTLE
KILCHURN CASTLE & LOCH AWE
INVERARAY & LOCH FYNE
REST AND BE THANKFUL
LOCH LOMOND

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Luss, Loch Lomond | Inveraray Castle (right)
Doune Castle (bottom)

APRIL - SEPTEMBER


Tuesday, Thursday,
Saturday & Sunday

Departs 8:00am
Returns 6:30pm

Adult from **£58.00**

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

EXPLORE MORE

Doune Castle*  from £10.00

*Please note that there are dates throughout the year where you cannot enter Doune Castle due to filming. Tickets into the castle can be reserved at the time of booking.



BOOK NOW



PAGE 10

Head northwest from Edinburgh for a jam-packed day of extraordinary mountain ranges, lochs and Highland castles. This tour takes you through historic Stirlingshire to the famous Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park and on to the West Highlands. Explore charming Highland villages Inveraray and Luss, travel through Campbell country to Kilchurn Castle on the shores of Loch Awe, and soak in some of the most stunning views of the Scottish Highlands along the way.

Heading through historic Stirlingshire our first stop is Doune Castle, one of Scotland's best-preserved medieval castles and filming location for *Outlander*, *Game of Thrones* and *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*.

Travelling through Campbell country, feast your eyes on Kilchurn Castle on the shores of Loch Awe.

We then head south to Loch Fyne for lunch in the charming town of Inveraray, where you have the chance to visit Inveraray Jail, hailed as one of the world's most well-preserved courtrooms and jails.

After lunch, we head back east and take in the iconic beauty spot Rest and Be Thankful, which has stunning views of the Arrochar Alps. The beautiful conservation village of Luss, on the bonnie banks of Loch Lomond, is our final stop before we head back to Edinburgh, arriving in the evening.



DOUNE CASTLE

Known to *Outlander* fans as Castle Leoch, the seat of Clan MacKenzie, Doune Castle is one of the best-preserved medieval strongholds in Scotland. Built in the 14th century, the castle has survived through the wars and rebellions of Scotland and has its own interesting history. It also starred in *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* and more recently featured as the setting for Winterfell in the pilot episode of *Game of Thrones*.

 RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING

1 DAY TOUR



The tours themselves are well-planned and there is a selection so you can cover the key attractions that interest you most. The admin staff are wonderful and super helpful. RATNA | JANUARY 2023

CASTLES, WEST HIGHLANDS & LOCH LOMOND



1 DAY TOUR

OUTLANDER EXPLORER

HIGHLIGHTS ★

DOUNE CASTLE, USED AS CASTLE LEOCH
CULROSS, THE FICTIONAL VILLAGE OF CRANESMUIR
ROYAL BURGH OF FALKLAND, SETTING FOR 1940'S INVERNESS
BLACKNESS CASTLE, FEATURED AS FORT WILLIAM
MIDHOPE CASTLE, THE REAL-LIFE LALLYBROCH

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Culross | Falkland (right)
Midhope Castle (bottom)

@aprilroseadventure @codepodhostels

ALL YEAR

Every day

Departs 8:45am
Returns 5:30pm

Adult from **£57.00**

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

EXPLORE MORE

Doune Castle* **R** from £10.00

Blackness Castle **R** from £7.50

Midhope Castle* **R** from £5.89

*Please note that there are dates throughout the year where Midhope Castle and Doune Castle are closed for estate activity and filming. Order of attractions may be subject to change.

Imagine walking in the footsteps of Jamie and Claire from *Outlander*, with a local guide regaling all the gruesome history and stories which inspired Diana Gabaldon. We take you on a journey to some of the most famous locations from the hit TV series, such as Midhope Castle, the real-life Lallybroch, Doune Castle, the seat of Clan MacKenzie, and the impressive Blackness Castle, the setting for Fort William. Your guide will give you an insight into the history and stories of each location, making this the perfect trip for those looking for a quick *Outlander* fix.

We leave the capital and head to Midhope Castle - the real-life Lallybroch and home of

Jamie Fraser. We then visit Doune Castle, one of Scotland's best preserved medieval castles and used as the setting for Castle Leoch in *Outlander*.

We then have lunch in Culross, the fictional village of 'Cranesmuir' where Claire was accused of witchcraft. This charming village is the most complete example of a 17th and 18th century burgh in Scotland today.

Next is the village of Falkland, used for filming 1940's Inverness. Our final stop is the impressive Blackness Castle, featured as Fort William in the series, arriving back in Edinburgh early evening.



BOOK NOW



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MIDHOPE CASTLE

Dating back to the 15th century and nestled amidst the lush green landscapes of the Hopetoun Estate, Midhope Castle is bound to captivate *Outlander* fans' hearts. Used as the *Outlander* filming location for Lallybroch, Jamie Fraser's ancestral home, its enchanting setting lets you relive your favourite moments from the show.

For more information on Doune Castle (Castle Leoch in *Outlander*), please see page 10.

R RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING



Had a fantastic day with Tiegan. She not only is an expert bus driver on tiny little roads but she also shared lots of stories about Scotland and its history along the way. You don't have to be an Outlander fan to have an awesome day on this tour. NICOLE | NOVEMBER 2023

1 DAY TOUR

OUTLANDER
EXPLORER



1 DAY TOUR

LOCH LOMOND, STIRLING CASTLE & THE KELPIES

HIGHLIGHTS ★

STIRLING CASTLE
BALMAHA VILLAGE WITH VIEWS TO BEN LOMOND
LOCH LOMOND AND THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK
THE KELPIES, MAGNIFICENT 30M HIGH STEEL SCULPTURES

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Loch Lomond | The Kelpies (right)

APRIL - MAY

Monday, Wednesday, Friday,
Saturday & Sunday

JUNE - MARCH


Every day

Departs 8:45am
Returns 5:30pm

Adult from **£52.00**

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

EXPLORE MORE

Stirling Castle  from £19.50



BOOK NOW



PAGE 14

A splendid introduction to Scotland. This tour fuses the remarkable beauty of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park with the majestic sight of the Kelpies and the savage history of Stirling Castle. On this trip there is plenty of time to examine amazing architecture and ponder over breathtaking natural and man-made wonders while immersing yourself in myths, legends and stories.

We depart Edinburgh and head west towards Falkirk where you get the chance to visit and marvel at the stunning Kelpies, the world's largest equine sculptures. Dedicated to the horse-powered heritage of Central Scotland, the Kelpies also celebrate the mythological transforming beasts living in our lochs, rivers and streams.

Our journey then takes us to the 'Bonnie

Banks of Loch Lomond' where we take time at Balmaha to admire views of Ben Lomond. Here, you will have the opportunity to go on a woodland walk that will afford you great views of the loch. Standing on its bank you will understand why Loch Lomond has been immortalised in a world-famous song.

The rest of the afternoon is spent exploring Stirling. You will have the option to discover the impressive Stirling Castle, one of Scotland's most important structures both historically and architecturally. Many royals have been crowned at Stirling Castle, including Mary Queen of Scots, and it was central to William Wallace's fight in the Wars of Independence. Alternatively, explore Stirling, geographically one of the most significant towns in Scottish history. We return to Edinburgh in the early evening.



STIRLING CASTLE

Stirling Castle is arguably the most impressive and historically important castle in Scotland. Seen for miles around, its imposing position has played a hugely strategic role throughout the centuries. Once home to the Scottish Royals, the building has been subject to many bloody sieges and much political intrigue.

 RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING

1 DAY TOUR

LOCH LOMOND, STIRLING CASTLE & THE KELPIES



We enjoyed this tour immensely - it was a great way to get out of the city for the day and enjoy the magnificent Scottish countryside. Everything was top notch and we would do it again as well as recommend it to all of our friends! The Kelpies were awe-inspiring, Loch Lomond was gorgeous and Stirling Castle was a magnificent step back in time - we loved it all!
MICHELE S | JULY 2023



1 DAY TOUR

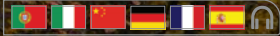
WHISKY & WATERFALLS

HIGHLIGHTS ★

SAMPLE WHISKY AT A WORKING DISTILLERY
THE KELPIES
HERMITAGE FOREST WALK
DUNKELD CATHEDRAL

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
HERMITAGE FOREST WALK
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: The Hermitage Forest (top and below)

ALL YEAR

Thursday & Saturday

Departs 8:15am
Returns 5:30pm

Adult from **£56.00**

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

EXPLORE MORE

Glenturret Whisky Distillery **R** from £18.00

* Please note there may be days where Glenturret Distillery is closed, in which case it will be replaced with another distillery.



BOOK NOW



PAGE 16

Whisky, history and scenery: a truly Scottish combination and you experience all three in one day! First stop on this trip is to the iconic Kelpies, a monument to horse-powered heritage across Scotland. Make a toast to the Highland scenery with a wee dram in a whisky distillery, visit a charming cathedral town and explore one of Perthshire's most beautiful woodland walks and waterfalls.

We depart Edinburgh and make our way to the majestic Kelpies, the world's largest equine sculptures, dedicated to horse-powered heritage across Scotland.

We drive through Scotland's scenic landscapes, venturing further into the Highlands before stopping at one of Scotland's famous whisky distilleries.

After reviving ourselves with a wee dram of the 'water of life', we head to The Hermitage in the heart of Perthshire and take a short woodland walk.

Our return journey visits the charming village of Dunkeld and its cathedral before returning to Edinburgh, passing the iconic Forth Bridges on the way.



GLENTURRET WHISKY DISTILLERY

The optional guided tour gives you an insight into how 'uisge beatha' (the 'water of life') is made and takes you on a journey to discover the history behind Scotland's most iconic export.

R RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING

HIGHLIGHTS ★

ALNWICK CASTLE
BEAUTIFUL COASTLINE DRIVE
PICTURESQUE SEASIDE VILLAGE OF BAMBURGH
CROSS THE BORDER BETWEEN SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND

1 DAY TOUR

ALNWICK CASTLE & THE BORDERS

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Alnwick Castle

Combine movie magic and historic wonder on this trip through the Scottish Borders and Northumberland. You will visit the picturesque seaside village of Bamburgh and take in the superb views of the 5th century Bamburgh Castle, sitting dramatically above the beautiful beach. Another highlight of the day is Alnwick Castle. This historic gem represents royal splendour and was a key filming location for *Harry Potter* and *Downton Abbey*. Lose yourself in tales of the past and the enchantment of it all, on this journey between the border of Scotland and England.

We leave Edinburgh in the morning and head south to the Borders. On the way to England you will see the gently rolling hills

and dramatic coastlines of East Lothian. Our first stop is the beautiful coastal village Bamburgh. Take a stroll to the stunning beach and view the dramatic 5th century Bamburgh Castle sitting on a natural throne of volcanic stone.

In the afternoon we will meet the star of the show, Alnwick Castle. There is lots to do here; admire large stately rooms and beautiful architecture, explore the spectacular gardens or learn a little about all the popular films and TV shows that have been filmed here.

After spending time in Alnwick we make our way back over the border and in to Scotland. On our drive home we'll entertain you with tales of the turbulent past before arriving into Edinburgh early evening.

APRIL - MAY

Wednesday, Friday & Sunday

JUNE - OCTOBER

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Sunday

Departs 8:15am
Returns 5:30pm

Adult from **£57.00**

Full refund if cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

EXPLORE MORE

Alnwick Castle **R** from £19.50



R RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING

ALNWICK CASTLE

The magnificent Alnwick Castle was built over 900 years ago. Its purpose was to control the perilous borders between Scotland and England. But now it's renowned for more than bloody history. The expansive gardens are world famous, the art collection is unrivalled, and the rooms are some of the finest examples of 19th-century Italianate design.



BOOK NOW



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1 DAY TOUR

HIGHLAND GAMES

HIGHLIGHTS ★

PARTICIPATE IN THE TRADITION OF A CLAN GATHERING
PIPING COMPETITIONS & HIGHLAND DANCING
CABER TOSSING & HAMMER THROWING
TRADITIONAL HIGHLAND DRESS
STUNNING HIGHLAND SCENERY

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
ENTRANCE TO THE GAMES

Images: Highland Games



MAY - SEPTEMBER

Selected dates, see below

Departs 8:30am*
Returns 5:45pm*

Adult from £99.00

Please see T&Cs on website for cancellation policy.

GAMES PROGRAMME 2023

Sunday 26 May	Blair Atholl
Sunday 9 June	Glamis
Saturday 6 July	Luss
Sunday 4 August	Bridge of Allan
Sunday 18 August	Crieff
Saturday 7 September	Braemar*
Saturday 14 September	Pitlochry

* Braemar Gathering departs 8:00am, returns 8:00pm.



BOOK NOW



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Join us on a day tour to a real Highland Games where you can soak up the atmosphere and experience the excitement. The Games, or Gatherings, take place in towns and villages throughout the country and are a highlight of the Scottish calendar, making for a truly memorable day out amongst grand Highland scenery.

The Highland Games are renowned over the world as a test of strength between Clans. These athletic contests date back over 900 years, and the Games are a fantastic spectacle where you'll see Highland dancing, pipe band displays, hammer throwing, tug-o-war and caber tossing.

We have created a range of day tours based around these spectacular cultural events that include the best of our beautiful

landscape. Each has its own local charm and character. Our programme includes a visit to the world famous Braemar Gathering, attended by members of the Royal Family since Queen Victoria first attended 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.

HIGHLIGHTS ★

THE WORLD-FAMOUS EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO
SAMPLE WHISKY AT SCOTLAND'S OLDEST WORKING DISTILLERY
DUNKELD CATHEDRAL
HERMITAGE FOREST WALK
THE KELPIES

1 DAY TOUR

EDINBURGH TATTOO

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO TICKET
WHISKY DISTILLERY TOUR
DUNKELD CATHEDRAL
HERMITAGE FOREST WALK
AUDIO GUIDE



Images: Edinburgh skyline | Edinburgh Castle (below)

A stunning day tour of the Highlands, a land of forests, mountains, rivers and glens. Visit a local whisky distillery and sample a warming dram of single malt whisky. The day concludes with our return to Edinburgh in time for an evening at the world-famous Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

We leave Edinburgh behind and make our first stop at the majestic equine sculptures, the Kelpies. Then it's into the scenic beauty of the Highlands. We visit a local whisky distillery where you will learn

how the 'water of life' is made and sample a wee dram.

We then take a short woodland walk through The Hermitage forest to see the stunning Black Linn Falls. We take in Dunkeld with its spectacular cathedral on the banks of the River Tay before returning south past the inspiring Forth Bridges.

Back in Edinburgh, you will have time to relax and explore the city before making your own way to the evening performance of the Military Tattoo at Edinburgh Castle.



AUGUST

Monday, Wednesday,
Friday & Saturday

Departs	8:15am
Returns	5:30pm
Performance	9:30pm

Adult from £198.00

Please see T&Cs on website for cancellation policy.

AUGUST - AVAILABLE DATES

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



BOOK NOW



HIGHLAND HOSPITALITY ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

Accommodation is included on all our multi-day tours. Each lodging is carefully selected by our experienced operations team, ensuring you a comfortable room and a warm Highland welcome.



Image: Portree

BED & BREAKFAST (B&B) /GUEST HOUSE

The majority of our tours offer 3-star bed & breakfast (B&B) or Guest House accommodation. B&Bs are renowned for their warm and friendly atmosphere, providing visitors with an authentic experience of Scotland. These lodgings are typically situated within one mile of the town centre, though during peak seasons, this distance may extend slightly. Most establishments offer a traditional Scottish cooked breakfast, and all B&B accommodations are equipped with en-suite facilities.

HOTEL

For selected tours we arrange accommodation in 3-star hotels. Highland hotels are smaller than typical hotels, ensuring a cosy and hospitable welcome. Facilities are more limited when compared with most hotels situated in large cities, however, you can be assured of a comfortable stay within close proximity to the centre of town. They are usually family run and have their own individual style and character. They serve a traditional Scottish breakfast and often offer a dinner option too.

SOLO TRAVELLERS

We have limited availability of single rooms, which can be selected at the time of booking, where available.

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

Highland hotels and B&Bs do not have lifts/elevators. For more information see our Accessibility Statement on page 35.

CONNECT WITH US

 @HIGHEXTOURS
 @HIGHLANDEXPLORERTOURS
 @HIGHEXTOURS

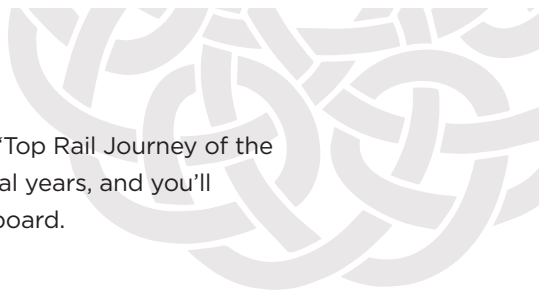


Eilean Donan Castle @rach.carbone



Isle of Skye @aprilroseadventure

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', and travels over the 21 arches of the impressive Glenfinnan Viaduct.

We cross over the viaduct with amazing 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.



Loch Ness @thescottishkiwi



Doune Castle @blondiblue

CONNECT WITH US

Mention or tag us
on social media -
be part of our story!

2 DAY TOUR

GLEN COE, LOCH NESS & THE JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN

HIGHLIGHTS ★

JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN
GLENFINNAN VIADUCT
FORT WILLIAM
LOCH NESS ★ GLEN COE
CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
1 NIGHT 3-STAR HOTEL
ACCOMMODATION

Images: Glenfinnan Viaduct | Loch Ness cruise (below)

MAY - SEPTEMBER

Saturday

JUNE - AUGUST

Wednesday & Saturday

Departs 9:00am
Returns 6:30pm

Adult (Hotel) from **£339.00**

Per person price based on double/family/twin share accommodation. Please see T&Cs on website for cancellation policy.

*There may be some days when this tour doesn't run.

EXPLORE MORE

Jacobite Steam Train **R** from £65.00

Loch Ness Cruise **R** from £19.00

ACCOMMODATION

Hotel accommodation is included.
See page 20 for details.



BOOK NOW



PAGE 22

Explore Scotland's Highlands on a captivating two-day retreat, discovering mesmerising landscapes and rich history, with the option to embark the Jacobite Steam Train for a breathtaking journey along the west coast.

We depart Edinburgh and pass by the imposing Stirling Castle, steeped in centuries of history. We also catch sight of the famous Wallace Monument, standing tall as a tribute to a legendary Scottish hero. We stop at the charming village of Callander to fuel up for the journey ahead.

We continue through the Rannoch Moor and arrive at Glen Coe, a true Highland icon boasting heart-stopping beauty and history.

We drive along the scenic 'Road to the Isles' and marvel at the impressive Glenfinnan Viaduct. You'll soon find yourself traversing its striking arches aboard the Jacobite Steam Train from Mallaig!

We prepare to embark on the steam train (optional) – an approximate two-hour train ride celebrated as the world's greatest railway journey along Scotland's magnificent west coast. Our train journey ends in Fort William in the evening, where we settle in for the night and look forward to the day ahead!

Find out more about the Jacobite Steam Train on page 21.



LOCH NESS CRUISE

Cruise the mysterious waters of Loch Ness and feast your eyes on historic Urquhart Castle. The onboard audio is bursting with lots of facts and legends to tune into as you sail. And don't forget to look out for Nessie, with a little help from the onboard sonar. Reserve your cruise at time of booking to guarantee your seat. Cruise duration is approximately 50 minutes.

R RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING

HIGHLIGHTS ★

DUNKELD ★ CLAVA CAIRNS STONES
CULLODEN BATTLEFIELD ★ KILT ROCK
WHISKY DISTILLERY VISIT
CUILLIN MOUNTAINS ★ OLD MAN OF STORR
'MAKE TRAVEL MATTER' VISIT AT
DUNDREGGAN REWILDING CENTRE

**MAKE
TRAVEL
MATTER**
SEE PAGE 5

3 DAY TOUR

LOCH NESS & ISLE OF SKYE

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
2 NIGHTS B&B
ACCOMMODATION
WHISKY EXPERIENCE
DUNDREGGAN
REWILDING CENTRE

Images: Kilt Rock | Glen Coe (below left)

Head to the north and west of Scotland to discover some of our country's most fascinating sights. Encounter iconic gems like beautiful Eilean Donan Castle, dramatic Glen Coe and famous Loch Ness, all part of the Highland's rich heritage and spellbinding beauty.

Combine a visit to the breathtaking Isle of Skye with whisky tasting and ancient myths and legends; an authentic Scottish experience not to be missed!

DAY ONE | We leave Scotland's capital behind and make our way through Macbeth country to Dunkeld with its mighty Cathedral. We'll visit a Highland whisky distillery to discover how Scotland's most famous drink is produced. Learn the true story which inspired *Outlander* at Culloden Battlefield and attempt your own journey through the stones at Clava Cairns. We follow the entire length of Loch Ness searching for a glimpse of the legendary beast. Our home for the night is the quaint village of Fort Augustus where you can relax by the shores of Loch Ness or visit a local pub for a hot drink or something stronger. (Overnight: Fort Augustus)

DAY TWO | After an inspiring visit to the Dundreggan Rewilding Centre and a stop at Scotland's most photographed castle, Eilean Donan, we have time to explore Isle of

Skye. Expect ancient castles, breathtaking views, and faerie stories aplenty. Home to the famous MacLeod and MacDonald Clans, your guide will recount Celtic myths and Viking legends from the past millennia.

(Overnight: Fort Augustus)

DAY THREE | We bid farewell to Loch Ness and pass under the shadow of Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain. Our journey takes us south through the awe-inspiring landscape of Glen Coe, used as a backdrop in *Skyfall* and the Harry Potter movies.

Drive through one of the last remaining wildernesses in Europe when we cross the unique terrain of Rannoch Moor.

We visit the scene of some of Scotland's most famous battles in the Wars of Independence and hear of local legends such as William Wallace and Robert the Bruce. We make our final stop at the majestic Kelpies, the world's largest equine sculptures, arriving back to Edinburgh in the early evening.



APRIL - OCTOBER

Friday

JUNE - SEPTEMBER

Friday & Sunday

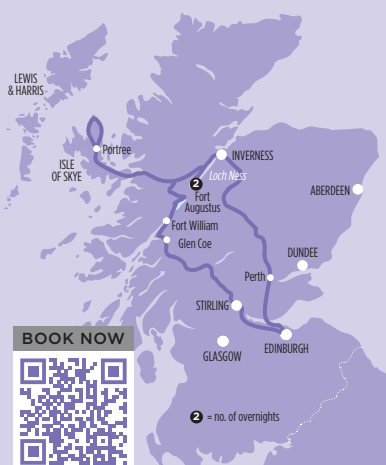
Departs 8:30pm
Returns 5:00pm

Adult (B&B) from **£429.00**

Per person price based on double/family/twin share accommodation. Please see T&Cs on website for cancellation policy.

ACCOMMODATION

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



BOOK NOW



② = no. of overnights

3 DAY TOUR

ISLE OF SKYE & THE HIGHLANDS

HIGHLIGHTS ★

JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN* ★ STUNNING ISLE OF SKYE
LOCH NESS ★ GLEN COE
VIEW EILEAN DONAN CASTLE
DUNVEGAN CASTLE* ★ DUNKELD
'MAKE TRAVEL MATTER' VISIT AT
DUNDREGGAN REWILDING CENTRE

**MAKE
TRAVEL
MATTER**
SEE PAGE 5

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
2 NIGHTS B&B
ACCOMMODATION
FERRY CROSSING
'OVER THE SEA'
TO THE ISLE OF SKYE*
DUNDREGGAN
REWILDING CENTRE

Images: Old Man of Storr

ALL YEAR

Wednesday & Saturday

MAY - OCTOBER

Monday


Departs 7:45am
Returns 6:00pm°

Adult (B&B) from £309.00

Per person price based on double/family/twin share accommodation. Please see T&Cs on website for cancellation policy.

EXPLORE MORE

Jacobite Steam Train*  from £65.00

Dunvegan Castle Entrance*  from £14.00

ACCOMMODATION

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

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

°During April and October, the route goes in reverse, with the Jacobite Steam Train and the ferry ride to Isle of Skye taking place on day 3 and the tour will return at 8:00pm.

BOOK NOW



PAGE 24

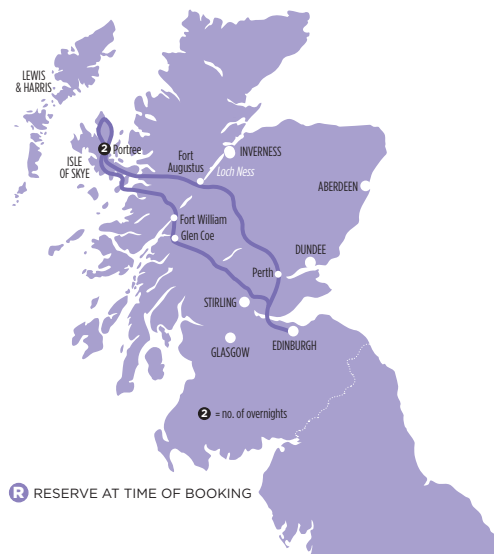
Discover the Highlands and the magical Isle of Skye with its outstanding natural beauty, Viking history, and ancient myths and legends. This is a journey packed with many of Scotland's most iconic sights and scenery, as well as the chance to travel one of the great train journeys of the world on the Jacobite Steam Train.

DAY ONE | Leaving Edinburgh, we travel past the stunning Stirling Castle, then through the wild landscapes of Rannoch Moor before stopping at one of Scotland's most iconic landmarks, Glen Coe. Continuing to Fort William, we get the chance to embark on a magical approximate 2-hour ride on the Jacobite Steam Train*°. By the time you cross

the striking arches of the Glenfinnan Viaduct you will understand why the Jacobite Steam Train is often referred to as the world's greatest rail journey. Our afternoon continues with a scenic ferry ride° from Mallaig to the famous Isle of Skye, where we arrive at the capital town of Portree with its colourful harbour. (Overnight: Portree)

DAY TWO | We spend the day exploring the dramatic Isle of Skye as we hear tales of Bonnie Prince Charlie's escape from the mainland against the backdrop of the jagged Cuillin Mountains. Highlights include the mysterious rock formation of the Old Man of Storr, Kilt Rock with its cascading waterfall, and Dunvegan's impressive castle. (Overnight: Portree)

DAY THREE | We bid farewell to the Isle of Skye and head to Eilean Donan Castle, one of Scotland's most romantic photo spots. Our journey leads us to the Dundreggan Rewilding Centre, where we delve into the admirable work of Trees for Life, a charity committed to the revival of Scotland's ancient Caledonian Pine Forest. Our next destination is Loch Ness, where we take a break and attempt to catch a glimpse of the legendary Nessie while enjoying the shores of Fort Augustus. We then pass mighty Ben Nevis, before exploring the charming Highland village of Dunkeld. We arrive back into Edinburgh in the early evening.



 RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING

HIGHLIGHTS ★

INDULGE IN FRESH SEAFOOD IN OBAN
FERRY TO MULL & IONA
WILDLIFE CRUISE TO TRESHNISH ISLES
FINGAL'S CAVE
GLEN COE
WHISKY DISTILLERY



4 DAY TOUR

MULL, IONA & STAFFA PUFFIN EXPERIENCE

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
3 NIGHTS HOTEL
ACCOMMODATION
ALL FERRY CROSSINGS
WILDLIFE BOAT TOUR
TO STAFFA AND THE
TRESHNISH ISLES**
WHISKY DISTILLERY TOUR

Images: Puffins | Whisky Distillery Tour (below)



Meet the most amusing and inquisitive birds in Scotland, while exploring the stunning west coast, and the idyllic isles of Mull and Iona.

DAY ONE | Leaving Edinburgh, we journey west past the ancient city of Stirling towards the scenic beauty of Loch Lomond. Take photos from the Rest and Be Thankful viewpoint and enjoy free time in pretty Inveraray for lunch. Visit the ancient Dunadd Fort before continuing towards the bustling port town of Oban for our ferry to Mull, where we spend two nights in Tobermory. (Overnight: Tobermory)

DAY TWO | Sit back and relax on our water-based adventure around the beautiful Treshnish Isles. Throughout this extravaganza keep an eye out for dolphins, seals, eagles and whales, while listening to commentary from our wildlife guide. We spend two hours on Lunga to explore the large puffin* colony before sailing to Staffa and marvel at Fingal's Cave. We return to Tobermory, for a night in this adorable multi-coloured harbour town. (Overnight: Tobermory)

DAY THREE | Today we travel across mountainous Mull to visit the spiritual Isle of Iona, often referred to as the sacred heart of Scotland. Enjoy plenty free time to have

lunch, visit Iona Abbey and explore the white sand beaches. Afterwards, we catch the ferry back to Oban, where you can try fresh seafood and have a drink with the locals on our last night. (Overnight: Oban)

DAY FOUR | We depart Oban and travel through the dramatic and breathtaking landscape that is Glen Coe and onto the wild expanse of Rannoch Moor and Rob Roy's old stomping ground. We stop at a whisky distillery to learn all about single malt production - and sample it straight from the source. Return to Edinburgh in the evening after four fantastic days.



*The puffin breeding season usually takes place between late April to mid-August. Puffin encounters cannot be guaranteed.
**Please note: the wildlife boat tour is weather dependent.

JUNE - SEPTEMBER

Fortnightly, Monday

Departs 8:15am
Returns 5:30pm

Adult (Hotel) from £669.00

Per person price based on double/family/twin share accommodation. Please see T&Cs on website for cancellation policy.

EXPLORE MORE

Iona Abbey  from £9.50

ACCOMMODATION

Hotel accommodation is included. See page 20 for details.



 PAY LOCALLY

5 DAY TOUR

ISLE OF SKYE, LOCH NESS & INVERNESS

HIGHLIGHTS ★

JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN* ★ LOCH NESS CRUISE** ★ GLEN COE
WHISKY DISTILLERY TOUR ★ CULLODEN BATTLEFIELD
EILEAN DONAN CASTLE ★ FISHING PORT OF OBAN
HIGHLAND CAPITAL, INVERNESS
'MAKE TRAVEL MATTER' VISIT AT
DUNDREGGAN REWILDING CENTRE

**MAKE
TRAVEL
MATTER**
SEE PAGE 5

INCLUSIONS

4 NIGHTS B&B
PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
FERRY CROSSING 'OVER THE SEA'
TO THE ISLE OF SKYE*
WHISKY DISTILLERY TOUR
CULLODEN BATTLEFIELD
CLAVA CAIRNS STONES
DUNDREGGAN
REWILDING CENTRE

Images: Jacobite Steam Train | Eilean Donan Castle (right)
Culloden (below, right)



ALL YEAR

Monday

JUNE - SEPTEMBER

Fortnightly, Thursday

Departs 8:30am
Returns 5:00pm

Adult (B&B) from **£549.00**

Per person price based on double/family/twin share accommodation. Please see T&Cs on website for cancellation policy.

EXPLORE MORE

Jacobite Steam Train* **R** from £65.00

Loch Ness Cruise* **R** from £19.00

Culloden Visitor Centre **P** from £14.00

ACCOMMODATION

B&B/Guest House accommodation is included. See page 20 for details.



BOOK NOW



PAGE 26

Take a spectacular journey through the scenic Highlands and the magical Isle of Skye, experiencing endless stunning views, local gems and historic sites along the way. Our myths and legends will capture your imagination, and the scenery will take your breath away, from rugged Glen Coe to the idyllic West Coast. Sample whisky, explore castles, and take an optional ride on the Jacobite Steam Train. From start to finish, every part of this trip reveals a little more of Scotland's quintessential charm.

DAY ONE | We leave Edinburgh and head to the iconic Kelpies. We then head north past Stirling and take in views of the Wallace Monument and Stirling Castle. We will make a stop for lunch before entering the Highlands, heading through wild Rannoch Moor and Glen Coe then on to the fishing town of Oban. (Overnight: Oban)

DAY TWO | Ride the Jacobite Steam Train* from Fort William, crossing the Glenfinnan Viaduct featured in the Harry Potter movies, or travel the equally impressive 'Road to the Isles' by bus. We take the ferry* to the Isle of Skye before driving to our overnight destination in Portree. (Overnight: Portree)

DAY THREE | We explore more of the mysterious Isle of Skye with its awe-inspiring mountains, stunning coastline, myths and legends before returning to the mainland. On the way to Loch Ness we stop at Eilean Donan Castle and wind our way along the Great Glen where we also visit Dundreggan Rewilding Centre to learn about Scotland's ancient Caledonian Forest and then on to Inverness, home for the next two nights. (Overnight: Inverness)

DAY FOUR | Keep an eye out for the elusive monster, 'Nessie', while we take an optional cruise on Loch Ness before heading north towards the quaint town of Beaulieu. After lunch we visit the mysterious chambered cairns and standing stones of Clava Cairns; followed by Culloden Battlefield, site of the last battle fought on British soil; both locations inspired the hit TV series *Outlander*. (Overnight: Inverness)

DAY FIVE | Leaving Inverness, we visit the Highland Folk Museum* to get a real taste of Highland life from the past centuries before heading to a visit at local whisky distillery for a tour and a taste of the 'water of life'. For our final stop we visit Dunkeld and take a walk through the quaint village on to the River Tay, and make a visit to the cathedral. We return to Edinburgh in the evening.

R RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING **P** PAY LOCALLY

*Summer only: April - October. Please see website for winter itinerary.
**There are dates during winter when the boat cruise does not operate.

5 DAY TOUR

ISLE OF SKYE, LOCH NESS & INVERNESS

“ From start to finish this was an excellent 5 day overview of the Scottish Highlands! Our driver/guide, Ali, was so knowledgeable, has an amazing Scottish playlist and genuinely fun. Our guest house accommodations were centrally located and authentic with daily brekkie. The tour was informative from the history of the country and the pop culture info. I would highly recommend this tour to everyone of all ages. **DEEBEE | AUGUST 2023** ”



CULLODEN BATTLEFIELD & VISITOR CENTRE

Working in partnership with the National Trust for Scotland we are delighted to offer you a special discounted admission fee. On the 16th of April 1746, Culloden was the site of the last pitched battle fought on the British mainland. Through an interpretive exhibition and a visit to the battlefield itself, you can learn why this hour-long conflict changed Highland life and world history forever. With ongoing archaeological research and fresh historical interpretations, the story is far from over. More recently Culloden has been used as the backdrop to the popular TV series *Outlander*.



6 DAY TOUR

ISLE OF SKYE & THE OUTER HEBRIDES

HIGHLIGHTS ★

GLEN COE ★ LOCH NESS ★ HIGHLAND CAPITAL OF INVERNESS
EILEAN DONAN CASTLE ★ JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN*
DUN CARLOWAY, IRON AGE BROCH
CALLANISH STANDING STONES

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
5 NIGHTS B&B
ACCOMMODATION
GEARRANNAN
BLACKHOUSE VILLAGE
DISTILLERY VISIT
ALL FERRY CROSSINGS

Images: Isle of Harris | Isle of Skye (right)



MAY - SEPTEMBER

Thursday

Departs 8:30am
Returns 8:30pm

Adult (B&B) from **£1159.00**

Per person price based on double/family/twin share accommodation. Please see T&Cs on website for cancellation policy.

EXPLORE MORE

Jacobite Steam Train*  from £65.00

Eilean Donan Castle  from £10.00

ACCOMMODATION

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



BOOK NOW



PAGE 28

Prepare for an unforgettable journey across the Highlands and Islands, where we discover some of Scotland's most iconic destinations, as well as the hidden gems, from the world-famous Loch Ness to the remote corners of the Outer Hebrides.

DAY ONE | We travel north passing Stirling Castle, and catch a glimpse of Doune Castle, which appears in *Monty Python & the Holy Grail*, *Outlander* and *Game of Thrones*. Soak up the atmospheric scenery in Glen Coe and learn about the legend of 'Nessie' at Loch Ness. [\(Overnight: Inverness\)](#)

DAY TWO | Start the day at the stunning Corrieshalloch Gorge before catching the ferry from Ullapool to Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis. Continuing our journey south to the Isle of Harris, you'll be blown away at white sandy beaches and a backdrop of rugged mountains. We have time to visit the famous Harris Distillery and indulge in some of the best local produce before we return to Stornoway for the night. [\(Overnight: Stornoway\)](#)

DAY THREE | Travel back in time to the Neolithic period at the mysterious 5000-year-old Callanish Standing Stones, and then fast-forward to the Iron Age at the broch of Dun Carloway. Experience traditional island life at the Gearrannan

Blackhouse Village before you visit the Butt of Lewis and its lighthouse, the most northerly point on the island.

[\(Overnight: Stornoway\)](#)

DAY FOUR | Back on the Isle of Harris, we board the ferry and go over the sea to the Isle of Skye. Spend the afternoon learning about the island's myths and legends, while gazing at the enchanting scenery. In the evening we have free time to enjoy dinner in one of the local restaurants in Portree. [\(Overnight: Portree\)](#)

DAY FIVE | Visit the Isle of Skye's enchanted waters by Sligachan River with views of the old bridge and the breathtaking Cuillin mountains. Drive over the Skye Bridge to the iconic and beautiful Eilean Donan Castle before arriving back in Portree. [\(Overnight: Portree\)](#)

DAY SIX | We take the ferry back to the mainland, arriving at the fishing village of Mallaig on the west coast. You have a chance to experience one of the most spectacular railway journeys in the world and travel over the Glenfinnan Viaduct on the Jacobite Steam Train*; made famous by Harry Potter. We take the scenic route back to Edinburgh through the Cairngorms National Park, arriving in the evening.

 RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING  PAY LOCALLY

*Summer only: April - October.

6 DAY TOUR

ISLE OF SKYE & THE OUTER HEBRIDES



A wonderful experience. We were treated to some of the most scenic places in the Outer Hebrides and the Isle of Skye I could have ever imagined. Our guide Rich was outstanding. He provided us with insight into the cultural and historic significance of the places we passed and stopped at. I would highly recommend this tour for access to the lesser known attractions and areas of the Scottish Highlands. WALT_N | SEPTEMBER 2023



6 DAY TOUR

UP HELLY AA VIKING FIRE FESTIVAL

HIGHLIGHTS ★

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE ★ ROYAL DEESIDE
OVERNIGHT FERRY TO LERWICK
ISLANDS OF BURRA & TRONDRA
ANCIENT SETTLEMENT OF JARLSHOF
SITE OF TINGWALL PARLIAMENT

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
2 OVERNIGHT FERRIES
(TWIN SHARE CABIN)
3 NIGHTS 3-STAR HOTEL
(TWIN SHARE/DOUBLE)
3 FULL SCOTTISH BREAKFASTS
FREE TIME IN LERWICK
GUIDED TOUR OF SHETLAND

Images: Up Helly Aa Viking Fire Festival

25 JANUARY 2025

Saturday

Departs 8:00am
Returns 5:30pm

Please refer to our website for tour prices

EXPLORE MORE

The Shetland Museum, Lerwick FREE

ACCOMMODATION

Hotel accommodation is included.
See page 20 for details.

BOOK NOW



PAGE 30



Our destination is the remote islands of Shetland for one of the most incredible festivals in Europe. On the last Tuesday of January this traditional winter festival marks the lengthening of the days and the dawn of another year. Classic Scottish dancing, traditional Shetland music, the boat burning ceremony and torchlight procession makes for an unforgettable experience.

DAY ONE | Leaving our capital city of Edinburgh, we stop to view the iconic Forth Bridge. We then travel on through the Kingdom of Fife with its stunning coastal scenery before stopping at the ancient university town of St Andrews. We then travel to Aberdeen via Dunnottar Castle, perched dramatically on the edge of the North Sea, and board the ferry for the overnight journey to the Shetland Islands. (Overnight: Ferry)

DAY TWO | After sailing into Lerwick we spend the morning enjoying the main town of Shetland including a visit to Clickimin Broch. After a visit to Scalloway Castle, we spend the rest of the afternoon exploring the islands of Burra and Trondra and the stunning Meal Beach before we return for a night out in the Shetland capital! (Overnight: Lerwick)

DAY THREE | After a leisurely start to the day we will make our way to the stunning

beach at St Ninians's Isle. We then visit Jarlshof, one of Scotland's finest prehistoric sites, before moving on to the stunning cliffs and sea views at Sumburgh in the far south of the island. We return to Lerwick to prepare for the main event with some celebrations in town with the locals. (Overnight: Lerwick)

DAY FOUR | The big day! You get to watch the junior Jarl Squad (young Vikings) have their own parade before the main event. Vikings make their way through the streets culminating in the ceremonial burning of a full-size replica Viking Long Ship. Your guide will be available throughout the day to make sure you don't miss any of this world-famous festival. (Overnight: Lerwick)

DAY FIVE | Our final day on Shetland will take us to Tingwall, site of the ancient capital of Shetland. We then visit the stunning peninsula of Lunna, before heading to Eshaness, known as the wild west of Shetland with spectacular coastal scenery. We'll return to Lerwick to board the overnight ferry back to Aberdeen. (Overnight: Ferry)

DAY SIX | We make our way through Royal Deeside and pass Crathie Kirk where the Royal Family worships when at their Highland residence. We will then have ample time to visit Braemar for lunch. Our return journey passes through the Cairngorm National Park and Royal Braemar before arriving back in Edinburgh.

6 = no. of overnights

6 DAY TOUR

UP HELLY AA VIKING FIRE FESTIVAL



If you have not experienced this, or have not experienced it with Highland Explorer Tours; whatever you imagine it to be, times it by a factor of 10 and you will still be amazed. The 'event' itself you just have to see live; the videos and pictures you will find are but a mere taste of what is to come.
JOHN | JANUARY 2022



8 DAY TOUR

ISLE OF SKYE, ORKNEY & NORTH COAST 500

HIGHLIGHTS ★

CULLODEN BATTLEFIELD ★ CLAVA CAIRNS STONES
DUNROBIN CASTLE ★ RING OF BRODGAR
YESNABY CLIFFS, HOME TO PUFFINS* FROM APRIL TO AUGUST
EILEAN DONAN CASTLE ★ ISLE OF SKYE ★ JACOBITE STEAM TRAIN

INCLUSIONS

PASSIONATE LOCAL GUIDE
7 NIGHTS 3-STAR B&B
ACCOMMODATION
ALL FERRY CROSSINGS
WHISKY DISTILLERY VISIT
ITALIAN CHAPEL
SKARA BRAE

Images: Glen Coe | Dunrobin Castle (right)
Orkney (bottom right)



MAY - SEPTEMBER

Fortnightly, Monday

Departs 8:30am
Returns 5:00pm

Adult (B&B) from **£1489.00**

Per person price based on double/family/twin share accommodation. Please see T&Cs on website for cancellation policy.

EXPLORE MORE

Jacobite Steam Train  from £65.00

ACCOMMODATION

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



BOOK NOW



PAGE 32

Let us take you on a journey to some of Scotland's most stunning and historically significant sights. Discover Orkney's wild coastline and Neolithic settlements, take in the spectacular views on the North Coast 500 drive and explore the mysterious Isle of Skye with its awe-inspiring mountains, myths and legends.

DAY ONE | Leaving Edinburgh, we head to Perthshire, a land of forests, rivers and mountains. We visit Dunkeld with its historic cathedral. Our journey north takes us through the mountainous Cairngorms National Park and on to Culloden Battlefield and the standing stones of Clava Cairns.
(Overnight: Inverness)

DAY TWO | We depart Inverness and head further north to join the spectacular North Coast 500 trail. Our first stop will be the fairytale Dunrobin Castle and a visit at a local whisky distillery before boarding the ferry to the Orkney Isles with the chance to spot dolphins, whales, and orcas.
(Overnight: Orkney Isles)

DAY THREE | We depart Kirkwall in the morning to explore some of Orkney's wondrous sites. First, we make a stop at the Italian Chapel, and will spend the rest of the day exploring Orkney's Neolithic history. Stops include Skara Brae, the towering Ring of Brodgar and The Stones of Stenness.
(Overnight: Orkney Isles)

 RESERVE AT TIME OF BOOKING

DAY FOUR | We catch the ferry back to the mainland to re-join the North Coast 500 trail. We make a stop at Smoo Cave, a spectacular sea cave set into the limestone cliffs of Sutherland. Driving west, we stop for a stroll at the jewel in the crown of the northwest Highland's Geopark - Knockan Crag. We arrive into Ullapool where you can spend the night exploring the beautiful harbour village.
(Overnight: Ullapool)

DAY FIVE | On our way to the Isle of Skye, we pass the romantic Eilean Donan Castle, before crossing the Skye Bridge to our enchanting island destination. Your last stop of the day will be a visit to Kilt Rock with its impressive cascading waterfall. We spend the night in Portree, Isle of Skye's vibrant hub.
(Overnight: Portree)

DAY SIX | We have the chance to explore a wee bit more of the beautiful Isle of Skye before taking the ferry to the west coast fishing village of Mallaig. Here you can board the Jacobite Steam Train to Fort William. We then head along the west coast of Scotland to the quaint fishing town of Oban, where we will spend the next two nights.
(Overnight: Oban)

*Puffin encounters cannot be guaranteed.



This tour was absolutely brilliant, if you're thinking about doing it, book it! A whirlwind of Scottish history, landscapes and experiences: the NC500 scenery, the outer Hebrides...were highlights among many many adventures. Our guide Tim kept us entertained with folklore, history, bad jokes and some incredible local knowledge - the trip wouldn't have been the same without him, what a legend. Would do the trip all over again in a heartbeat!

JENNY | AUGUST 2023

8 DAY TOUR

ISLE OF SKYE, ORKNEY & NORTH COAST 500

DAY SEVEN | After an action-packed 6 days of exploring, today is a free day to relax, explore or get active at your own pace. From our base in Oban you can set off by ferry for a day on one of the Western Isles (Mull, Iona, Staffa or Kerrera), visit the local whisky distillery for a taste of Scotland's 'water of life,' or climb up to Battery Hill to see McCaig's Tower and watch the sun set over Oban. All activities today are optional and need to be organised by yourself. ([Overnight: Oban](#))

DAY EIGHT | We leave Oban and travel through the Pass of Brander and Loch Awe before crossing back into the Lowlands of Scotland. We then head further south past Stirling and take in views of the Wallace Monument and Stirling Castle. We make a stop for lunch before visiting the iconic Kelpies, arriving into Edinburgh in the early evening.



PRIVATE GROUP TOURS

We have been offering the best tours throughout the Highlands of Scotland for many years and with our knowledge and expertise, we are well placed to offer private tours with itineraries tailor-made to suit your interests. Whether you want a day tour, a multi-day tour or an airport transfer, we can help.



Image: Highland Explorer coach in Glen Coe (middle)



With a dedicated groups department, experienced local guides and a fleet of modern midi-coaches, you can relax and enjoy your time in Scotland as we'll take care of all the planning.

If you are part of a group in search of your own personal tour of Scotland, we would love to hear from you.

We'll design an itinerary to suit your budget and requirements to help you get the most out of your tour. No matter where you would like to go, or what special interest you may have, we will put together a tour that will deliver an exceptional and unforgettable experience.

We would be delighted to discuss your requirements and create the perfect tour for your group, so please feel free to contact us at groups@highlandexplorertours.com

POSSIBLE THEMES INCLUDE:

WHISKY TRAIL

Take a trip through Scotland's whisky regions to find your perfect malt and discover the different techniques that make Scotland's favourite drink.

TASTE OF SCOTLAND

With some of the best produce around and incredible restaurants to boot, Scotland is a foodie's paradise.

CASTLES

Discover some of our most iconic buildings built centuries ago.

FILM LOCATIONS

See iconic locations from your favourite films and TV shows, like *Outlander*, *Macbeth* and *Game of Thrones*.

WEDDINGS

Get married in your dream castle in Scotland to make your special day truly memorable.

HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Explore your Clan's heritage or relive one of Scotland's great stories from the past.

GOLF

Scotland is the home of Golf.





ACCESSIBILITY



Image: Orkney Isles

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

Unfortunately, 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 stairs, sloping streets and uneven paths.

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.

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

B&Bs/Guest Houses 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 or hotel kitchens.



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

TOURS AT A GLANCE

DAY	TOURS	DEPARTS***	RETURNS	ADULT FROM	CONCESSION	
MONDAY	1 Day Loch Ness Explorer (All year)	7:30am	7:45pm	£62	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Outlander Explorer (All year)	8:45am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Edinburgh Tattoo (August)	8:15am	5:30pm	£198	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Loch Lomond, Stirling Castle & The Kelpies (All year)	8:45am	5:30pm	£52	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Alnwick Castle & The Borders (June - October)	8:15am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Scottish Highlands & The Jacobite Steam Train (April - October)	7:15am	8:30pm	£180	SAVE £3	
	3 Day Isle of Skye & The Highlands (May - October)**	7:45am	6:00pm**	£309	SAVE £14	
	4 Day Mull, Iona & Staffa Puffin Experience (Fortnightly, June - September)	8:15am	5:30pm	£669	SAVE £14	
TUESDAY	1 Day Loch Ness Explorer (All year)	7:30am	7:45pm	£62	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Outlander Explorer (All year)	8:45am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Loch Lomond, Stirling Castle & The Kelpies (June - March)	8:45am	5:30pm	£52	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Alnwick Castle & The Borders (June - October)	8:15am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Castles, West Highlands & Loch Lomond (April - September)	8:00am	6:30pm	£58	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Scottish Highlands & The Jacobite Steam Train (April - October)	7:15am	8:30pm	£180	SAVE £3	
	WEDNESDAY	1 Day Loch Ness Explorer (All year)	7:30am	7:45pm	£62	SAVE £3
		1 Day Outlander Explorer (All year)	8:45am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3
1 Day Loch Lomond, Stirling Castle & The Kelpies (All year)		8:45am	5:30pm	£52	SAVE £3	
1 Day Edinburgh Tattoo (August)		8:15am	5:30pm	£198	SAVE £3	
1 Day Alnwick Castle & The Borders (April - October)		8:15am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3	
1 Day Scottish Highlands & The Jacobite Steam Train (April - October)		7:15am	8:30pm	£180	SAVE £3	
2 Day Glen Coe, Loch Ness & The Jacobite Steam Train (June - August)		9:00am	6:30pm	£339	SAVE £14	
3 Day Isle of Skye & The Highlands (All year)**		7:45am	6:00pm**	£309	SAVE £14	
THURSDAY	1 Day Loch Ness Explorer (All year)	7:30am	7:45pm	£62	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Outlander Explorer (All year)	8:45am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Whisky & Waterfalls (All year)	8:15am	5:30pm	£56	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Loch Lomond, Stirling Castle & The Kelpies (June - March)	8:45am	5:30pm	£52	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Castles, West Highlands & Loch Lomond (April - September)	8:00am	6:30pm	£58	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Scottish Highlands & The Jacobite Steam Train (April - October)	7:15am	8:30pm	£180	SAVE £3	
	5 Day Isle of Skye, Loch Ness & Inverness (Fortnightly, June - September)	8:30am	5:00pm	£549	SAVE £14	
	6 Day Isle of Skye & The Outer Hebrides (May - September)	8:30am	8:30pm	£1159	SAVE £14	
FRIDAY	1 Day Loch Ness Explorer (All year)	7:30am	7:45pm	£62	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Outlander Explorer (All year)	8:45am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Edinburgh Tattoo (August)	8:15am	5:30pm	£198	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Loch Lomond, Stirling Castle & The Kelpies (All year)	8:45am	5:30pm	£52	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Alnwick Castle & The Borders (April - October)	8:15am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Scottish Highlands & The Jacobite Steam Train (April - October)	7:15am	8:30pm	£180	SAVE £3	
	3 Day Loch Ness & Isle of Skye (April - October)	8:30am	5:00pm	£429	SAVE £14	
	SATURDAY	1 Day Loch Ness Explorer (All year)	7:30am	7:45pm	£62	SAVE £3
1 Day Outlander Explorer (All year)		8:45am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3	
1 Day Whisky & Waterfalls (All year)		8:15am	5:30pm	£56	SAVE £3	
1 Day Loch Lomond, Stirling Castle & The Kelpies (All year)		8:45am	5:30pm	£52	SAVE £3	
1 Day Highland Games (July & September)*		8:30am*	5:45pm*	£99	SAVE £3	
1 Day Edinburgh Tattoo (August)		8:15am	5:30pm	£198	SAVE £3	
1 Day Castles, West Highlands & Loch Lomond (April - September)		8:00am	6:30pm	£58	SAVE £3	
1 Day Scottish Highlands & The Jacobite Steam Train (April - October)		7:15am	8:30pm	£180	SAVE £3	
SUNDAY	1 Day Loch Ness Explorer (All year)	7:30am	7:45pm	£62	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Outlander Explorer (All year)	8:45am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Loch Lomond, Stirling Castle & The Kelpies (All year)	8:45am	5:30pm	£52	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Alnwick Castle & The Borders (April - October)	8:15am	5:30pm	£57	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Castles, West Highlands & Loch Lomond (April - September)	8:00am	6:30pm	£58	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Highland Games (May, June & August)*	8:30am*	5:45pm*	£99	SAVE £3	
	1 Day Scottish Highlands & The Jacobite Steam Train (April - October)	7:15am	8:30pm	£180	SAVE £3	
	3 Day Loch Ness & Isle of Skye (June - September)	8:30am	5:00pm	£429	SAVE £14	

***Please arrive 15 mins before departure for check-in

*Except Braemar - departs 8:00am/returns 8:00pm ** Returns 8:00pm in April & October

IMPORTANT INFORMATION | HOW TO BOOK

BOOK IN PERSON

- OUR OFFICE | 60 High Street | Edinburgh | EH1 1TB
- VisitScotland iCentre
- Your Concierge, B&B or Guest House Reception

BY PHONE | +44 (0) 131 558 3738

ONLINE | highlandexplorertours.com

EMAIL | info@highlandexplorertours.com

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Highland Explorer Tours are part of Radical Travel Group and The Travel Corporation.

ALL TOURS DEPART FROM

60 High Street | Edinburgh | EH1 1TB
Please arrive 15 mins before departure time

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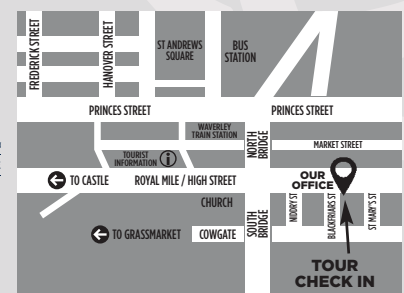
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