GeoCultura

TAKING YOU BEYOND THE LANDSCAPE

Isle of Skye tour: 7 Days in Scottish Highlands



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Highlights

- Kick off your tour from Edinburgh with a beautiful train journey across the Scottish Highlands to Inverness, before crossing the bridge to the Isle of Skye.
- Explore in depth the 'Misty Isle' which holds so much history, culture and traditions and the dramatic scenery of the Old Man of Storr, the spectacular Quiraing mountains and the elusive Loch Coruisk.
- Discover scenic beauty when you journey between Skye and Appin in Argyll with the famous Glenfinnan Viaduct, Fort William on the shores of Loch Linnhe and Glen Coe, the mountainous site of a notorious massacre.
- Be captivated by your Scottish Tour Leader's stories as you visit castles and towering peaks, historic homes and traditional craftspeople, and a dramatic hidden loch.
- A 7-day guided tour of the Scottish Highlands of Argyll and the Isle of Skye accompanied by an expert Scottish guide and local experts. Price includes 6 nights at top-rated hotels, 6 breakfasts, 6 dinners made from quality locally sourced ingredients, all transport and entry fees. We organise everything! Group size maximum 12.



Day 1 - Highlands tour from Edinburgh - Inverness and welcome to Scotland!

Scenic Train Journey to Inverness and Warm Scottish Welcome

Train from Edinburgh to Inverness

Departure: Edinburgh | Destination: Inverness

The first journey of your tour is by train from Edinburgh to Inverness, accompanied by your Scottish guide. It's a gentle introduction to the Scottish Highlands, with views of lochs, mountains and moors. After a lunchtime departure, you will arrive in Inverness in the afternoon, transferring to your accommodation via taxi.

Coul House Hotel, Strathpeffer

Strathpeffer

You'll receive a warm Scottish welcome at Coul House Hotel. An historic, family-run Georgian mansion, Coul House will be your base for two nights as you get some Scottish Highlands experiences under your belt. For now, get settled in, admire the countryside views and Coul House's garden, and raise a glass to the start of your vacation in Scotland.

Group dinner at Coul House Hotel

Group dinner at Coul House Hotel.



Day 2 - Cromarty - folklore, fortunes and fossils

Explore Cromarty, Fortrose, and Black Isle Peninsula

Visit to Black Isle peninsula and Cromarty

After waking to a Highlands view and a hearty breakfast, you'll be off to the nearby famous Black Isle peninsula, working your way up to the coastal town of Cromarty. On the way, we'll stop in the town of Fortrose, known for its ruined cathedral and, with luck, see visiting dolphins from Chanonry Point.

Hugh Miller's Birthplace Cottage Museum

Visit the birthplace and childhood home of Hugh Miller, a pioneering Scottish geologist, folklorist and fossil hunter, whose life and discoveries are on prominent display in the meticulously maintained and preserved cottage, now a museum.

Lunch in Cromarty

Take lunch in town, and after some more discovering, either take the ferry across to Tain to learn about Clan Ross, or travel back down the Black Isle to Beauly, home to the ruined 13th century priory and the renowned outfitters Campbell's of Beauly.

Group dinner at Coul House Hotel

Back at Coul House, we'll feast on a traditional group dinner, then relax ahead of the Isle of Skye leg of your Scotland vacation.

Coul House Hotel, Strathpeffer

Strathpeffer

Hotel: Coul House Hotel, Strathpeffer.



Day 3 - Inverness to Skye - strongholds and incredible scenery

Journey from Inverness to Skye and Iconic Castles

Visit Eilean Donan Castle

On the way to Skye, we'll make a quick stop to see the location of the quintessentially Scottish landmark – Eilean Donan Castle. Standing where three lochs meet, the castle's fascinating history began long before BBC branding and James Bond films made it famous.

Travel through Skye and Trotternish Peninsula

We'll travel up through Skye, encountering impressive landscapes on the way, such as the Fairy Pools and make our way to its northern Trotternish Peninsula. Along the way we'll stop off at the Old Man of Storr, an iconic collection of rock pinnacles that is an internationally recognisable sign of the island. If time allows, we'll also take in further sights in Skye's north, including the equally spectacular Quiraing mountain landscapes and cliffs, that owe their origin to ancient volcanic activity.

Greshornish House Hotel

We'll check into Greshornish House, your lochside hotel for the next two nights. It was once a laird's home. Today, it comes with a commended restaurant, inviting bedrooms, views of Loch Greshornish and plenty of old-world charm.

Group dinner in the hotel

Group dinner in the hotel.



Day 4 - Strathaird - sailing to a secluded loch

Boat Trip to Loch Coruisk and Dunvegan Castle

Boat trip to Loch Coruisk from Elgol

Board a boat in the village of Elgol to reach the elusive Loch Coruisk, which has stories of its own, having hosted Bonnie Prince Charlie while he evaded government capture after the Battle of Culloden.

Walk along Loch Coruisk shoreline

At the picturesque Loch Coruisk, you'll find out about the area's geological past and hear the story of the Highland Clearances, a key chapter in Scottish history. Afterwards, there will be a picnic lunch and time to take a short or an optional longer walk along the shoreline of this hidden gem.

Visit Dunvegan Castle

After getting the boat back to Elgol, on the way back to Greshornish House, we'll visit Dunvegan Castle, the oldest continuously inhabited castle in Scotland. It has been the ancestral home of the Chiefs of clan MacLeod for 800 years.

Greshornish House Hotel

Stay at Greshornish House, a lochside hotel with inviting bedrooms, views of Loch Greshornish and plenty of old-world charm.

Dinner in the hotel

Dinner in the hotel.



Day 5 - Skye to Appin - history, Hogwarts and heritage

Ferry to Mallaig, Glenfinnan Viaduct, and Glen Coe

Ferry from Skye to Mallaig

Departure: Skye | Destination: Mallaig

Travel down to Skye's southern coast and catch the ferry over to the town of Mallaig before driving off to the Glenfinnan Viaduct.

Visit Glenfinnan Viaduct

Famous for carrying the Hogwarts Express in the Harry Potter films, the area around the viaduct is also of great historical significance for being the landing point for Bonnie Prince Charlie in 1745, and the starting point of the Jacobite rising.

Lunch in Fort William

Stop for lunch in Fort William before visiting Glen Coe.

Visit Glen Coe

Visit Glen Coe, the mountainous site of a notorious massacre and an area of great geological interest, as well as one Darwin visited.

Pierhouse Hotel, Port Appin

Check into the Pierhouse Hotel on the shores of Loch Linnhe, a welcoming hotel with excellent views and a menu dedicated to quality seafood.

Group dinner

Group dinner at the Pierhouse Hotel.



Day 6 - Appin - unwind on the Scottish Highland’s winding trails

Explore Lismore Island and Gaelic Heritage

Ferry trip to Lismore Island

After breakfast enjoying views of the loch from the Pierhouse Hotel, you’ll make the 15-minute ferry trip across to Lismore Island, one of the West Coast’s best-kept secrets.

Guided tour of Lismore Island

Known in Gaelic as Lios Mòr, meaning 'The Great Garden', Lismore is a peaceful and welcoming island in the Inner Hebrides. You’ll be welcomed by local resident, Noelle Odling, your guide for the day. Glimpse authentic island life, where traditional crofting, Gaelic heritage and a strong sense of community remain at the heart of daily life.

Explore Lismore’s history and sites

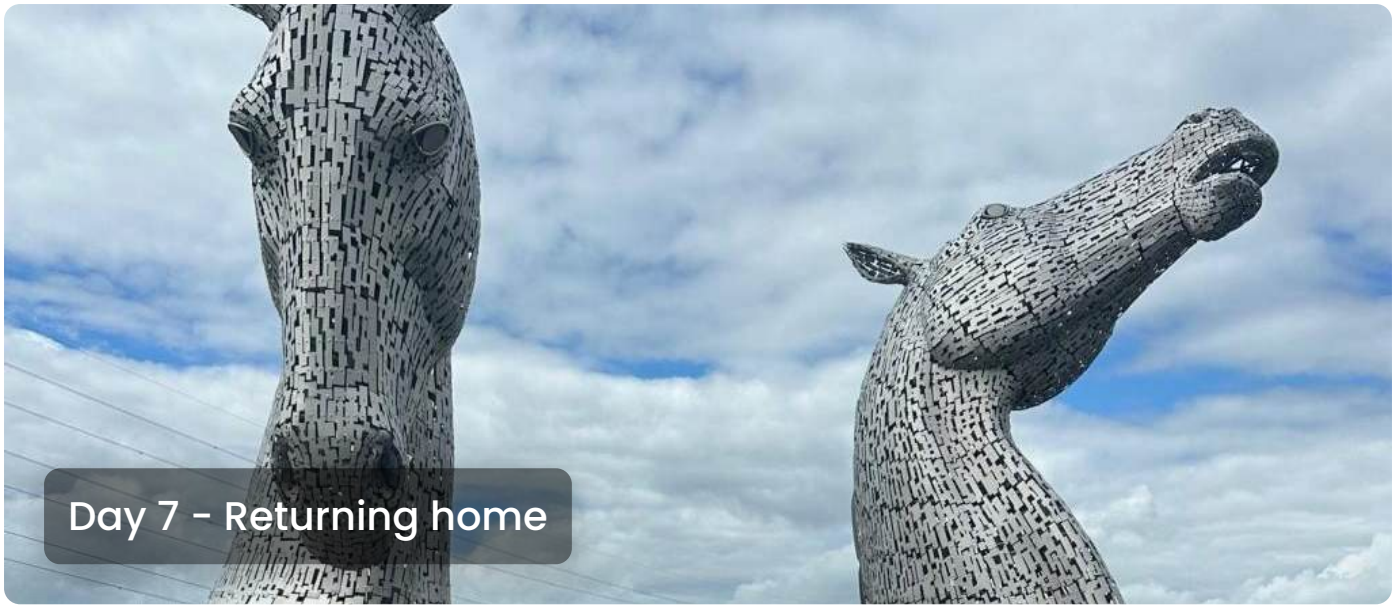
Rich in history and surrounded by spectacular scenery, Lismore is known for its ancient Celtic Christian roots, fascinating archaeological sites and breathtaking views across the mountains and sea lochs of the West Highlands. Discover Tirefour Broch, the ruins of Castle Coeffin, and the award-winning Gaelic Heritage Centre.

Pierhouse Hotel, Port Appin

Stay at the Pierhouse Hotel, Port Appin, a loch-side hotel with excellent views and a menu rich in local seafood options.

Group dinner

Group dinner at the Pierhouse Hotel.



Day 7 - Returning home

Scenic Drive to Edinburgh and Iconic Landmarks

Breakfast at Pierhouse Hotel

Savour your last breakfast at the Pierhouse Hotel before departing.

Scenic drive from Appin to Edinburgh

Departure: **Appin** | Destination: **Edinburgh**

Enjoy the journey back to Edinburgh around 9am via a scenic drive with frequent stops to discover more hidden gems along the route. Arrival in Edinburgh is in the late afternoon, with drop-off at a convenient location for onward journeys.

Visit The Kelpies

Standing 30 metres tall, The Kelpies are among Scotland's most striking landmarks. Inspired by the mythical water spirits of Scottish folklore, these iconic horse-head sculptures celebrate the country's strong connection to horses, industry and the waterways that shaped its history.

Visit St Conan's Church

St Conan's church, located in the village of Loch Awe, is known for its eccentric architecture and is a delight to visit.

Visit Doune Castle

The mighty medieval Doune Castle is a popular filming location and has featured in Monty Python and the Holy Grail, Game of Thrones and Outlander.