GeoCultura

TAKING YOU BEYOND THE LANDSCAPE

Isles of Scilly Holidays: 6-Day Island-Hopping Small Group Tour



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Highlights

- Feel the salty sea air in your hair as a private boat whisks you between all five of the inhabited Scilly Isles, each one an adventure in itself.
- Explore the famous Abbey Gardens on Tresco as a private tour with the head gardener and enjoy a pre-dinner illustrated talk from the CEO of Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust. Plus, the unique opportunity to join one of their rangers for a walk to meet their 'no-fence' goats.
- For our April to July tours, we'll do our best, weather permitting, to make sure you see puffins in their natural habitat.
- Stay in wonderful boutique hotels at the archipelago's Star Castle Hotel on St Mary's, or St Mary's Hall Hotel, and dine a la carte in the hotel's restaurant every evening.
- Late April and early June 2027 departures are 2-centre tours, with first 3 nights on St Mary's and then 2 nights at the New Inn on Tresco Island. *Please note travel from Tresco to St Mary's on the final day will be organised by the Tresco Transport team, to suit your flight or ferry departure time (ferry to St Mary's and then minibus/taxi transport to the airport).*
- Price includes an expert local tour leader and local tour guide, 5 nights accommodation, 5 breakfasts, *5 dinners (excluding 2 nights at the New Inn on Tresco), all transport and private boat trips when travelling between islands, and entry fees. We organise everything! Group size maximum 11.



Day 1 - Welcome to the Isles of Scilly and guided walk of St Mary's

Arrival, Hotel Check-in and Guided Walk on St Mary's

Star Castle Hotel

Check in to Star Castle Hotel, get your bearings and then meet your GeoCultura Tour Leader and the rest of your group.

Guided walk of St Mary's including Peninnis Head

Kick off your tour mid-afternoon, around 3pm, with a guided walk to some of the sights of St Mary's, including Peninnis Head. The black-and-white Peninnis Head Lighthouse standing guard over the granite cliffs is always an impressive sight.

Illustrated talk from CEO of Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust

Before dinner, enjoy an illustrated talk from CEO of the Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust, Julian Branscombe.

Group dinner at Star Castle Hotel's Castle Restaurant

Regroup for dinner at Star Castle Hotel. Built in 1593, it's a complete example of an Elizabethan fort and steeped in history.



Day 2 - Puffins, wildlife and ice cream on St Agnes

Puffin Spotting, Wildlife Walks and Local Ice Cream

Boat trip on Calypso II to see puffins

Hop on Calypso II, a charter boat that carries a maximum of 12, with boatman Rafe to see puffins, accompanied by one of GeoCultura's local guides. After the boat trip, Calypso will tie up at the St Agnes quay and then take you on a stroll to see seals, seabirds and the exposed granite rocks of this tiny, wild island.

Ice cream at Troytown Farm Dairy

Polish off your time on St Agnes with some small-batch ice cream at Troytown, the only dairy farm on the Isles of Scilly. Take your pick from around 30 flavours before whizzing back to St Mary's on the Calypso II.

Optional drink at The Turks Head pub

You could also stop for a drink at The Turks Head, the most south–westerly pub in the British Isles before heading back for dinner at Star Castle.

Star Castle Hotel

Stay at Star Castle Hotel on St Mary's.

Group dinner at Star Castle Hotel's Castle Restaurant



Day 3 - Walk with a ranger, St Martin's, Scilly Flowers and conservation

Wildlife Encounters and St Martin's Island Exploration

Morning walk with Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust ranger

Spend the first part of the morning joining a ranger or conservation officer from Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust on their daily rounds. You could be checking in on the small herd of friendly English goats or observing beach nesting sites.

Private cruise on Calypso II to St Martin's

Set sail for a private cruise on Calypso II, Skipper Rafe Ward will drop us off on St Martin's, a 2-mile-long island ringed by some of the finest beaches you'll ever see.

Visit to Scilly Flowers at Churchtown Farm

There is an opportunity to visit Scilly Flowers at Churchtown Farm with your GeoCultura local guide. Learn how this family-run 'kitchen table'-based flower business took off when they hit on the idea of sending flowers by post.

Free time on St Martin's

For the next hour or so, you can walk the cliff path, café hop, people watch, or relax on one of the spectacular beaches.

Lunch options on St Martin's

For a light lunch, options on St Martin's include the Seven Stones Inn, Karma St Martin's and The Island Bakery.

Return cruise on Calypso II

Returning on Calypso II in the late afternoon, you'll have some free time before dinner.

Star Castle Hotel

Group dinner at Star Castle Hotel's Castle Restaurant



Day 4 - Burial sites and beauty on Bryher

Explore Bryher's Burial Sites and Art

Private jet boat transfer to Bryher

After breakfast, a private jet boat transfer whisks you to the tiny island Bryher. Only 80 people have the privilege of calling this place their home.

Guided walk of Bryher

On a guided walk, your Tour Leader will show you the secluded coves, rugged headlands and Bronze age burial sites that dot the island. You'll also visit the island's gallery, crammed with art from local creators.

Lunch options on Bryher

For lunch, take your pick from the island's cafes or pick up something from the little stalls set up along the tracks and trails that criss-cross the island. Or, we recommend the lobster and bacon burgers at Island Fish Café or pre-booking a table at Scilly's only 3 AA Rosette restaurant at the luxurious Hell Bay Hotel.

Return jet boat to St Mary's

The jet boat will carry us back to St Mary's mid-afternoon, for some down time before dinner.

Star Castle Hotel

Group dinner

Dinner at Star Castle Hotel.



Day 5 - Gardens and civil war on Tresco

Explore Tresco Abbey Gardens and Island History

Jet boat transfer to Tresco

Today we jet over to Tresco. After a Cornish Origin coffee with wake-you-up waterfront views at The Flying Boat Café, we'll stroll to the famous Tresco Abbey Garden.

Private guided tour of Tresco Abbey Garden

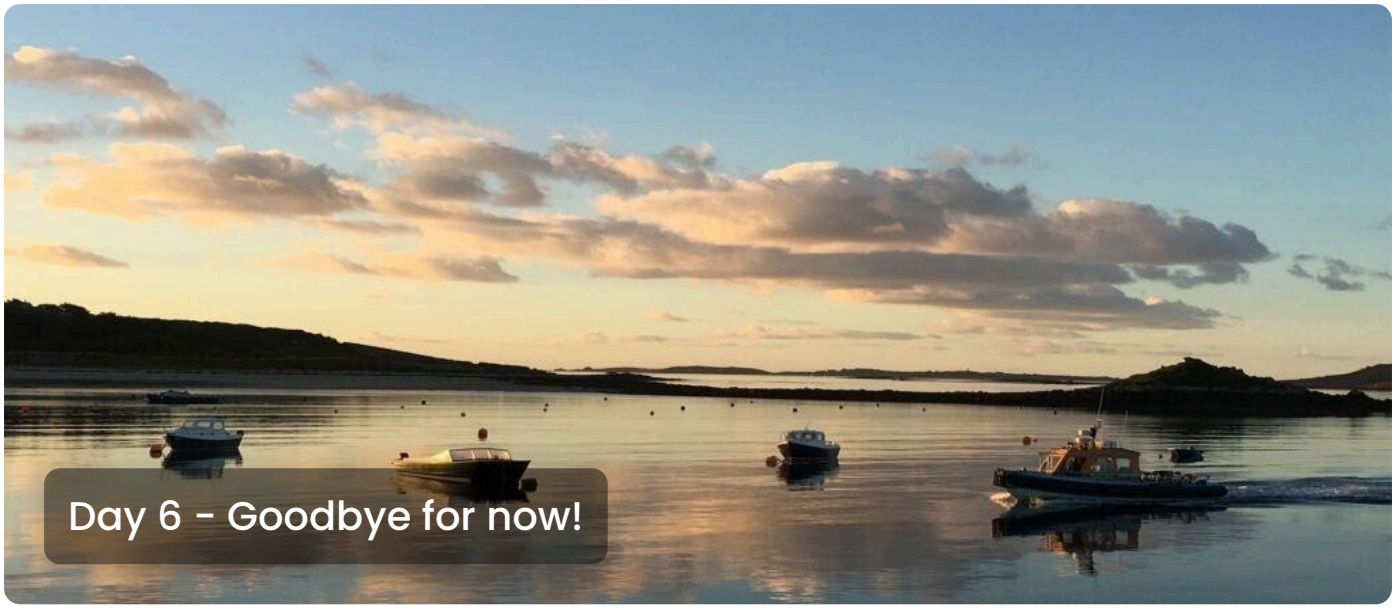
Head gardener Andrew Lawson will be waiting to give you a private guided tour of this 19th-century sub-tropical paradise. Twenty thousand plants from more than 80 countries flourish here.

Optional visit to Old Blockhouse or northern Tresco

After lunch, you have the option to visit the northern end of the island or the Old Blockhouse, a ruined 16th-century fortification, with a local guide. English Civil War history is tangible on Tresco, and you'll hear all about the struggle to wrest control of the islands.

Star Castle Hotel

Group dinner at Star Castle Hotel's Castle Restaurant



Farewell Breakfast and Leisure Time on St Mary's

Breakfast at Star Castle Hotel

Make the most of your last breakfast in Star Castle Hotel.

Star Castle Hotel

Check out by 10.30am from Star Castle Hotel.

Free time on St Mary's

Spend the time until you depart doing whatever you please. Perhaps take one last walk around the island, visit a gallery, or watch the comings and goings on the quay.

Luggage arrangements

Your luggage is taken care of and will be delivered to the quay or airport ready for your journey back to the mainland.