

The Isle of Skye & the Highlands

Venture through breath-taking landscapes, quaint villages and epic castles on this journey to the 'Misty Isle'.

Places you'll explore

Eilean Donan Castle* – An iconic and gorgeous 13th century castle that once warded off Viking invasions.

Glencoe – Be moved by the sheer beauty and tragic tale of one of Scotland's most famous landscapes.

Quiraing Mountain Pass – Skye's outstanding geological stunner. These strange formations gave Skye its nickname, the 'Winged Isle'.

Neist Point - The location of a dramatic lighthouse and a great place to spot dolphins, whales, porpoises and basking sharks.

Five Sisters of Kintail – Legend says a local wizard turned five sisters into these mountains so they could preserve their beauty.

Loch Ness – This loch holds more fresh water than all of the lakes in England and Wales combined. But does it also hold the Loch Ness Monster?

Prices per person in 2018, excluding accommodation

Please note these are the prices per person for the 3 day tour in a 16 seater coach, if you are ok to travel on a larger coach cheaper rates are generally available for most of the year, just ask

January, February and up to 27th March: £119 / £109 discounted

28th [March – 3rd April](#): £175 / £165 discounted

4th [April – 30th April](#): £125 / £115 discounted

May: £175 / £165 discounted

June – September: £195 / £185 discounted

October: £175 / £165 discounted

November up to 16th December: £125 / £115 discounted

17th – 31st December: £175 / £165 discounted

Discounts

Students, seniors over 60, and children between 5 and 15
(unfortunately, we don't carry children under 5 years old)

Your journey

Spend three days weaving through the landscapes, legends, and landmarks of Skye. On your journey north, you'll travel past the historic heart of Scotland and learn about the battles between the Scottish and the English.

In Skye, you'll stay in the cute and cultural town of Portree, and explore the scenery that inspired countless myths and legends. And by the time you're home, you'll understand why this little island deserves its large reputation.

Departs

08.30 - Waterloo Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EG

Returns

19.00 approx

(Stirling customers please note, this tour is a very long tour starting and finishing in Edinburgh. In the morning during the rush hour, when the coach passes Stirling there will only be time to pick you up from the Riverhouse restaurant, near the Craigforth motorway junction – so you need to contact a local taxi company or get on a taxi at Stirling railway station to take you to the Riverhouse restaurant, as for the coach and the rest of the group, this is just a 3 minute detour – depending on traffic, you will be picked up between [09.10 am](#) and [09.40 am](#). On the way back though the route does not pass anywhere near Stirling as the coach crosses the Forth Road bridge, you will be dropped off in Edinburgh, a 3 minute walk away from Waverley station, this

means coming back you have to take the ½ hourly train from Edinburgh Waverley to Stirling– journey time 50 minutes)

Important information

Pack your waterproof clothing and walking shoes

Tour inclusions

Transport in a 16 seat Mercedes mini-coach

Air conditioning as standard

The stories and services of a driver-guide

Tour exclusions

Entry fees to visitor attractions

One 15 kilogram bag, and one carry-on bag per person

Tour accommodation

Day 1

Learn about Scotland's most important battles as we pass Stirling Castle

Admire the mountainous splendour of the Five Sisters of Kintail

Take an epic photo of the gorgeous Eilean Donan Castle

Wander around the cute seaside village of Portree

You depart Edinburgh and travel west. This part of your journey is a history lover's dream. You pass Stirling Castle, the Wallace Monument, and Doune Castle, before stopping in Callander for refreshments.

Next, we venture north through the splendid scenery surrounding Loch Luibnaig and up to the wild desolation of Rannoch Moor.

You continue through the spectacular mountain pass of Glencoe, scene of the great massacre of the Clan Macdonald in 1692. And after lunch we pass Britain's highest mountain, Ben Nevis, and head into the Great Glen. Travelling west on the "Road to the Isles" you head past the Five Sisters of Kintail.

You then stop at the famous Eilean Donan Castle, one of Scotland's most photographed castles. Crossing over the bridge to Skye, you follow the dramatic coastline, towards the island's capital, Portree. And after all this breath-taking beauty, you're

dropped off at your accommodation in the early evening with enough time to go out and explore the town.

Day 2

Explore the natural wonders of Skye

Enjoy spectacular sea views at Neist Point

Learn about the history of the Clan Macleod at Dunvagen Castle

[Today](#) is a flexible day on Skye. Your driver/guide will ensure you have the best day out no matter what the weather.

North of Portree is the Trotternish ridge with spectacular cliffs and rock formations, such as the Old Man of Storr, Kilt Rock and the stunning mountain pass of the Quiraing. Further west the scenery changes again with the emerald green valley of Glendale, the dramatic sea-cliffs of Neist Point (the most westerly point on the island, where you might get lucky and spot some whales or sharks!), and the 13th-century home of the Clan Macleod, Dunvegan Castle.

You return to Portree in the evening.

Day 3

Try and spot the Loch Ness Monster

Journey through the pine-clad region of Perthshire

You travel south through the Cuillin Hills and back over to the mainland for stunning views over Loch Duich and the five Sisters of Kintail.

You visit Loch Ness for lunch and the chance to spot "Nessie"!

Heading south through the Grampian mountains along Loch Laggan, famous now as "Monarch of the Glen Country" before passing Dalwhinnie and onwards past Blair Castle.

We stop for refreshments in one of the Perthshire villages before heading past Perth, over the Forth Road Bridge, and back to Edinburgh

Accommodation

Where does this tour stay overnight?

You stay two nights in the picturesque harbour town of Portree on the Isle of Skye.

How does the accommodation work?

Your tour excludes accommodation; but when you book, you can ask us to reserve local accommodation for you, or you can choose to reserve your own accommodation in the overnight locations.

I want you to book my accommodation, what happens now?

Once you've booked your tour, we'll reserve all your accommodation, and your driver will drop you off with your hosts. You'll pay your accommodation hosts directly. Most accommodation hosts don't accept credit cards, so be prepared to pay cash.

Due to availability, we may not be able to reserve your first choice of accommodation. When this happens we'll book your second choice, and if there are any further issues we'll contact you.

What if I want to change my accommodation booking with you?

Changes to accommodation cannot be guaranteed and are subject to availability. A minimum amendment charge of £5.00 will apply, increasing to a maximum of £25.00 depending on the length of your tour.

I booked my own accommodation is there anything I need to do?

You'll need to contact us with your accommodation details. Please only reserve accommodation within the overnight towns that your tour stops in. And if you're unsure, please check with us first.

Your driver will drop you off at your chosen accommodation as long as it's relatively central.

What if I cancel my tour at short notice?

If you cancel less than three days before departure, you may be liable for the cost of your first nights' accommodation. And occasionally you may be liable for all your accommodation costs.

What are the accommodation types and what do they cost?

We try to reserve accommodation that's no more than a 20-minute walk from the town centre. But during busy periods there can be a walk of up to 30 minutes.

We regularly check our accommodation suppliers to ensure they reach a certain standard. The prices below are for guidance only.

B&B (Bed and Breakfast) Standard

The toilet and showering facilities are shared with at least one other rooms in the house, and the price includes breakfast. The cost is between £30.00 - £35.00 per person per night. A single standard is between £35.00 - £60.00 per night.

B&B En/suite

The showering and toilet facilities are private, and breakfast is included in the price. The expected cost for a room, based on two people sharing, will be between £40.00 – £50.00 per person per night.

The expected cost for a single room will be between *£55.00 - £65.00 per night. If you travel during a busy period, you can expect to pay up to *£75 - £80 per night. Rooms with a view are limited and may be more expensive.

Hotels

Hotels have a bar or restaurant and provide evening meals. Breakfast is included in the price. The expected cost of Hotel 3* is between £65.00 - £85.00 per person per night. Hotel 4* is approximately £75.00 - £120.00 per person per night. Please be advised that 4* hotels aren't available in some smaller rural areas of the Scottish Highlands and islands.

Hostels

A hostel consists of dormitory rooms with 4 to 16 bunk beds. Towels aren't provided, but you can hire towels there. The bathroom facilities are a short distance from the dorm room. Kitchen facilities are equipped so you can make your own meals. The cost is between £15.00- £25.00 per person per night.

Please note that SYHA hostels only offer same gender dorms. Some independent hostels will offer mixed rooms (males and females together). If you have a preference, please let us know at the time of booking.