

VisitScotland and expo itinerary



ORKNEY

SAMPLE ITINERARY

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Day One

Loganair flight from Edinburgh Airport to Kirkwall Airport

W: www.loganair.co.uk



Creative Orkney

Orkney is famed for its high-quality, design-led craft work. Creative Orkney brings together traditional and contemporary professional craft makers in the region to promote, support and develop high quality design-led creative work. The **Orkney's** Creative Trail was established in the **1990's** and guides visitors to many of their members' workshops where your clients can visit a wide variety of arts & crafts, including Orkney chair makers, jewellers, textile designers, potters and artists.

Creative Orkney

W: <https://www.creative-orkney.com/>



Orkney Food and Drink

Orkney's distinctive and remarkably varied range of food and drink, including award-winning gins, whiskies and beer, truly encapsulates the essence of the islands, where excellence matters. Orkney Food & Drink represents the islands' leading producers, whose expertise combines the finest natural harvests of the land and sea with the highest production standards.

Orkney Food and Drink

W: <https://www.orkneyfoodanddrink.com/>



Skaill House

Skaill House is the finest 17th Century mansion in Orkney. Home of the man who unearthed Skara Brae in 1850, and covering thousands of years of Orkney history, a visit to Skaill House will give your clients a valuable insight into Orkney's diverse and exciting past. Overlooking the spectacular Bay of Skaill, the house was originally built in 1620 by Bishop Graham and has been added to by successive Lairds over the centuries. Just a short distance from the house lies the Neolithic village of Skara Brae, and the Southern Wing of Skaill House stands on a Pre-Norse burial ground.

Skaill House
Breckness Estate,
Sandwick,
Orkney,
KW16 3LR

W: www.skaillhouse.co.uk



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Skara Brae

The Neolithic settlement of Skara Brae is one of the best-preserved groups of prehistoric houses in Western Europe. Uncovered by a storm in 1850, Skara Brae gives a remarkable picture of life 5,000 years ago, before Stonehenge was built. Your clients will explore this prehistoric village and see ancient homes fitted with stone beds, dressers and seats. A replica house allows visitors to explore its interior, while the visitor centre provides touch-screen presentations, fact-finding quizzes and an opportunity to see artefacts discovered during the archaeological excavations of the 1970s.

Skara Brae
Sandwick,
Stromness,
KW16 3LR



W: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/>

Orkney Brewery

The Orkney Brewery is an award-winning, family-run visitor centre and welcomes both adults and children. Housed in an old Victorian schoolhouse, adults can find out how their hand-crafted beer is made while the children can play dress up in Victorian school uniform. The Tasting Hall café and shop can also be found on site and allows visitors to take a little bit of Orkney home with them.

Orkney Brewery
Quoyloo,
Stromness,
Orkney,
KW16 3LT



W: www.orkneybrewery.co.uk

Day Two

Brough of Birsay

Birsay, in Orkney's West Mainland, boasts the ruins of the once mighty Earl's Palace. Steeped in history, Birsay has been settled continuously for more than 5,000 years so has remnants of every historic period from the Iron Age, Picts, Norse and more. There are many historic sites in Birsay including the prehistoric and Norse settlements on the Brough of Birsay and the ruins of the Earl's Palace. The Brough of Birsay is a tidal island only accessible during low tide and for tide times.

Brough of Birsay
Off Mainland,
Birsay,
Orkney,
KW17 2LX



W: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/brough-of-birsay/>

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Kirkbuster Farm Museum

Kirkbuster Farm Museum is the last un-restored example of a **traditional 'firehouse' in Northern Europe** and was occupied right up until the 1960s. The house has a central hearth and a stone neuk bed. Also, on site is an Edwardian parlour and Victorian Gardens. The shed contains a collection of farming memorabilia and visitors can also enjoy a game of putting on the green. The museum is only open between March and October.

Kirkbuster Farm Museum
Birsay,
Orkney,
KW17 2LR

W: <http://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/S/kirbuster-museum.htm>

Maeshowe

The monumental chambered tomb of Maeshowe is simply the finest Neolithic building in North West Europe. Built around 5,000 years ago, it is a masterpiece of Neolithic design and stonework construction, not least for its use of massive individual stones. Alongside Maeshowe are other incredible survivals from that far-off age, including most notably the Stones of Stenness, the Ring of Brodgar and the village of Skara Brae. This richness was formally recognised in 1999 when these monuments were inscribed upon the World Heritage List as the Heart of Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site.

Maeshowe Visitor Centre
Ireland Road,
Stenness,
Orkney,
KW16 3LB

W: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/maeshowe-chambered-cairn/prices-and-opening-times/>



Stones of Stenness

Located on the south-eastern shore of the Loch of Stenness, the stones stand at over 6 metres tall and can be seen for miles around. Thought to be an ancient ceremonial site, the Stones of Stenness are thought to be over 5000 years old.

Stones of Stenness
Stenness,
Orkney

W: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/stones-of-stenness-circle-and-henge/>



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Ring of Brodgar

Dating back from 2,500 to 2,000 BC, the stone ring was built in a true circle, 104 metres wide and originally contained sixty megaliths; today only twenty-seven of these stones remain. The reason for the creation of the Ring of Brodgar, which would have been a considerable amount of work in that time, is not known for sure, perhaps as an astronomical observatory, religious shrine or rituals.

Ring of Brodgar
Stenness,
Orkney,
KW16 3JZ

W: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/ring-of-brodgar-stone-circle-and-henge/>



Day Three

The Italian Chapel

The Italian Chapel is a beautiful Roman Catholic chapel in Lamb Holm which was constructed by Italian POWs during the Second World War. The chapel consists of two Nissen huts transformed into a beautiful chapel by Domenico Chiocchetti and his colleagues, prisoners of war captured in North Africa and transported to the Island of Lambholm in Orkney. Now, 70 years after the completion of the Chapel, it is one of Orkney's major tourist attractions with over 100,000 visitors every year.

The Italian Chapel
Lambholm,
Orkney,
KW17 2SF

W: <https://www.orkney.com/listings/the-italian-chapel>



Highland Park Whisky Distillery

Highland Park Distillery stands proudly in Orkney's remote and remarkable landscape. Your clients can visit the distillery to meet the modern-day Viking descendants who make Highland Park whisky and experience the effort and pride that goes into every cask. To create balance in whisky requires skill and discipline. At Highland Park they have over 220 years of experience, their traditional tried and tested 5 Keystones of Production create an "Intensely Balanced" whisky. No other distillery uses all 5 Keystones, so no other whisky tastes like Highland Park.

Highland Park Whisky Distillery
Holm Road,
Kirkwall,
Orkney,
KW15 1SU

W: www.highlandparkwhisky.com/distillery/



For all your travel trade needs: www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com

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Tomb of the Eagles

The 'Tomb of the Eagles' was discovered by chance by local farmer Ronnie Simison in the 1950s and consists of an amazing collection of bones and artefacts placed there 5,000 years ago. Half a mile inland from the tomb is a Bronze Age site where excavations have led to important discoveries about how people lived and worked on Orkney 3,000 years ago. At the visitor centre you can handle some of the original artefacts found at these sites, while the gift shop offers a wide range of items including local crafts and books. In addition to the existing galleries focusing on the Stone Age Tomb and the Bronze Age building and burnt mound, a new extension to the Visitor Centre features the lives of Orkney's first human settlers.

Tomb of the Eagles
Liddle,
South Ronaldsay,
Orkney,
KW17 2RW

W: <http://www.tomboftheeagles.co.uk/>



Sheila Fleet Jewellery Workshop

Your clients can peruse Sheila's collections of gold, silver and enamel designs in her country workshop and watch jewellery being made in front of them. With a passion for her island home, Sheila creates her original designs to reflect nature's wonderful sea, sky and landscape colours. Orkney's history and folklore are also a rich source of inspiration for her.

Sheila Fleet Jewellery
Old Schoolhouse
Tankerness
Orkney
KW17 2QT

W: www.sheilafleet.com



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VisitScotland's Themed Years

Year of Scotland's Coasts and Waters 2020

In 2020, Scotland celebrates its Coasts and Waters with a year-long programme of events and activities which will shine a spotlight on these vital elements of our landscape.

From our beautiful natural features including coasts, lochs and rivers to our industrial heritage such as our canals, mills and the creation of our national drink – **whisky**, Scotland's Coasts and Waters have shaped our culture, our stories and our way of life.

So, whether you want to navigate your way around distant isles or canals, experience

Scotland's maritime heritage at a visitor attraction, enjoy Scotland's abundant natural larder or discover Scotland's wildlife on a local boat trip - Scotland's coasts and waters are perfect for get-away-from-it-all adventures.

For more info www.visitscotland.com/ycw2020 and join the conversation using #YCW2020



Year of Scotland's Stories 2022

Scotland's Year of Stories 2022 will shine a spotlight on the richness of our stories, past and present; celebrating our literary icons and heroes, diverse voices, stories that have leapt from page to screen and stage, the richness of our myths, legends and local tales - and the places that have inspired them.

The words of Robert Burns are known and celebrated across the world, as are works by Sir Walter Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson, while stories by modern Scottish authors, such as JK

Rowling's Harry Potter tales, are inspiring today's generation.

The story of real-life legends such as King Robert the Bruce, Sir William Wallace, Mary Queen of Scots have inspired poems, books and even Oscar winning movies.

Stories of magic, ghosts, witches, haunted castles and tales of mystical figures such as Kelpies **abound, and there are the oral traditions handed down through generations in Scotland's many diverse communities. We invite visitors to join us in exploring the rich history of Scotland's stories in 2022, including a programme of events which will take place across the year**



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VisitScotland Websites

Our travel trade website offers the travel industry a one-stop-shop for Scotland information, inspiration and tool kit. The site is designed to assist tour operators and agents to sell destination Scotland more effectively to their clients.

Travel trade website www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com

Destination Education Programme www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com/scotsagent

VisitScotland consumer site www.visitscotland.com

Information on travel trade website

- Inspirational itineraries
- Downloadable e-brochures and maps
- Link to multimedia library for images and videos
- Online destination education programme
- Opt-in to receive our monthly travel trade e-newsletter.
- A comprehensive directory of Scottish companies who have committed to special rates, discounts and commissions exclusively available for the travel trade.

General websites

Britrail	www.britrail.com
News & Weather information	www.bbc.co.uk/weather
British Train information	www.nationalrail.co.uk
Scottish Train information	www.scotrail.co.uk
Bus information	www.citylink.co.uk
Historic Environment Scotland	www.historic-scotland.gov.uk
National Trust for Scotland	www.nts.org.uk
Scottish Tourist Guides Association	www.stga.co.uk