

The Highlands and the Outer Hebrides

4 Day itinerary

YEAR OF
STORIES
— 2022 —

01 The Highlands

Crannog Cruises

Departing from Fort William, Crannog Cruises offer visitors the opportunity to sail on Loch Linnhe and Loch Eil, while enjoying fascinating from the skipper. This is the ideal way to see the area and learn about its history, wildlife, geology, industry and more. There are also views of Britain's highest mountain, Ben Nevis, and the chance to spot local wildlife, including sea seals, porpoise, dolphins, and a host of bird life.

Town Pier
Fort William, PH33 6DB

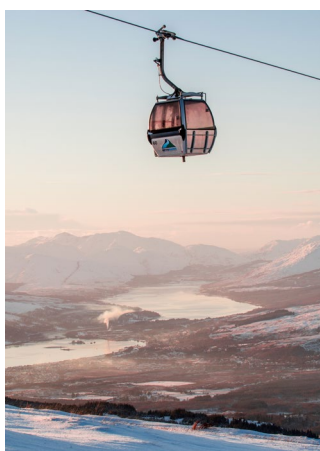
www.crannog.net
[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Crannog Cruises and Nevis Range Mountain Gondola is 7.2 miles/11.5 km

Nevis Range Mountain Gondola

The Nevis Range contain Scotland's highest peaks, including the famous Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in Britain. The unique Mountain Gondola experience takes visitors to a height to 650 metres on the mountain of Aonach Mor, to enjoy amazing views across the Scottish Highlands taking in mountains, lochs and forests. On a clear day this view can extend as far as the Inner Hebrides. Enjoy the vistas with a coffee and some stunning home baking at mountain top Pinemarten Café.



Torlundy
Fort William, PH33 6SQ

www.nevisrange.co.uk
[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Nevis Range Mountain Gondola and Dalwhinnie Distillery is 41.3 miles/66.4 km

Dalwhinnie Distillery

The highest distillery in Scotland at over 350 metres above sea level and lies at the heart of Cairngorm National Park. Hear the story of how its splendid mountain scenery, rich in clear spring water and abundant peat gives their single malt its gentle flavours with notes of heather honey, citrus, vanilla and sweet malt. Dalwhinnie is derived from the Gaelic language, meaning 'meeting place', and refers to the meeting of ancient cattle drovers' routes through the mountains.

Dalwhinnie
Inverness-shire, PH19 1AA

www.malts.com
[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Dalwhinnie Distillery and Highland Folk Museum is 11.1 miles/17.9 km

Highland Folk Museum

Britain's first open air museum, bringing to life the domestic and working conditions of earlier Highland peoples from the 1700s right up to the 1950s. The centrepiece of the museum is 'Baile Gear' – a unique re-construction of an early 1700s Highland Township. Visitors can discover how Highland people lived, worked and dressed, how they produced food, and the meals they enjoyed. Aultlarie Croft, a 1930s working farm, gives further insights into agricultural life at that time.

Newtonmore, PH20 1AY
www.hIGHLIFEhighland.com
[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Highland Folk Museum and Rothiemurchus Estate is 14.5 miles/23.3 km

Rothiemurchus Estate

Step into traditional Highland estate life in one of the most picturesque spots in Scotland. Rothiemurchus is the jewel of the Cairngorms National Park a special place for its beauty, magnificent pine forests and abundant wildlife. They can provide luxury tailored experiences: tours with their Ranger service, meet Highland cattle, feed the deer, bespoke picnic lunches and a wide range of outdoor activities.

Dell of Rothiemurchus
Aviemore, PH22 1QH
www.rothiemurchus.net
[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Rothiemurchus Estate and Culloden Battlefield is 32.5 miles/52.4 km

The details provided above are subject to change from time to time. We suggest contacting establishments directly for up to date information.



Groups
8—12
people



Groups
up to 24
people



All groups
all sizes



Free
Independent
travellers



Languages
spoken



Seasonal Opening
(as noted)
Winter by
appointment



Open all
year



Accessible
access



Green Tourism
Business
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The Highlands

Culloden Battlefield

At this poignant and atmospheric site your clients can hear the story of the last battle fought on British soil, as the Jacobite followers of Bonnie Prince Charlie made a final, fateful stand in their quest to restore the Stuart monarchy to the British throne. In the richly researched, stimulating and sensitive Culloden Visitor Centre, discover how a bloody fight that lasted only an hour changed life in the Highlands forever. The Jacobite story is central to the themes of the popular *Outlander* TV series.

Culloden Moor
Culloden
Inverness, IV2 5EU

www.nts.org.uk

[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Culloden Battlefield and Cawdor Castle is 8.4 miles/13.6 km

Cawdor Castle

Cawdor Castle is a 600-year-old iconic fairy-tale castle, set within one of the finest woodlands in Europe. Its story of the castle dates to the late 14th century, when it built as a private fortress by the Thanes of Cawdor, referenced in Shakespeare's famous play *Macbeth*. It is also the clan seat of the Campbells of Cawdor. It has been home to 23 generations of the Cawdor family, and houses a collection of rare tapestries, fine art, furniture, ceramics and sculpture spanning 3,500 years.

Nairn, IV12 5RD

www.cawdorcastle.com

[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Cawdor Castle and Highlander Experience at Bogbain Farm is 13.1 miles/21.1 km



Highlander Experience at Bogbain Farm

At this 17th century farm, your clients can enjoy an authentic Highland Experience. With Highland cattle in the surrounding fields, a piper to greet you at the door, and music, song and great food all featuring as part of the experience, visitors will feel the warmth of true Highland hospitality. Stories of ancestral history, the importance of the Highlands, and the new visionary Scotland also form part of the evening.

Inshes
Inverness, IV2 5BD

www.highlanderexperience.com

[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Highlander Experience at Bogbain Farm and Dolphin Spirit is 5.5 miles/8.8 km

Dolphin Spirit

The Moray Firth coastline has long been a fantastic place to spot wildlife and marine life. Dolphin Spirit offer wildlife watching boat trips from Inverness in search of seals, dolphins, otters and other sea creatures. Hear the story of the world's most northerly population of bottlenose dolphins, as well as tales of the local area, landmarks and folklore, as you enjoy the stunning Highland scenery from this unique vantage point.

Inverness Marina
Stadium Road
Inverness, IV1 1FF

www.dolphinspirit.co.uk

[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Dolphin Spirit and Jacobite Cruises is 2.6 miles/4.1 km



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The Highlands and North Coast 500

Jacobite Cruises

No trip to the Highlands would there be complete without a cruise on this famous stretch of water. Though sightings of Nessie, the famous Loch Ness Monster, are not guaranteed your clients will certainly enjoy the grandeur and majesty of Loch Ness, views of dramatic Urquhart Castle, and stories from your onboard guide. Allow for time in their café and retail space An Talla (Gaelic for the meeting place) at the departure point, which features unique pieces inspired by Loch Ness.

Tomnahurich Bridge
Glenurquhart Road
Inverness, IV3 5TD

www.jacobite.co.uk

[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Jacobite Cruises and Downright Gabbler is 12.9 miles/20.8 km



Downright Gabbler

Downright Gabbler serves up a combination of superb food and drink, great company and fascinating stories in a former coaching inn situated within a charming Highland village. Along with their enthusiastic hosts, your clients will explore history through the finest local produce. Stories include how beer played a key role in the creation of an empire, the humble grocer who made Scotch whisky a global icon, and how tea, coffee and chocolate helped drive social change.

High Street
Beaulieu, IV4 7BT

www.downrightgabbler.co.uk

[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Downright Gabbler and Dunrobin Castle is 50 miles/80.5 km

Dunrobin Castle

The fairytale Dunrobin Castle, with its distinctive conical spires, is the most northerly of Scotland's great houses and the largest in the Northern Highlands, with 189 rooms. It has been home to the Earls and Dukes of Sutherland for over 700 years and is the ancestral seat of Clan Sutherland. Visitors can take a self-guided tour through the state rooms on the first floor, the smaller rooms in the older parts of the castle, the formal garden and Victorian museum.

Golspie
Sutherland, KW10 6SF

www.dunrobincastle.co.uk

[Link to trade website](#)



March-Oct

Distance between Dunrobin Castle and The Castle of Mey and Gardens is 67.7 miles/109 km



The Castle of Mey and Gardens

One of the enduring stories of HM The Queen Mother's links to Scotland is how she fell in love with the Castle of May on first sight. Set on the stunning Caithness coast in the north of Scotland, the castle welcomes visitors on a guided tour to see the comfortable rooms which Her Majesty used when in residence. There are magnificent views across the Pentland Firth to the Orkney Islands, and B&B accommodation in The Granary Lodge close to the castle.

Mey
Thurso
Caithness, KW14 8XH

www.castleofmey.org.uk

[Link to trade website](#)



May-Sept

Distance between The Castle of Mey and Gardens and Gairloch Museum is 167 miles/268 km

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04

North Coast 500 and Outer Hebrides

Gairloch Museum

Housed in a former nuclear bunker in the coastal village of Gairloch, this fascinating museum tells many authentic stories of the geological, natural and social history of this beautiful part of the Highlands from the stone age up to the present day. Displays include a replica croft house showing how people used to live here, and an interactive gallery about the region's magnificent natural world. There are also wonderful views towards the Isle of Skye.

Gairloch
Wester Ross, IV21 2BH

www.gairlochmuseum.org

[Link to trade website](#)



March-Dec

Distance between Gairloch Museum and Inverewe Garden and Estate is 6.4 miles/10.3 km

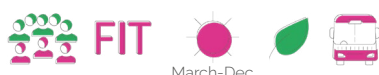
Inverewe Garden and Estate

The story of Inverewe is of a father and daughter – Osgood and Mairi Mackenzie – who transformed a barren wilderness on the Atlantic coast of the North West Highlands into an award-winning lochside garden like no other. This lush setting is a riot of colours and scents. The wider estate is home to Scotland's 'Big 5' wildlife species: red squirrel, red deer, otter, seal and golden eagle. From pre-historic trees to exotic plants from around the world, there is something to discover and enjoy in every corner.

Poolewe
Ross-shire, IV22 2LG

www.nts.org.uk

[Link to trade website](#)



March-Dec

Distance between Inverewe Garden and Estate and Calanais Standing Stones & Visitor Centre is 120 miles/193 km. This route includes a ferry.



Calanais Standing Stones & Visitor Centre

Walk among the megaliths at one of Scotland's most magnificent and best-preserved Neolithic monuments. The Calanais Standing Stones are an extraordinary cross-shaped setting of stones erected 5,000 years ago. They pre-date England's famous Stonehenge monument, and were an important place for ritual activity for at least 2,000 years. It is believed that they were erected as a kind of astronomical observatory. These are the stones of which those featured in the TV series Outlander are based.

Calanais
Isle of Lewis
Eilean Siar, HS2 9DY

www.historicenvironment.scot

[Link to trade website](#)



Distance between Calanais Standing Stones & Visitor Centre and The Blackhouse, Arnol is 16.7 miles/26.8 km



The Blackhouse, Arnol

This traditional Lewis thatched house is fully furnished, complete with an attached barn, byre and stackyard. Built in around 1880, No.42 Arnol tells the story of island life. This blackhouse was once the residence of a Hebridean crafting family and their animals, who moved out in 1966, and today it is preserved almost as the family left it. A peat fire burns in the open hearth with the smoke filtering out through the roof. A furnished 1920s croft house is also open to view.

42 Arnol
Isle of Lewis, HS2 9DB

www.historicenvironment.scot

[Link to trade website](#)



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Food & Drink suggestions

Smiddy House

A 2 AA Rosette Restaurant with Rooms in Spean Bridge. Their menu offers the finest of Scottish beef, lamb and venison, as well as sea fish from our coastal waters.



The Old Bridge Inn

Locally sourced, innovative, seasonal food and drink in a quiet corner of Aviemore. The restaurant is well known for its friendly atmosphere, great food, live music and unique riverside setting.



Moorings Cafe Bistro at The Moorings Hotel

The Moorings Hotel is a hidden gem using the best of local produce, located just five minutes' drive from Fort William but a million miles away from everyday hustle and bustle.



The coffee shop at Munro's Nurseries

Award-winning coffee shop in Inverness, overlooking the outside garden centre. The food is freshly prepared daily and includes a wonderful range of delicious home baking.



Cawdor Tavern

The owners have strived to create a haven for locals and visitors alike in Nairn. They serve modern Scottish food and use fresh local ingredients where possible, to provide the best dining experience.



River House Restaurant

Eat, drink and relax in the comfort of our plush surroundings, whilst appreciating the fantastic river views over the bridge and up to Inverness Castle. They serve the finest seafood and shellfish, sourced locally.



Corner on the Square

A licensed delicatessen and eatery situated in the heart of Beaulieu. With its mini food hall emporium, it provides excellent quality food using fresh produce whenever possible within comfortable and relaxed surroundings.



The Store House Restaurant

Situated in Evanton on the shore of the Cromarty Firth with outstanding views over to the Black Isle, the restaurant offers relaxed dining throughout the day and a shop with local farm produce.



Eleven Restaurant at The Caladh Inn

With a large contemporary carvery and buffet, and wide range of freshly prepared dishes and roasts to make your client's choice. It is a great way to try something new in Stornoway.



The restaurant at the Cabarfeidh Hotel

The restaurant in Stornoway sources as much of their food as possible from local and Scottish suppliers, using the finest seasonal ingredients to ensure your clients have the very best dining experience.



Accommodation suggestions

The Lovat, Loch Ness

Set on the shores of Loch Ness, this 4-star gold hotel offers contemporary comfort amidst traditional Victorian charm with 18 unique bedrooms, a beauty spa and 2 restaurants and boasts stunning panoramic views of the surrounding area.



Inverness Youth Hostel

4-star hostel with meeting room facilities as well as secure lockers and luggage store. It is perfect for groups, families and individual travellers. The hostel is available for exclusive private hire through RentaHostel.



Kingsmills Hotel

A 4-star hotel in Inverness with a selection of 147 spacious classic, luxury, cocoon & retreat bedrooms together with fully equipped conference facilities for both large and intimate events.

Ness Walk Hotel

5-star hotel in Inverness offering 47 bedrooms, including two suites. Guests can enjoy a wonderful meal in Torrish Restaurant. Private dining experiences, afternoon tea, corporate events, weddings and special celebrations are also available.

MacAli Hotel Group West End Hotel

Located in the prestigious West End of Nairn, and near three championship golf courses, the elegant West End Hotel has 26 bedrooms, a restaurant and a bar.

Mackays Hotel

3-star hotel in Wick with 30 rooms and a function room for events and weddings. Mackays Hotel makes a perfect stopover for anyone undertaking the beautiful North Coast 500 drive.



The Granary Lodge Bed & Breakfast at the Castle of Mey

The Granary Lodge is nestled in the grounds of The Castle of Mey. It boasts 10 individually designed, en-suite bedrooms and features beautiful views and spectacular sunsets.

Newton Lodge, Unapool @ Highland Coast Hotels

Set in Unapool near Kylesku and has 7 rooms. Part of the Highland Coast Hotels, it is a special place for your clients to stay on their Highland adventure.

Kylesku Hotel @ Highland Coast Hotels

A boutique hotel and restaurant in the northwest Highlands near Kylesku with 11 rooms. Part of the Highland Coast Hotels, it is an ideal location for a short stay or a week's wilderness adventure.

Royal Marine Hotel, Brora @ Highland Coast Hotels

Situated in Brora, only an hour from Inverness, this charming Highland hotel has 21 rooms. Part of the Highland Coast Hotels, it is the ideal location to unwind and explore the golden east coast of Scotland.

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Taste Our Best

One way to ensure that you'll enjoy great quality Scottish food and drink, prepared with care and delivered with passion is to look for places that are part of Taste Our Best, our food and drink quality scheme.



Green Tourism Award

Businesses that work in a sustainable, environmentally friendly way are graded: Bronze, Silver or Gold

VISITSCOTLAND'S WEBSITES

Our travel trade website offers the travel industry a one-stop-shop for Scotland information, inspiration and tool kits. 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 websites:

- 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 Bus information	www.scotrail.co.uk 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