

HIGHLANDS 4 DAY ITINERARY

NORTH HIGHLANDS, INVERNESS, NAIRN AND LOCH NESS, AVIEMORE AND THE CAIRNGORMS

01

[Click here](#) to view this itinerary in Google Maps

Highland Folk Museum

Delve into the past and discover the real, living Highland Folk Museum. Visitors to this living history museum can learn how our Scottish Highland ancestors lived in a friendly and welcoming environment. Set in a one-mile-long, 80-acre site, live actors and restored buildings help bring Highland history to life. The museum not only encapsulates human endeavour and development in Highland life from the 1700s to the present day but offers an opportunity to explore a beautiful natural setting.

Kingussie Rd
Newtonmore, PH20 1AY
www.highlifehighland.com
[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Highland Folk Museum and Highland Wildlife Park is 6.4 miles/10.2 km



Highland Wildlife Park

Owned by the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland, the Highland Wildlife Park has expanded to fulfil its mission in conservation and now provides a home to rare animals of the world's mountains and tundra regions. Your clients will discover the amazing variety of wildlife found in present-day Scotland, such as the pine marten and red deer. See the Amur Tiger, Red Pandas and the Polar Bears, who since 2017 have produced the first 2 cubs to be born in the UK for 25 years. It is a great day out for all ages.

Kincraig
Kingussie, PH21 1NL
www.highlandwildlifepark.org.uk
[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Highland Wildlife Park and Scot Mountain Holidays is 14.3 miles/23 km

Scot Mountain Holidays

Scot Mountain Holidays offers all-inclusive small group walking holidays across the Highlands and Islands. Your visitors will be either accommodated at their family home, Fraoch Lodge or a suitably located Lodge. The trips vary from hard-core winter hiking and camping adventures to easy grade summer walking holidays. Their newest product is the Highland Wilderness Glamping trip. They bring together the traditional role of the Highland Pony with the recent development in heavier but more luxurious camping equipment.

Fraoch Lodge
Deshar Road, Boat of Garten
Inverness-shire, PH24 3NB
www.scotmountainholidays.com
[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Scot Mountain Holidays and Culloden Battlefield is 27.2 miles/43.8 km

Culloden Battlefield

On the 16th April 1746, the final Jacobite Rising came to a brutal head and Culloden was the site of the last pitched battle on British soil. The stimulating and sensitive Culloden Visitor Centre, which stands beside the battlefield, features artefacts from both sides of the battle and interactive displays that reveal the background to the conflict. It stands as a monument and a guide to a pivotal day in history. Discover how a bloody fight that lasted only an hour changed life in the Highlands forever.

Culloden Moor
Inverness, IV2 5EU
www.nts.org.uk
[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Culloden Battlefield and Fort George is 10.5 miles/16.9 km



Although we make every effort to ensure that our itineraries, and the linked Google My Maps, are accurate, the information is subject to change. The most up to date information is available direct from the listed establishments.



Groups
8-12
people



Groups
up to 24
people



All groups
all sizes

FIT

Free
independent
travellers



Languages
spoken



Seasonal opening
(as noted)
Winter by
appointment



Open all year



Accessible
access



Green Tourism
Business
scheme



Coach
parking
available

02

Fort George

Following the 1746 defeat at Culloden of Bonnie Prince Charlie, George II created the ultimate defence against further Jacobite unrest. The result, Fort George, is the mightiest artillery fortification in Britain, if not Europe. Its garrison buildings, artillery defences bristling with cannon, and superb collection of arms - including bayoneted muskets, pikes, swords and ammunition pouches - provide a fascinating insight into 18th century military life. Your clients can explore the fort's history in the Highlanders Museum, Scotland's largest regimental museum outside Edinburgh.

Ardersier

Inverness, IV2 7TD

www.historicenvironment.scot

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Fort George and Jacobite Cruises is 17.6 miles/28.3km



Jacobite Cruises

The highlight of any visit to Inverness is a trip to Loch Ness and there is no better way to enjoy Loch Ness and Urquhart Castle than by boat. From 1-hour sailings to leisurely 6.5-hour coach and cruise tours, award-winning Jacobite Cruises is a must-visit attraction and cruise company. Loch Ness is brimming with history and tales of the world's shyest monster. Your clients might just spot Nessie! The real stars of the Loch are its castles, monuments and scenery. Accessible cruises from Dochgarroch only. Partially accessible - please contact for full details.

Dochgarroch Lock
Inverness, IV3 8JG

www.jacobite.co.uk

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Jacobite Cruises and Urquhart Castle is 12.2 miles/19.6km

Urquhart Castle

Home to 1,000 years of drama, a glimpse of medieval life and stunning views over Loch Ness from the ruins of the greatest castle in the Highlands. The castle has a distinctly Highland heritage, and the site has witnessed some of the most dramatic chapters in Scotland's history. This includes being the site of St Columba's miracles and involvement in the Wars of Independence. Urquhart Castle is based near to the lochside town of Fort Augustus and is managed by Historic Environment Scotland. Partially accessible - please contact for full details.

Drumnadrochit

Inverness, IV63 6XJ

www.historicenvironment.scot

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Urquhart Castle and GlenWyvis Distillery is 26.6 miles/42.9 km



GlenWyvis Distillery

Set on a hillside overlooking Dingwall and the Cromarty Firth, and is run on solar, hydro, wind and biomass renewables. It is the world's first 100% community-owned and crowdfunded distillery. The whiskies are created using only local barley and are matured in bourbon, refill bourbon and sherry casks. The distillery also produces GoodWill gin, which is known for its initial notes of orange and lemon. Your clients can join bespoke Highland Whisky and Gin Distillery tours.

Upper Docharty
Dingwall

Ross-shire, IV15 9UF

www.glenwyvis.com

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between GlenWyvis Distillery and Dolphin Spirit is 15.6 miles/25.2 km

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03

Dolphin Spirit

Your clients are in for a treat as you get to ride in comfort in the spacious Dolphin Spirit boat. 70 people can be carried on the motor passenger ferry as it takes you along the Moray Firth. What's also genius about this passenger boat is that it's built with conservation in mind. There's little disruption to the dolphins as there's one set of propellers and only one hull in the water. A unique and sustainable water attraction. Partially Accessible - Please contact for more details.

Stadium Rd

Inverness, IV1 1FF

www.dolphinspirit.co.uk

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Dolphin Spirit and Attadale Gardens is 62.1 miles/100 km

Attadale Gardens

Spectacular gardens with views of Skye and feature an impressive collection of sculptures scattered throughout the 20-acre site. Your clients will arrive through the water gardens and can wander through the new wood, admire the huge trunks of the ancient rhododendrons, as well as exploring the sunken garden, the peace garden, plus the Japanese garden and a geodesic dome filled with ferns. They can enjoy searching for the sculptures and buy plants from the kitchen garden.

Strathcarron

Wester Ross, IV54 8YX

www.attadalegardens.com



Distance between Attadale Gardens and Gairloch Canoe and Kayak Centre is 48.7 miles/78.4 km



Gairloch Canoe and Kayak Centre

The centre provides your clients with half-day sea kayaking experiences to view seals and wildlife and one-day canoe trips on iconic Loch Maree. Visitors regularly spot seals, otters, white tailed eagles, skuas and have gannets diving around their boats. Gairloch Canoe and Kayak Centre also have e-bike hire and can organise a range of unique experiences, including seashore foraging and walks with their knowledgeable guides who can talk about Highland culture, history, scenery and wildlife.

Shieldaig Lodge Hotel

Badachro

Gairloch, IV21 2AN

www.gairlochkayakcentre.com

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Gairloch Canoe and Kayak Centre and Inverewe Garden and Estate is 10.3 miles/16.6 km



Inverewe Garden and Estate

A world of wonderful botanicals in the award-winning Inverewe Garden. Your clients can visit the garden in its lush setting and enjoy a riot of colours and scents. As well as the garden, the wider estate offers plenty to see and is home to Scotland's 'Big 5' species: red squirrels, red deer, otters, seals and golden eagles. At its heart is a museum with a twist, where visitors are encouraged to interact with a variety of objects and play games.

Poolewe

Achnasheen, IV22 2LG

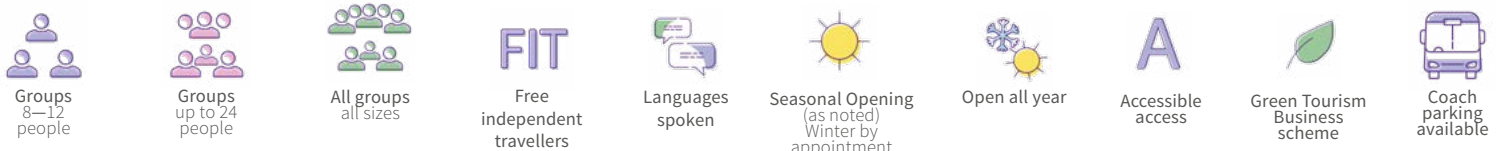
www.nts.org.uk

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Inverewe Garden and Estate and Mckenzie Mountaineering is 49.1 miles/79.1 km

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04

Mckenzie Mountaineering

Specialises in a variety of exciting trips and tours including long-distance trails, multi-activity days, hill walking group adventures from one-day to multi-day trips in the Scottish mountains as well as walking tours further afield. Their adventures range from very small group walking trips in a variety of destinations to day walks from their base in Ullapool. The aim is to promote the beauty of the great outdoors and mountain environment whilst giving your guests an inspiring experience.

Hillcrest

Braes

Ullapool, IV26 2SZ

www.mckenziemountaineering.com

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Mckenzie Mountaineering and Knockan Crag National Nature Reserve is 13.6 miles/22 km



Knockan Crag National Nature Reserve

Knockan Crag holds the key to an amazing story of colliding continents and scientific intrigue. The low cliff of Knockan exposes rocks that set the scientific world ablaze in the 19th century, with the discovery that a slice of old rock sits on top of much younger ones. At Knockan Crag, your clients can see the marvel that allowed one of the world's greatest geological mysteries to be solved. They can also explore the Reserve through the Rock Room, Rock trails and art. Parts of the reserve not accessible - please contact for more details.

Pulteney Street

Ullapool

Ross-shire, IV26 2UP

www.nature.scot



Distance between Knockan Crag National Nature Reserve and Clynelish Distillery is 56.8 miles/91.4 km

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Clynelish Distillery

Clynelish proudly serves as one of the Four Corners distilleries of Johnnie Walker. They distil the rich Highland Malt that is enjoyed around the world on its own and as a vital component of Johnnie Walker whiskies. Your clients will discover the mysterious and hidden spirit of this coastal Sutherland home, where they create their rich, waxy whisky, carrying notes of tropical fruit and honey. The distillery's coastal tasting room also serves tasting platters paired with whisky and dram flights. Partially accessible - contact for more details.

Brora

Sutherland, KW9 6LR

www.malts.com/en-gb/distilleries/clynelish

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Clynelish Distillery and Castle of Mey and Gardens is 63 miles/101 km

The Castle and Gardens of Mey

Queen Elizabeth The Late Queen Mother first saw what was then Barrogill Castle in 1952, while mourning the death of King George VI. Falling for its isolated charm and hearing it was to be abandoned, she decided to save it and today it is a lasting tribute to her commitment to the local community. Your clients can take a guided tour of the castle, have a delicious snack in the tearoom, browse in the shop and check out the animal centre or just wander in the grounds and gardens.

Mey

Thurso, KW14 8XH

www.castleofmey.org.uk

[Link to Trade Website](#)



FOOD & DRINK SUGGESTIONS

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. They serve regular daily specials too.

River House Restaurant

Eat, drink and relax in the comfort of their 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

This is 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.

Harry Gow Bakery

Serving breakfast rolls, brunch treats, sandwiches and soups, and a counter full of cakes, pies and snacks to go! Freshly baked from scratch in North Kessock in the Scottish Highlands since 1979.

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.

Cawdor Tavern

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

Number One Bistro at Mackays Hotel

Located at Mackays Hotel in Wick, holding 1 AA Rosette, No.1 Bistro features the finest locally sourced cuisine. They use the best of local produce and fish straight from the boats at Scrabster.

Downright Gabbler

Downright Gabbler offers good food and drink and interesting stories in a former coaching inn in Beaulieu, a charming Highland village. They explore history using the finest local produce and can tailor events to suit your needs.

ACCOMMODATION SUGGESTIONS

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 Torridon

Set in 58 acres of parkland at the end of a magnificent sea loch, The Torridon is a 5-star gold hotel with 18 bedrooms and suites and a fantastic setting to explore the outdoors.



The Lovat, Loch Ness

Set on the shores of Loch Ness, this 4-star hotel offers contemporary comfort amidst traditional Victorian charm with 28 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.

Best Western Inverness Palace Hotel and Spa

3-star hotel in Inverness. The Palace Hotel offers a lovely selection of 110 rooms across 2 Victorian properties and a modern garden cottage, and a luxury Leisure Club and Spa.



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.

Boath House

5-star Gold Restaurant with rooms near Nairn. The property has 10 bedrooms and is set in 20 acres including Victorian walled garden woodland and streams. A foodie destination.

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 24 bedrooms, a restaurant and a bar.

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.



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

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
- 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.historicenvironment.scot

National Trust for Scotland www.nts.org.uk

Scottish Tourist Guides Association www.stga.co.uk

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