

HIKING JOURNEY

The Highlanders' Trail

WALKING HOLIDAYS IN SCOTLAND

16 DAYS



WALKABOUT

GOURMET ADVENTURES

Journey Overview

Edinburgh is deemed to be one of the most-friendly cities in the world and dating back to the 11th century, our monumental tour commences amongst Neo-classical architecture, medieval alleys and regal gardens of the city's monarch.

Our striking adventure immerses you in the full realm of stunning landscapes, remarkable history and welcomes us into the heartfelt warmth and spirit that is Scotland.

On our way to the highlands we pass Stirling with its imposing 9th century castle. Our first accommodation is at Glencoe, which echoes our footsteps as we trek the mammoth valley where the stories of a haunting past are whispered through this notorious and romantic glen.

Our iconic Celtic pilgrimage leads us to the doorway of an enchanting island castle set in the mists of the great Loch Leven.

As we drive to the far west coast we cross the bridge to the infamous Isle of Skye revealing a fascinating view of the past where drovers swam their herds of highland cattle across the sea to market on the main territory. The largest island of the Inner Hebrides boasts radiating peninsulas where we walk through basalt terrain of the spectacular Quiraing and The Old Man of Storr. Also magical are our walks in the Ferry Pools and Ferry Glen.

We join the iconic route 500 to the North Coast where we pass the famous Allt nan Uamh and the Bone Caves. On the way to our hotel we make a short stop at the ruins of Ardvreck Castle. The MacLeod Clan, who owned Assynt and the surrounding area from the 13th century onwards, constructed the castle around 1590. Indeed Sutherland, the area in which Ardvreck is situated has long been a stronghold of the MacLeod Clan.

Our trip northwest leaves fossils, waterfalls plunging off sea cliffs, clan warfare and folklore behind as we continue our journey to the tip of the country. We bid the shores of Scotland farewell as we enter the dark waters of the alluring north. Shipwrecks greet us as we enter the Orkney Islands. Endowed with ancient mysteries we part on the windswept archipelago of standing stones, eagle tombs and orcas.

We venture through Neolithic stone circles, iron age villages from 5,000BC and perilous views on our coastline walk.

The last three nights we spend at Dalmunzie Castle, a quintessential, turreted Scottish residence, standing proudly at the head of a 6,500 acre estate, dating back to 1510. Dalmunzie is nestled in the heart of Glenshee and is surrounded by breathtakingly beautiful mountains, glens and little rivers - all a few steps away from the front door.

Deer, highland cows and no doubt a kilt or two can be spotted along this fabled route of cattle duffers, poets and legends abound. This isolated gem is home to a mysterious dark forest beckoning us into the history-drenched trails of the region's spectacular mountain walks.

We are satisfied to say that we have found a truly epochal selection of hotels and Scottish cuisine that deserves a special mention for its creativity, thought and quality!



Journey Schedule

DAY 1

Edinburgh – Glencoe

DAY 2

The West Highland Way – From Inveroran to Kingshouse Hotel

DAY 3

Glen Coe – Eilean Donan Castle – Isle of Skye

DAY 4

Isle Of Skye – Fairy Pools – Neist Point Lighthouse

DAY 5

Old Man of Storr

DAY 6

Isle Of Skye – Quiraing – Fairy Glen

DAY 7

Isle Of Skye – Scourie

DAY 8

Scourie – Sandwood Bay

DAY 9

Route 500 – John O' Groats – Orkney

DAY 10

Orkney Island – Kirkwall – Free Day – Highland Park Whisky Distillery

DAY 11

Kirkwall – Old Man of Hoy

DAY 12

Orkney Island – Skara Brae Ancient Village – Ring of Brodgar – Kirkwall

DAY 13

Orkney Island – Dunrobin Castle – Dalmunzie Castle

DAY 14

Spittal of Glenshee – Glas Tulaicghen

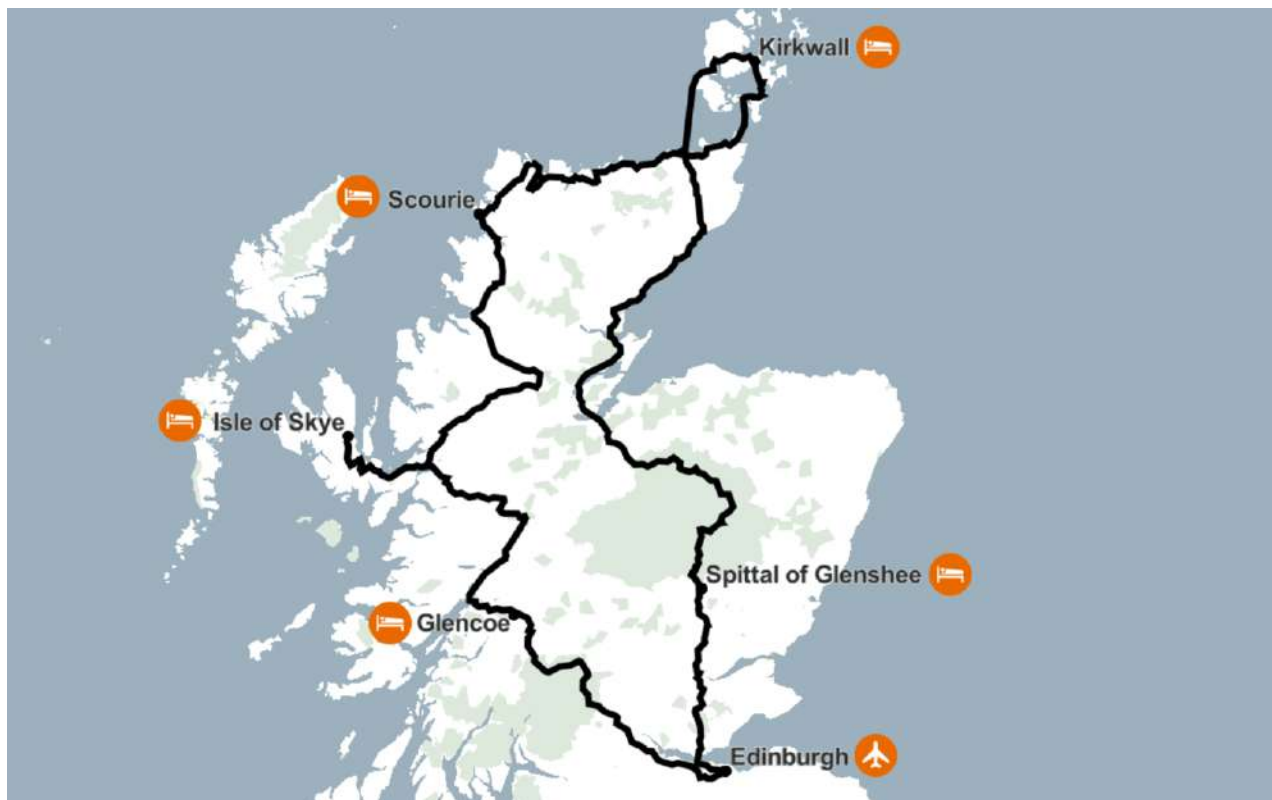
DAY 15

Dalmunzie Castle – Free Day Optional Golf and Persie Gin Distillery

DAY 16

Scone Palace – Edinburgh

Journey Itinerary



DAY 1

Edinburgh – Glencoe

We meet at 9.30 at

Kimpton Charlotte Square Hotel

38 Charlotte Square,

Edinburgh EH2 4HQ, UK

Telephone: +44 131 240 5500

This monumental city dates back to the 11th century. Edinburgh castle rises high above the old town and is the current residence of the country's crown jewels and stone of

destiny. Renowned for its heritage, culture and international festival, this world heritage site has a story in every cobblestone in the street. Deemed one of the friendliest cities in the world, Arthur's seat rests atop an imposing peak overlooking the capital and residence of the Monarch. Regal gardens, medieval alleyways and stunning Neo-classical architecture mark our way out of the elegant Georgian streets. From Edinburgh we travel on the M9 to Stirling. On our way we will have a short photo stop at the Kelpies. These majestic 30 metre tall sculptures pay homage to the working horses of Scotland, which used to pull barges along Scotland's canals and worked in the fields in the area where they now stand. Proverbially the gateway of the Highlands, the city of Stirling has important and strategic placement providing the perfect position to control the Lowlands and Highlands of Scotland in days gone by. Surrounded by rich farmland, this captivating medieval town is overlooked by the enormous William Wallace monument. Entrenched in perils and oozing with stories, we enter the gates of Stirling Castle dating back to the 9th century, our day is enriched by exploring the castle's dungeons, gardens and great hall. After lunch we continue our journey towards Glencoe, one of those grand landscapes in Scotland. Voted the most romantic glen in Scotland it is where both Harry Potter and James Bond's Skyfall were filmed. This was also the site of the notorious Glencoe massacre in 1692. The Munros and peaks that surround the road were formed by volcanic activity and shaped by glaciers. We pass through the villages of Crianlarich, Tyndrum and Bridge of Orchy before we reach the Kingshouse Hotel, where we stay for the next two nights. After checking in to our hotel, we take you for a short walk in Glencoe.

 **2 HOURS**

 **KINGSHOUSE HOTEL, GLENCOE, SCOTLAND**

DAY 2

The West Highland Way - From Inveroran to Kingshouse Hotel

The mountains in Scotland, which are over 914 metres in height are called the Munros. There were originally 283 Munros and they were named after Hugh Munro - the first person to compile a list of them in 1891. We are chasing our Munros today and after a short drive and armed with a picnic lunch, we follow a section of the West Highland Way walking directly back to our hotel. Inveroran to Kingshouse Hotel is one of the classic sections of the West Highland Way, which crosses Rannoch Moor - a vast wilderness of heather, bog, and lochans, bordered by mountains. Keeping our binoculars handy, we might spy golden eagles and other raptors on these higher grounds. Wildlife is also abundant, especially deer. We will follow the line of Thomas Telford's parliamentary road across the moor and will eventually reach Glencoe Ski Centre before we drop down to our hotel. This walk is easy underfoot and on a beautiful day we will be rewarded with stunning views across this remote landscape - however, if the weather is inclement, this section is very exposed to the elements. There are no facilities until we reach Glencoe Ski Centre.

Total Distance: 15.5 km (9.75 miles)

Ascent: 314 m (1030 ft)

Back at our Kingshouse Hotel, another delicious Scottish dinner is waiting for us!

 **5-6 HOURS**

 **KINGSHOUSE HOTEL, GLENCOE, SCOTLAND**

DAY 3

Glen Coe - Eilean Donan Castle – Isle of Skye

Today we leave the Highlands and on our way to the Isle of Skye we pass Loch Leven and might get a glimpse of Ben Nevis, which requires little introduction. With a wild heart, an adventurous spirit and a flair for drama, the legendary peak towers above glistening lochans and deep glacial valleys. In the United Kingdom, you can't get any higher than this. We continue our drive to one of the most iconic images of Scotland – Eilean Donan Castle, which is recognised all around the world. Situated on an island at the point where three great sea lochs meet and surrounded by some majestic scenery, it is little wonder that the castle is now one of the most important attractions in the Scottish Highlands. The name Eilean Donan or Island of Donan is most probably called after the 6th century Irish saint, Bishop Donan who came to Scotland around 580 ad. The first fortified structure was not built on the island until the early 13th century as a defensive measure, protecting the lands of Kintail against the vikings who raided, settled and controlled much of the north of Scotland and the western isles between 800 and 1266. From the mid 13th century, this area was the quite separate “sea kingdom” of the lord of the isles where the sea was the main highway and the power of feuding clan chiefs was counted by the number of men and galleys or “birlinns” at their disposal. Eilean Donan offered the perfect defensive position. Our drive continues by taking us ‘over the sea to Skye’, where once upon a time drovers would swim their finest cattle across to the mainland. Upon arrival on the Isle of Skye, our panoramic drive takes us up north towards the capital ‘Portree’. Skeabost house hotel, our home for the next 4 nights, is 10 minutes from Portree and is ideally located for our walks. This elegant white washed Victorian mansion is set in its own private grounds and enjoys stunning views across Loch Snizort. Overlooking the loch, our chef at Skeabost surprises us with creative dishes, which reflect the Isle of Skye and Scotland’s wealth of ingredients, as well as the country’s exceptional culinary heritage and ancient nordic connections. After dinner we can relax and unwind by the open fire with a local malt from the cocktail bar.

 **3 HOURS**

 **THE SKEABOST HOTEL, PORTREE, SCOTLAND**

DAY 4

Isle Of Skye – Fairy Pools – Neist Point Lighthouse

This morning we drive to the Fairy Pools in Glen Brittle, so called because of their enchanting appearance. It is magical to walk around this area and admire the clear blue streams, waterfalls and rockpools, set amid the grandeur of the Black Cuillins.

We have to cross several streams before we reach the first waterfall, which marks the start of these magical pools. We take our time to work our way up the river and explore all the pools. Some of them make for great swimming but are not for the faint hearted! The first waterfall is the highest fall and deepest pool. We follow the main path up beside the river and the next pool up is properly the most famous, a beautifully clear blue pool ideal for swimming. It features a natural arch, offering an exhilarating under water swim through the arch, which is only for the bravest. As we walk up the river, there are many more small pools. We use the same path and return to the car park.

Total Distance: 2.4 km (1.5 miles)

Ascent: 150 m (492 ft)

From here it is only a short drive to Carbost and the Oyster Shed. It is a very low-key place but has great food, especially if you love seafood. Delicious oysters and mussels to die for, scallops that taste like butter ... the biggest and tastiest I have ever had. This is the place to indulge for a late lunch. Everything is so simple, but very fresh and sourced from just a few metres away.

There is also the opportunity to stop at Talisker whisky distillery before we continue our journey to the most westerly point of Skye to visit Neist Point lighthouse – one of Scotland's most famous lighthouses which forms part of a spectacular cliff top walk. Neist Point is home to a huge variety of seabirds, including guillemots, razorbills, shags, and gannets and if we are lucky, we may spot dolphins, whales or basking sharks. We will begin by taking a short walk along the headland to spot the lighthouse in the distance before descending down 42 steps and a steep concrete path to explore the lighthouse and the surrounding area.

Beyond the lighthouse we can see basalt rock formations similar to those at the famous Giant's Causeway in Ireland, with views of the the Western Isles in the distance.

We return the same way to the car park and then drive back to our hotel for the evening.

Distance: 3 km (1.75 miles)

Ascent: 142 m (465 ft)

 **5 HOURS**

 **THE SKEABOST HOTEL, PORTREE, SCOTLAND**



DAY 5

Old Man of Storr

The Old Man of Storr juts out of the undulating terrain like an igneous shard of mythological proportions. A tent pole of the rugged vistas that characterise this point of interest on the Isle of Skye in the Scottish Highlands is a site of folkloric mysticism and natural grandeur. This ancient rock formation is said to be the grave site of a giant's remains ensconced in legend and intrigue.

This morning – we have a short drive to the Trotternish Peninsula where we will begin our walk. The walk itself winds its way uphill on a well-defined path – don't forget to pause and look back to see views of the Isle of Raasay and Applecross on the mainland.

After passing through some wooden gates we will continue our walk climbing a series of steps. At the top, we will veer left away from the crowds to gain a spectacular view of the 'Old Man' before continuing into an area surrounded by towering pinnacles, which is known as the Sanctuary. From here we will pass another rock formation known as the Cathedral or the Needle because it has a hole near the top. Following the path northwards we will be rewarded with spectacular views of the Old Man of Storr before we return back to the car park.

Total Distance: 5 km (3 miles)

Ascent: 340 m (1115 ft)

We return to Portree for a free afternoon, where you have the opportunity to absorb the true atmosphere of the charming capital of the Isle. Lord Macdonald established it about 200 years ago at the beginning of the 19th century and its Gaelic translation means, "Port on the Slope".

Take a stroll through the timeless streets of this quaint and colourful fishing village or enjoy a quiet moment by the waterside after exploring the sweet and novel treasures found amongst the alleys and walkways of Portree.

Explore the surrounding countryside and venture onto the Scorrybreac circuit, which will take you to the north side of Portree Bay, with sweeping views across to Portree harbour and the entire surrounding coastal landscape.

We might stop for an early light dinner in Portree before we return to our hotel.

 **4 HOURS**

 **THE SKEABOST HOTEL, PORTREE, SCOTLAND**



DAY 6

Isle Of Skye - Quiraing – Fairy Glen

Remnants of landslips mark our way as we discover the Quiraing. A remarkable escarpment of green and gold distinctly blankets the northern-most summit of Skye. The name Quiraing comes from old Norse 'Kví Rand', which means "Round Fold". Within the fold is The Table, an elevated plateau hidden amongst the pillars. From here we have incredible oceanic views as our eyes take in the grand vista laid out below. Today we return to the Trotternish Peninsula, passing the Old Man of Storr and continuing up to Staffin, where we will turn onto a winding single-track road to reach the Quiraing Car Park. Our walk will take us along the cliff face with steep grassy slopes on our right and in the distance you will see a rock formation known as the Prison. The path is very clear, narrow, rocky in places and there is a gully to cross which will require some scrambling. The walk continues along the cliff face where we enter the prison, see the needle and the table. At this point it is possible to return back to the car park or continue along the path turning left and returning over the top of the hill and descending to the car park. This walk is not suitable in windy and poor weather conditions or for those who suffer from vertigo.

Total Distance: 6.5 km (4 miles)

Ascent: 374 m (1227 ft)

We will continue onto Uig where we will stop for some refreshments and then drive a short distance to the 'Fairy Glen' where we will walk through a series of conical hills and rock formations, which were caused by ancient volcanic activity and glacial erosion. Retracing our steps, we will drive back to the hotel.

Distance: 1.6 m (1 mile)

 **3 HOURS**

 **THE SKEABOST HOTEL, PORTREE, SCOTLAND**

DAY 7

Isle Of Skye – Scourie

We depart from our glamorous Skeabost Hotel and travel south, leaving Skye behind we return to the mainland, where we will join the iconic route of the North Coast 500. Our first comfort stop will be in the sleepy village of Sheildag before driving through the Torridon Mountain Range, and then continuing along the coast until we reach the Corrieshalloch Gorge where we will have the opportunity to take a short walk before stopping in the fishing village of Ullapool for lunch.

We will continue driving northwards to the famous Allt nan Uamh (Burn of the Caves). A mecca for geologists and paleo enthusiasts, our adventure steers this walk up the beautiful limestone valley to the famous Bone Caves, where the bones of bears, reindeer and wolves that once roamed this part of the country have been discovered.

Total Distance: 4.75m (2.75 miles)

Ascent: 210 m (688 ft)

Passing crags of pale cream-coloured Durness limestone, the grassy sward hosts a rich flora that includes mountain avens, yellow saxifrage, and lady's mantle, providing ample discoveries for geologists and botanists alike to identify! This is good grazing land and the remains of many shielings - huts that were used by people tending their animals during the summer - can be seen along the valley. Nowadays, deer are more common in the valley than sheep or cattle. Trekking through this extraordinary landscape we can't help but feel an ancient solitude.

We continue to the incredible Inchnadamph hamlet - the meadow of the stags - a remote and spectacular landscape in the Assynt region of Scotland's northwest.

On our way to our hotel we make a short stop at the ruins of Ardvreck Castle. The MacLeod Clan, who owned Assynt and the surrounding area from the 13th century

onwards, constructed the castle around 1590. Indeed Sutherland, the area in which Ardvreck is situated has long been a stronghold of the MacLeod Clan.

From here it is not far to the Eddrachilles Hotel, our home for the next 2 nights. After settling in we can relax by the cosy fireside and sample a wee dram before dinner whilst enjoying the spectacular views towards the picturesque bay.

 **3-4 HOURS**

 **EDDRACHILLES HOTEL, SCOURIE**



DAY 8

Scourie – Sandwood Bay

Departing our hotel after breakfast we drive northwards to Blairmore where we will begin our walk to one of Scotland's most beautiful unspoilt beaches – Sandwood Bay. The bay is part of the Sandwood Estate and is managed by the John Muir Trust.

This remote bay stretches for nearly 1.5 miles of pink sand and is surrounded by cliffs and the sea stack Am Buachaille.

The bay has no road access and can only be reached by a 4 mile relatively flat wide path across peat moorlands before the cliffs of Cape Wrath and the Atlantic Sea come into view.

From there, we drop down through the dunes to reach the beach where, weather permitting, we can enjoy a picnic lunch and dip our toes in the Atlantic before retracing our steps back to car park and returning to the hotel in time for a delicious afternoon tea.

 **5 HOURS**

 **EDDRACHILLES HOTEL, SCOURIE, SCOTLAND**



DAY 9

Route 500 - John O' Groats – Orkney

Today we leave our cosy Eddrachilles Hotel and continue along the North Coast 500. We follow this spectacular scenic and winding route which takes us through the remote lonely lands, before we reach Colbackie Beach, the first in a wave of miraculous turquoise beaches. We will stop in Durness where you have the opportunity to visit one of the largest limestone caves in Britain before we continue around Loch Eriboll, which is framed by Ben Hope, Scotland's northern-most munro and its peak over 927 metres. We cross the Kyle of Tongue, which is a shallow and wide inlet and continue our journey arriving at the opulent Castle and Gardens of Mey. It used to be the late Queen Mother's holiday home and it is said that it gives insights into the cheeky humour of the Queen's mum who brought this crumbling estate back to life in the 1950s. After our visit, we will drive to Scrabster to catch the evening ferry to Stromness on Orkney and have our dinner on board. We have a 30-minute drive to our apartments in Kirkwall.

 **BROADSTREET GARDENS APARTMENTS, KIRKWALL, ORKNEY ISLAND, SCOTLAND**



DAY 10

Orkney Island – Kirkwall – Free Day - Highland Park Whisky Distillery

After a rest in our very comfortable apartments, we have a leisurely morning and time to explore the Viking township of Kirkwall. The Norse adventurers who founded the settlement 1,000 years ago called Kirkwall 'Kirkjuvagr', meaning 'church on the bay'. Officially a Royal Burgh since 1486, Kirkwall has retained that independent Viking spirit and identity. It is now home to around 9,000 people. There are many exciting things to see and do – from ancient landmarks and historical treasures, to shops, galleries, and museums. St Magnus Cathedral is well worth a visit – built from red and yellow Devonian sandstone it dominates the town's skyline. The cathedral's foundations commenced in 1137 and it took approximately 300 years to build. It was dedicated to Magnus Erlendsson, Earl of Orkney. In the afternoon we have the opportunity to visit the award-winning Highland Park distillery who have produced their whisky since 1798. Now, over 220 years later, they are one of the ten oldest working distilleries in Scotland. Dinner tonight is in the Kirkwall Hotel restaurant, specialising in locally sourced produce.

 **4 HOURS**

 **BROADSTREET GARDENS APARTMENTS, KIRKWALL, ORKNEY ISLAND, SCOTLAND**



DAY 11

Kirkwall - Old Man of Hoy

This morning we drive to Linus where we catch the ferry to Hoy – the second largest of the Orkney isles and just a short ferry ride across the bay. Differed markedly from its neighbours, the northern and western parts are a wild and inhospitable land of rugged, steep-sided hills – the highest in Orkney – fringed by some of Britain's most magnificent coastal cliffs. Here we enjoy ocean views and the maritime breezes of the Celtic Sea. Our walk travels along the clear and stimulating path leading us to the stoic 'Old Man of Hoy'. Having stood as a sea stack for just 400 years this 'pillar of flames' stands spectacularly amid the wild and forbidding seas. On our way back, time permitting, we have a short stop at the cosy Emily Café before we catch our ferry. Dinner tonight is in the lovely Storehouse restaurant.

 **5 HOURS**

 **BROADSTREET GARDENS APARTMENTS, KIRKWALL, ORKNEY ISLAND, SCOTLAND**



DAY 12

Orkney Island - Skara Brae Ancient Village - Ring of Brodgar - Kirkwall

Our historical day begins at Skara Brae, just north of the standing stones on the western shoreline of the island. Occupied over 5,000 years ago this ancient village was uncovered by a local fisherman as he kicked some stones found just outside his humble fishing home. Taking us back in time to how this civilisation lived, this fascinating time-line unfolds around us before we delve deeper into the culture of this ancient agrarian kingdom. Our Neolithic trail takes us from Stenness through the rich yet exposed farmlands in direct line to the Ring of Brodgar. It is also known as the Temple of the Sun and Moon and stands between the Lochs of Stenness and Harray. The stone circle has weathered approximately 4,500 years and is believed to have been used for rituals and ceremonies and is the most northerly Stone Henge of Britain. We return to Kirkwall and the evening is at your own leisure.

 **4 HOURS**

 **BROADSTREET GARDENS APARTMENTS, KIRKWALL, ORKNEY ISLAND, SCOTLAND**



DAY 13

Orkney Island – Dunrobin Castle - Dalmunzie Castle

Today we leave the dreamy Orkney Islands and cross back to the mainland of Scotland. It is most likely an early ferry which will take us to Scrabster from where we follow the coast south to visit a true jewel in the crown of the highlands, Dunrobin Castle, home of the Earls and Dukes of Sutherland. Offering an intriguing insight into the aristocratic lifestyle. Dunrobin Castle is the largest and most northerly of the great houses of Scotland. Notorious for some of the cruellest highland clearances, this magnificent entity is one of the oldest, continuously inhabited houses of Britain. Despite its location so far north, the Atlantic Gulf Stream flows across the seas from Mexico bringing sub-tropical conditions to the sheltered gardens. Supporting a surprising range of botanics including the pre-historic native Brazilian rhubarb - *gunnera manicata*, which spreads its jurassic leaves to a width of 2.5 metres across the castle's steps. Following these steps down into the stunning gardens we revel in a morning spent learning the ancient art of falconry. A highly thrilling experience of fierce, acrobatic hunting using birds of prey. Witnessing the beauty of owls, hawk and falcon, we observe the resident professional showcasing the mastery of patience, expertise and dedication practised here since its first inhabitants in 1275. Leaving Dunrobin behind we continue our journey south to Perthshire. The Perthshire region cradles an idyllic combination of townships encompassing Perth, Blairgowrie and Dundee to the open green rolling fields of the central farming belt. Meandering our way through the rich grazing lands we enter the tranquil and enormous valley - The Spittal of Glenshee. The Spittal of Glenshee hides its rich and brave history with a particularly humble, quiet front. Shrouded by oak and pinewood, our arrival begins with a short but impressionable walk through the forest delivering us to an open and vast valley front. At our hotel we are warmly welcomed and it is very easy to make ourselves feel at home in this quintessential Scottish residence set in the most scenic of landscapes.

 **1 HOUR**

 **DALMUNZIE CASTLE, SCOTLAND**

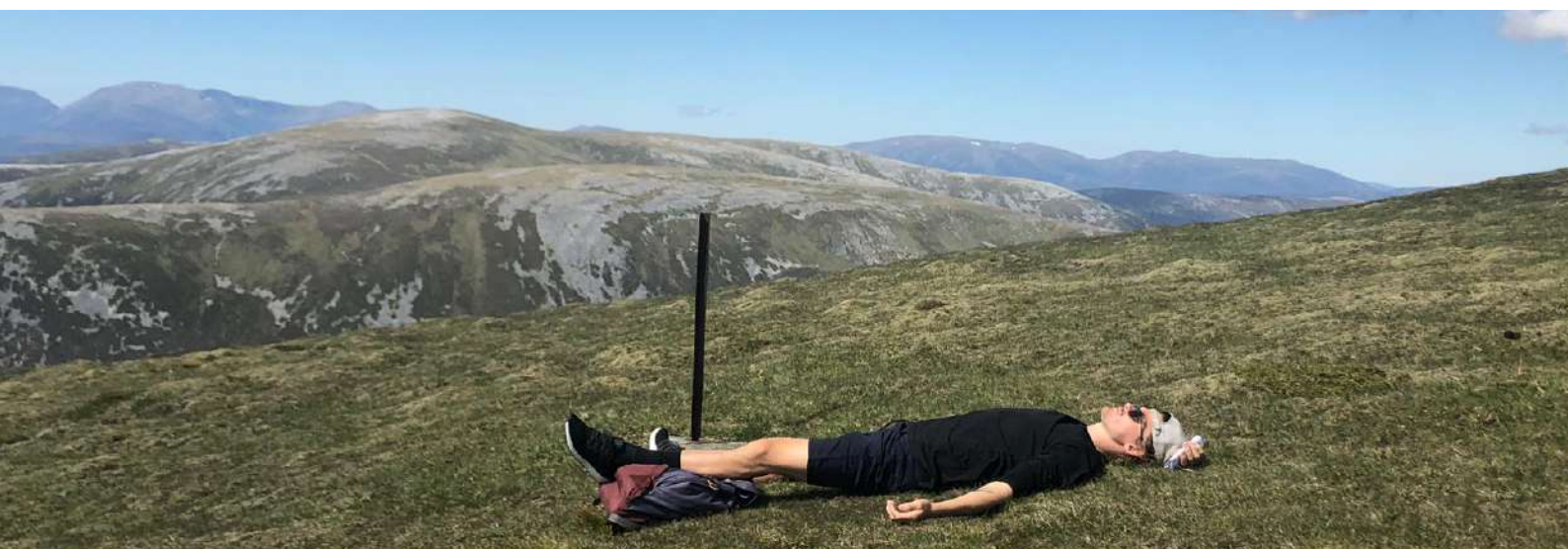
DAY 14

Spittal of Glenshee - Glas Tulaicghen

After a delightful breakfast of local produce we begin our day enveloped in the dark forest of Glenshee. Mythical and haunting, the deep shadows of this chilling woodland beckon us onward, delivering us finally to a colossal valley. Here we are met not only by the stunning views but we also meet some Highland cows (Coo's, as they are referred to). They greet us on our path as we continue alongside the fresh and tumbling river. Walking amidst the altitudes we spot various herds of wild deer populating the district and admire the mountains' botanical delights and herbs. Later harvested to be served to us by our local chef. Following deer tracks we visit our first and closest Munro, standing at a proud 1,051 metres. Climbing the summit we enjoy an expansive view of the mountain cradled Loch-an-Eun and the scenic Gleann Taitneach. From here we start our descent in direction Loch-nan-Eun. The loch is surprisingly extensive, a lonely and atmospheric place at almost 800 metres. We enjoy the good view down the length of Gleann Taitneach and our route of descent. Our path takes us along a stream and small waterfalls to a wider path from where we continue down the glen back to our hotel. A spectacular day and well worth the effort. This walk can also be shortened and would not take longer than maximum 6 hours. In the evening we have dinner at our hotel.

 **7-8 HOURS**

 **DALMUNZIE CASTLE, SCOTLAND**



DAY 15

Dalmunzie Castle – Free Day Optional Golf and Persie Gin Distillery

After yesterday's big walk we probably all have earned a quiet morning at Dalmunzie and enjoy the tranquillity of our hotel. For those of you who would like to be also active in the morning there is the 9-hole Dalmunzie Golf Course. It is one of Britain's highest and is surrounded by stunning mountain scenery. After lunch we will take you for a short afternoon walk before we drive to the small, privately run, Persie Gin Distillery. These award-winning spirits are handcrafted in small batches on the site of the former Persie Hotel at the foot of Glenshee in Highland. In their bespoke copper pot still, they create 3 distinct aromatic gins, distilled with pure glen water. Tasting is not an obligation but highly recommended! We return to our hotel and the evening is spent revelling in fine local cuisine, reminiscing on the days in the land of the big sky.

 **2 HOURS**

 **DALMUNZIE CASTLE, SCOTLAND**



DAY 16

Scone Palace – Edinburgh

Today we enjoy our final morning before we depart from Dalmunzie Castle and head into the heart of Scotland – the fair city of Perth. Our first stop will be at Scone Palace, the family home of the Earls of Mansfield, the ancient coronation place of Scottish Kings and the original home of the Stone of Destiny.

During our visit you will have an opportunity to visit the palace - Moot Hill, stroll around the beautiful gardens and visit their excellent shop and café before winding our way back to Edinburgh. The tour ends at approximately 3.00 p.m. at the –

Kimpton Charlotte Square Hotel

38 Charlotte Square,

Edinburgh EH2 4HQ, UK

Telephone: +44 131 240 5500

<https://www.kimptoncharlottesquare.com>



Add On Option

Join us on our 2 or 3-day extension and discover Scotland with Scottish photographer Tim Perceval on his autumn photo walk.

There are endless opportunities and autumn is a magical time of year to see Scotland, one of the best countries in the world for autumn views.

Price to be advised, depending on the number of days/nights.



Journey Accommodation

Kingshouse Hotel, Glencoe

NIGHT 1 - 2



The Skeabost Hotel, Isle of Skye

NIGHT 3 - 6



Eddrachilles Hotel, Scourie

NIGHT 7 - 8



Broadstreet Gardens Apartments, Kirkwall

NIGHT 9 - 12



Dalmunzie Castle, Glenshee

NIGHT 13 - 15



Journey Notes

PRICE INCLUDES

- Pick up at 9.30 a.m. in Edinburgh at Kimpton Charlotte Square Hotel
- Drop off at approximately 3.00 p.m. in Edinburgh at the Kimpton Charlotte Square Hotel
- Price includes transport between Edinburgh (Scotland) on Day 1 and Edinburgh (Scotland) on day 16.
- Twin share accommodation for 15 nights, including breakfasts (15), lunch (1) and dinners (12).

NOT INCLUDED IN TRIP COSTS

Transport before and after "The Walk", 15 lunches, 2 dinners, evening drinks, in between meal snacks, personal clothing, laundry, medical expenses and items of a personal nature, tips, and entry fees.

WHAT TO BRING

Daypack, walking boots, thick socks, waterproof raincoat (Gore-Tex), waterproof overpants, gloves & some warm clothing is recommended - layers work best in Scotland, sun hat, sunglasses, sun cream and bathers.

We can also recommend telescopic walking sticks as being useful. As we are restricted with the amount of luggage we can carry in our vehicles please ensure that your CASES DO NOT EXCEED 20 KG's per guest.

PRE-WALK PREPARATION

We suggest that prior to your walking holiday you prepare yourself to obtain a level of fitness that will allow you to enjoy your walking holiday.

This, of course, is dependent upon your existing fitness level. Remember, the fitter you are, the more you will enjoy the holiday!

- Start with some short walks which include stairs or hills and increase the length of walks over a couple of months.
- We suggest you carry a backpack with water, camera, jacket, snacks, etc. to assist you with your preparation and allow you to get used to the extra weight on your back.
- We also ask that your boots are comfortable and well-worn in.
- Perhaps enjoy some walks through our local national parks and over uneven surfaces to gain confidence with your boots or new walking shoes.

PLEASE NOTE

All accommodation on tour includes private facilities (toilet and shower/bath). Single rooms can be arranged for this tour for a supplement. Please ask for details.

We will endeavour to match people together if they would like to share a twin room with another guest to avoid paying the single room supplement.

However, as this is not always possible, 'single' clients will have to pay the supplement. All walks during the 16 Day tour are optional or can be taken in parts.

Guests can choose to have more free days than the two already included in the itinerary.

Get in touch and book your journey today.

 0461 277 612

 info@walkaboutgourmet.com

Follow the journey.



Quality Practices

Committed to exceeding your expectations with great customer service and the highest standards of quality practices, Walkabout Gourmet Adventures complies with the National Tourism Accreditation Program (ATAP).



**Quality
Tourism**
Framework



T-QUAL
AUSTRALIAN TOURISM
QUALITY ASSURED

Parks
VICTORIA

www.walkaboutgourmet.com