

Inverness - One Day Tours

Known as the capital of the Highlands, in Inverness you get to combine city life with all the beauty and nature of the Scottish lands.

Explore the wilderness, discover the history, and uncover the culture on our day tours of Scotland. All our tours are hosted by a passionate local expert and travel in comfortable 16 seat coaches.

All Inverness tours depart from Stance 7, Inverness Bus Station, Margaret St, Inverness, IV1 1LT.

One Day Tours	Tour Code	Rates GBP £			
				Adult	Child
Cairngorm National Park & Speyside Whisky	INVCA	L		34.00	31.00
Tues, Fri - 03/04/20 - 30/03/21 (except 25/12/20, 01/01/21)		M		38.00	35.00
Departs: 09.30 Returns: 18.30		H		41.00	38.00
The Complete Loch Ness Experience	INVNESS	L		27.00	24.00
Daily, MTWTFSS - 02/04/20 - 30/03/21 (except 26/12/20, 02/01/21)		M		31.00	28.00
Departs: 10.00 Returns: 17.00		H		35.00	32.00
Skye & Eilean Donan Castle	INVSK	L		49.00	46.00
Daily, MTWTFSS - 01/04/20 - 31/03/21 (except 24/12/20, 25/12/20, 26/12/20, 31/12/20, 01/01/21, 02/01/21)		M		58.00	55.00
Departs: 08.00 Returns: 20.00		H		65.00	62.00
Torrion, Applecross & Eilean Donan Castle	INVTA	L		39.00	36.00
Tue, Thur, Sun - 02/04/20 - 30/03/21 (except 24/12/20, 31/12/20)		M		44.00	41.00
Departs: 08.30 Returns: 19.30		H		49.00	46.00
Speyside Whisky & Moray Firth*	INVWHIS	L		32.00	n/a
Mon, Wed - 01/04/20 - 31/03/21		M		35.00	n/a
Departs: 09.15 Returns: 18.45		H		39.00	n/a
The Best of the Black Isle	INVBLACK	L		29.00	26.00
Wed, Sat - 01/04/20 - 31/10/20 (except 26/12/20) plus 03/03/21 - 31/03/21		M		35.00	32.00
Departs: 09.45 Returns: 17.45		H		39.00	36.00
Glen Affric, Culloden & Clava Cairns - NEW FOR 2020	INVGACC	L		34.00	31.00
Mon, Wed, Thu, Sun - 01/04/20 - 31/03/21		M		38.00	35.00
Departs: 09.00 Returns: 18.00		H		42.00	39.00

LOW SEASON 01/04/20 to 05/04/20, 01/11/20 to 17/12/20 and 04/01/21 to 31/03/21
MID SEASON 06/04/20 to 31/05/20, 01/10/20 to 31/10/20 and 18/12/20 to 03/01/21 (Christmas & New Year)
HIGH SEASON 01/06/20 to 30/09/20

* No children under the age of 18 are allowed on this tour.

Discounted rate applies to children aged 5-15 (children must be escorted by an adult). No children under 5 please.



CAIRNGORM NATIONAL PARK & SPEYSIDE WHISKY

You depart Inverness and head south towards the Cairngorms National Park. Your first destination is the forest village of Carrbridge. Here you have time for refreshments and a wander around the old Packhorse Bridge. A short drive via Aviemore takes you towards the Cairngorm Snow Sports Range and above the treeline for a brilliant view of the rolling mountains. You then descend to the Glenmore Forest Park, where you have free time to explore. Your options include a walk through the woods to Loch Morlich, which is one of Scotland's most scenic and popular Lochs. You can admire a sandy beach and large and ancient pine trees before you make your way back to the mini coach. If you prefer not to walk, there's a café and exhibition at the visitor centre. After a short drive, there's time for lunch in the historic town of Grantown-on-Spey.

You follow the famous river Spey past several distilleries to Dufftown and the famous Glenfiddich distillery. Glenfiddich Distillery produces the largest quantity of whisky in Scotland. But it's far from a sterile factory, this is a historic distillery created by a famous whisky pioneering family, and the traditions and age of the site are evident. Your guide here gives you an extensive tour including a tasting of the core range of Glenfiddich's delicious whiskies. Near to the Distillery are the historic ruins of Balvenie Castle. There may be time to get a photo of the castle before you leave. Or if you want to skip the Glenfiddich tour, you can venture into the ruins. From here, you return to Inverness in the early evening.



THE COMPLETE LOCH NESS EXPERIENCE

This short-day tour lets you discover all the marvellous views and secrets of Loch Ness. You leave Inverness and follow the Caledonian Canal to the source at Loch Ness. After arriving at Loch Ness, you have the choice to either go on a one-hour cruise* around the loch or a 30-minute cruise* to Urquhart Castle, where you can disembark and explore the ancient ramparts. You travel a short distance to Drumnadrochit, a popular destination for keen monster hunters! You have time here to look around for gifts and sit down for a spot of lunch. Next, you venture to Invermoriston, where you can take a short walk to an old summerhouse with views of the river Moriston. Your journey continues South West along the lochside to the furthestmost point of the tour at Fort Augustus.

Here you can take a picture of the boats coming in through the Caledonian Canal. The slower roads take you through the less-travelled side of Loch Ness. Driving on single-track roads and using passing places is a typical Highland experience. You may stop for a photo and view looking east towards Loch Ness and Inverness. After a twisty drive through forested landscape, you arrive at the forest community of Foyers. At this stop, you can walk downhill through native pine trees to see the hidden-away Falls of Foyers. This stunning waterfall was a favourite spot for Robert Burns, and if you're lucky, you may spot a dashing red squirrel. From here, you continue back along the Lochside and to Dores at the eastern end of the Loch. This final viewpoint is the most striking vista of Loch Ness and the Great Glen rift valley. From here, you return to Inverness and arrive in the early evening.

****Loch Ness boat cruise entrance not included in the price. Cruise available from Easter to December.***



SKYE & EILEAN DONAN CASTLE

After an early start, you leave the city and travel along the Great Glen Fault Line towards Loch Ness. Here, you have a chance to spot the monster and admire lovely Castle Urquhart from afar. You take a short break in Invermoriston and continue through dramatic Highland scenery to the west coast and Eilean Donan Castle. You can go inside ‘the most photographed castle in Scotland’ or simply enjoy the astounding views. And now, it’s the moment you’ve been waiting for. Because it’s over the sea and onto the Isle of Skye. You travel up the island’s east coast through the stunning Red Cuillin Mountains to Sligachan, where you stop for a photo of the clear mountain waters.

Arriving in the town of Portree, you have free time to grab a bite to eat at one of the many delightful local restaurants. After you’ve filled your belly, you explore some of the most famous scenery of the island at the Trotternish Peninsula. The Old Man of Storr, Kilt Rock, and the Quiraing are all unforgettably beautiful. You venture to Kyleakin for refreshments and a chance to view the dramatic ruin Castle Moil or the Skye Bridge and Eilean Ban. Travelling over the bridge, you journey back to Inverness. The route you take back is different from the morning, so you get even more opportunities to enjoy the Highland scenery.

**Please note that Eilean Donan Castle will be closed from 31st December 2020 till 1st February 2021. During that time you will still stop for photos of the exterior but the visitor centre and castle will be closed.*



TORRIDON, APPLECROSS & EILEAN DONAN CASTLE

This tour focuses on the most beautiful and varied landscapes of the Highlands. You leave Inverness and head north over the Beaully Firth towards the dramatic landscapes of the northern Highlands. You may stop for views and photos before arriving at the exceptionally beautiful viewpoint for Loch Maree. You head down towards the Loch to Beinn Eighe Nature Reserve Visitor Centre for a short break. From here, you take the single-track road through one of Scotland’s National Nature Reserves. Your driver-guide tells you about the woodland regeneration in the area and may give you a chance to get a view over the area and enjoy a close look at the native pine trees. You now travel through the imperious landscape and dramatic geology of the Torrion mountains. As you reach the west coast, the road ascends and gives you incredible views across the Torrion Range, down over the Loch, and out to sea. In scenically situated town of Sheildaig, you have a refreshment before taking on one of the most beautifully twisting roads in Scotland. This road may be the most photographed road on the famous North Coast 500 route. In Applecross, you have space reserved at a local food pub. There are simple options such as sandwiches and soup, and classics like Haddock and Chips, Fish Pie and scallops and langoustines. There’s plenty of time for a relaxing lunch and maybe a little walk along the waterfront. You take the shorter but even more dramatic road out of Applecross, the famous Bealach na Bà (Pass of the Cattle), and if the weather allows, you stop for viewpoints at the top and bottom of this dramatic road. At Loch Duich, you find Eilean Donan Castle situated on a small island accessed by bridge. You can visit the castle or simply enjoy the view from the visitor centre, which has a café, shop, and toilets. The journey back to Inverness passes the Five Sisters of Kintail Mountain range, historic Glenshiel, Loch Ness, and the Great Glen. You arrive in Inverness in the early evening.



SPEYSIDE WHISKY & MORAY FIRTH

Get ready to explore the Speyside region and Scotland's most delectable industry. You depart Inverness, travel east into the region of Moray, and follow the Moray Firth coastline. After a short drive, you arrive at the Benromach Distillery, situated north of the town of Forres. This small-scale independently owned distillery is our first distillery of the day.

The friendly staff at the distillery explain how they make whisky and show you the different areas of production before giving you a wee sample of the golden-hued spirit itself. If there's time, you head to the quaint coastal village of Findhorn. It's a great spot to breathe in the fresh sea air and capture glorious views over the Moray Firth. You travel to Elgin, where you have free time to sightsee, shop, or savour some local cuisine.

If you fancy seeing some gorgeous ruins, you can visit Elgin Cathedral. And if you want to shop, you can find some fantastic souvenirs in the Gordon and Macphail food and drink shop. This is an excellent emporium of independently bottled whiskies, Scottish Gins, local beers.

From Elgin, you venture south towards the river Spey and pass several distilleries that prove how much the industry has dominated the area for generations. You cross the river, and if there's time you may stop for a photograph of the water and a historic bridge. You arrive at Glenfiddich Distillery in the famous town of Dufftown, home to seven whisky distilleries.

This distillery produces the largest quantity of whisky in Scotland. But it's far from a sterile

factory, this is a historic distillery created by a famous whisky pioneering family, and the traditions and age of the site are evident. Your guide here gives you an extensive tour including a tasting of the core range of Glenfiddich's delicious whiskies. Near to the Distillery are the historic ruins of Balvenie Castle.

There may be time to get a photo of the castle before you leave. Or if you've had enough whisky for the day, you can skip the Glenfiddich tour and venture into the ruins. Your journey back to Inverness follows the river Fiddich to Craigellachie, where we should be able to stop for a photo of the Speyside Cooperage. The last leg of the journey takes you through the lovely scenery of Strathspey with views of the Cairngorm mountains.

Special Interest Whisky!

**** No children under the age of 18 are allowed on this tour.***



THE BEST OF THE BLACK ISLE

You leave Inverness behind and head straight for the brewery. Tasting beer before noon is a great wee novelty, and the Black Isle Brewery's ethical beliefs and home-grown flavours are fantastic to learn about. After you've soaked up the local flavours, you take the short drive to Rosemarkie. This wonderful wee village offers you a chance to learn about ancient Pictish art and take in fresh sea views. The journey then takes you to the equally picturesque village of Cromarty. There are plenty of things to do here. You can eat at a local restaurant, go shopping in the delightful arts and crafts shop, or visit the birthplace of the famous geologist, Hugh Millar.

Your next stop is an example of a strange, ancient Celtic tradition. It's a small well in a forest where people leave offerings for spirits, gods, and wishes. You can leave something yourself, but please make sure it's biodegradable and doesn't damage the local environment. Before heading back to Inverness, you have a chance to go dolphin spotting with 'Dolphin Spirit'. Their boat is specially designed to limit disruption for the dolphins, the friendly guides tell you incredible facts about the wildlife, and the dolphins are active and use the beautiful firth as a nursery for their calves. It's an essential Black Isle experience; but if you have other plans, you can skip this option, and we'll take you back to Inverness earlier.



GLEN AFFRIC, CULLODEN & CLAVA CAIRNS

Your first venture to the ancient burial site of Clava Cairns. This Bronze Age 'graveyard' has survived four millennia and is a great spot to take atmospheric photos. They say the stone circle here was the inspiration for the Craigh na Dun time portal in the Outlander books.

You then visit Culloden, one of the most important locations in Scottish history. It was here that a 60-year series of uprisings finally ended in a tumultuous battle. You can explore the visitor centre and pay tribute to those who lost their lives at the last ever battle fought on British soil.

You ramble along to Glen Affric and stop off for walks amongst the indigenous Caledonian pine trees. You get the chance to enjoy views over Loch Affric and the mountains beyond, and your driver-guide ensures you go to the best waterfalls and photo spots throughout the afternoon.

Following this, you have the chance to stretch your legs and explore the historic ruins of Beaulieu Priory. 13th-century French monks called this religious site "beau lieu", which means "beautiful place".

Your final journey takes you along the shores of Loch Ness and back to the centre of Inverness for the early evening.

Inverness - Extended Tours

Our extended tours let us show you the very best of Northern Scotland. On our 3 day Orkney Explorer Tour, you'll discover settlements older than the pyramids, delight at a red sandstone coast, and enjoy the vibrant culture of remote island communities.

Or why not experience Scotland's answer to Route 66 on our North Coast 500 tour. Experience the diverse landscapes of verdant East and rocky West as well as the remote frontier of the North. Enjoy the views, scenery, nature and history that this region has to offer.

Discounts rate applies to children aged 5-15 (children must be escorted by an adult). No children under 5 please.

Package prices include: accommodation in B&B/guest house or 3 star hotels, with private facilities and breakfast; transportation by top of the range 16 seat Mercedes mini-coaches; services of a professional driver/guide.

Orkney Explorer

3 days **Tour code: 3DINVORK**

		Rates GBP £		
		Price		
2 nights			Adult	Child
B&B	L		289.00	231.20
Single	L		349.00	
Hotel	L		365.00	292.00
Single	L		455.00	
B&B	M		319.00	255.20
Single	M		379.00	
Hotel	M		395.00	316.00
Single	M		485.00	
B&B	H		359.00	287.20
Single	H		419.00	
Hotel	H		429.00	343.20
Single	H		525.00	

Departure Information
<p>Monday - 06/04/20 - 26/10/20 <i>plus</i> 08/03/21 - 22/03/21</p> <p>Friday - 03/04/20 - 16/10/20</p> <p>Departs: 08.00 Returns: 19.00</p>

Lewis, Harris & the Outer Hebrides

3 days

Tour code: 3DINVHEB

		Rates GBP £		
		Price		
2 nights			Adult	Child
B&B	L		279.00	223.20
Single	L		339.00	
Hotel	L		329.00	263.20
Single	L		359.00	
B&B	M		309.00	247.20
Single	M		369.00	
Hotel	M		359.00	287.20
Single	M		389.00	
B&B	H		349.00	279.20
Single	H		409.00	
Hotel	H		399.00	319.20
Single	H		429.00	

Departure Information

Friday - 03/04/20 - 30/10/20

Departs: **07.45** Returns: **19.00**

The North Coast 500

3 days

Tour code: 3DINVNC500

		Rates GBP £		
		Price		
2 nights			Adult	Child
B&B	L		269.00	215.20
Single	L		339.00	
Hotel	L		319.00	255.20
Single	M		379.00	
B&B	M		289.00	231.20
Single	M		359.00	
Hotel	M		339.00	271.20
Single	M		399.00	
B&B	H		315.00	252.00
Single	H		385.00	
Hotel	H		365.00	292.00
Single	H		429.00	

Departure Information

Thursday - 02/04/20 - 29/10/20

Departs: **08.15** Returns: **19.00**

ORKNEY EXPLORER

3 DAY TOUR

DAY 1

- Explore Orkney's ancient capital, Kirkwall

After an early start, you travel north through the Black Isle, past the imposing Dunrobin Castle, before crossing the Pentland Firth to the Orkney Isles. You stay in Kirkwall, the modern-day capital of Orkney, for two nights.



DAY 2

- Follow in the footsteps of Vikings as you travel through Orkney

Today is your chance to explore the modern and ancient wonders of this fantastic island; a land of contrasts, where fertile green pastures are fringed by shores of golden sands washed by waters of the North Sea and Atlantic Ocean. Highlights include a visit to Skara Brae, the mystical prehistoric stone circle at Brodgar, the standing stones of Stenness, and Maeshowe, where in the 12th century the Vikings left one of the largest collections of Norse runic inscriptions.

DAY 3

- Travel through the history-soaked regions of Caithness and Sutherland

You'll have your last chance to grab some gifts for friends and family and visit the local cathedral in Kirkwall. And after a ferry back to the mainland, you travel through the history-soaked regions of Caithness and Sutherland. You'll find out about the Highland clearances, a world-changing period in Scotland's dark history, and get a glimpse of some of Scotland's most remote fishing villages. We arrive back in Inverness early evening.

TRUE FACTS:

- *Skara Brae, on the island of Orkney, is the most complete Neolithic village in Europe. It is also the oldest building in Britain, dating from 3100 BCE.*
- *Rugby fans should learn that the world's first international rugby match was played in Scotland.*
- *Shortbread is Scotland's most famous biscuit.*
- *Scottish dishes are well-known for their weird names, like Forfar Bridie (a meat pastry), Cock-a-leekie (soup), Crappit heid (fish dish), Arbroath Smokie (smoked haddock), Cullen Skink (haddock soup), Mince and tatties (minced meat and potatoes), Rumbledethumps, Skirlie...*

LEWIS, HARRIS & THE OUTER HEBRIDES

3 DAY TOUR

DAY 1

- Venture past the Summer Isles on a scenic ferry
- Discover what day-in-the-life of a Highlander is like at the Arnol Blackhouse

You don't waste time on this tour. You get up early, travel straight from Inverness to Ullapool and catch your ferry to the islands. This stunning sea-trip takes you along Loch Broom, past the Summer Isles, and out to Stornoway; capital of the Outer Hebrides. But don't let the waves rock you to sleep; because if you keep a look out you might spot a dolphin or a whale. Once you've arrived on Lewis, your first stop is the ancient past. You travel to the North West of the island and get the chance to visit the 'blackhouse' at Arnol. Dive into this traditional abode and discover how the Highland crofting families lived their day-to-day lives.

After this, you go through more crofting communities and venture to the northernmost tip of the island, the Butt of Lewis. The lighthouse here boasts epic views of waves crashing against sea cliffs. It's now time to head back to Stornoway for your overnight.

DAY 2

- Listen to the waves on the famous white sands of Luskentyre Beach
- Marvel at the mountains of Harris

Today, you're heading south to Harris. The first thing you notice about Harris is the mountains. And as you weave through the towering marvels, your guide will tell you about the traditions and tales of this part of Scotland. There's not many towns around here; but after you've had your fill of unspoilt beaches and landscapes, you stop in the small port of Leverburgh for lunch. Now it's time for one of the great Hebridean highlights, Luskentyre beach. On a good day, the sea turns turquoise and the sands look pristine white. After you've enjoyed all these natural wonders, it's time to head back to



Stornoway. Maybe it's time to try the famous black pudding for dinner.

DAY 3

- Study the stories behind the Callanish standing stones
- Discover the site where they found the famous Lewis Chessmen

Today, you're delving back to the ancient past. You venture to the far west of Lewis to the parish of Uig, an area of outstanding natural beauty. More than 800 years ago, the Vikings lived here and left behind an icon of Scotland, the Lewis Chessmen. And now what you've been waiting for, the Callanish standing stones. These 5,000-year-old megaliths are said to be petrified giants who wouldn't convert to Christianity. You may not believe this myth, but that doesn't mean this sight isn't magnificent. We have a lunch in Stornoway before crossing back to the mainland returning to Inverness in the evening.

THE NORTH COAST 500

3 DAY TOUR

DAY 1

Set off from Inverness and begin your journey on Scotland's 'Route 66'. It's an epic drive with loads to squeeze in. Just make sure you have plenty of space on your camera. Heading for Ullapool, we spend the first day weaving through the North Coast 500's winding roads. Your driver-guide will take you to towering mountains, banks of shimmering lochs, and the shores of beautiful beaches. We reach the scenic port town of Ullapool in the late afternoon.

DAY 2

Today, the scenery gets progressively more beautiful, rocky, and mountainous. As you travel north, your driver-guide will take you to some of the most beautiful sights in Scotland. Your itinerary depends on the weather and your guide's expert tips, but you may have a chance to venture into the deep Smoo Cave, wander the ruins of Ardvreck Castle, and gaze at gorgeous white beaches. You stop for lunch in a Highland village and spend the evening in Thurso, the most northerly town on the British mainland.

DAY 3

Today you get plenty of opportunities to get off the coach and explore cosy fishing villages, epic cliffs, and ancient Neolithic sights. In the morning we have a chance to visit a fine Scottish Highland Whisky distillery. The road leads you further south, where you have a chance to stop for lunch. We then continue our epic North Coast 500 route southwards where you can enjoy the green valleys and sea views as you travel to Dunrobin Castle. You have time to take a photo of the stately home and then you continue along the coast and through land once inhabited by the Picts. Finally, we arrive in Inverness in the early evening.

