

Wildlife Adventure

The Scottish Highlands

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Trip Grade: **Green 2**




Wilderness Scotland

The Scottish Highlands

This wildlife holiday in Scotland is a fresh way to experience the fantastic and diverse wildlife of the Scottish Highlands.

Rather than being a list-ticking trip, it's designed to be a fun and informative multi-activity trip across the Highlands.

Led by our expert guides, we'll seek out species such as dolphins, red deer and golden eagles as we explore Scotland's wild places. And while we will visit a hide or two, most of the wildlife will be encountered as we enjoy activities such as boat trips, walks and even some sea kayaking. All activities will be conducted at an easy pace, so are suitable for everyone to enjoy.

Highlights

- Dolphin-watching on an exciting boat trip
- Finding Scotland's largest birds of prey – sea eagles, golden eagles and ospreys
- Sea kayaking with seals in the West Highlands
- Visit a wildlife hide at dusk to see pine marten and badgers

Book with confidence

- We guarantee this trip will run as soon as **2** people have booked
- Maximum of **8** places available per departure

PLEASE NOTE – The itinerary may be subject to change at the discretion of the Wilderness Scotland Guide with regard to weather conditions and other factors.




Wilderness Scotland

Planned Itinerary

Day 1 | [Loch Ness](#)

Day 2 | [Isle of Mull, Eagles and Otters](#)

Day 3 | [Sea Kayaking with Seals](#)

Day 4 | [RSPB Reserve and Evening Hide Visit](#)

Day 5 | [Mountain Species of the Cairngorms](#)

Day 6 | [Dolphins and Dunes](#)

Day 7 | [Ospreys and Red Squirrels](#)

Arrival Info

- You will be met by your Wilderness Scotland Guide at the fixed seating area in the centre of **Inverness Railway Station** at **2:00pm** on Day 1 of your trip.

Departure Info

- You will be returned to **Inverness** station by **1:00pm** on the final day.

PLEASE NOTE – The itinerary may be subject to change at the discretion of the Wilderness Scotland Guide with regard to weather conditions and other factors.



Day 1 | Loch Ness

On the way to Strontian, we stop at Loch Ness and visit Urquhart Castle, the spectacular ruined castle on the banks of the loch. Rumour has it that Nessie resides in a sub-aqua cave beneath the castle, so we'll keep our eyes peeled and may end this wildlife trip with a sighting of the most elusive creature of all. **(D)**

Day 2 | Isle of Mull, Eagles and Otters

From our hotel it's a short transfer to the pier where we jump on the ferry for the 15 minute crossing to the Isle of Mull. We'll go in search of its famous sea eagles and golden eagles, as well as spending time on the coast looking for otters. Even the ferry journey offers the chance to look for dolphins, whales and basking sharks. **(B,L,D)**

Day 3 | Sea Kayaking with Seals

Today, we enjoy sea kayaking in the sheltered waters of the Arisaig skerries. This relaxed day will allow us to enjoy close encounters with seals, and perhaps even otters or porpoises. No experience is needed to enjoy the sea kayaking and you'll be looked after by suitably qualified, expert guides. **(B,L,D)**



Day 4 | RSPB Reserve and Evening Hide Visit

Today we transfer east to the beautiful Cairngorms National Park, where we enjoy an afternoon stop at the RSPB Reserve at Insh Marshes. One of the most important wetlands in Europe, we can look out for many bird species such as lapwing, redshank and curlew. Roe deer can also be seen here. After checking into our hotel and having dinner, we head out for an evening excursion to a wildlife hide. As dusk falls, we hope to see species such as pine marten and badger. **(B,L,D)**

Day 5 | Mountain Species of the Cairngorms

Today we explore the wildlife of the Cairngorm mountains. Accessing the mountains from a high level car park at 2000 feet, we enjoy an easy hike into the Northern Corries, where we hope to see Scotland's only herd of reindeer. We'll also look out for red deer, mountain hares, ptarmigan and golden eagles – as well as enjoying the spectacular scenery. **(B,L,D)**



Day 6 | Dolphins and Dunes

Show-casing the diversity of the Scottish Highlands, a short transfer from our hotel in the mountains takes us to the coast where we hop onto a boat for a dolphin-spotting excursion in the Moray Firth, one of the best places in Scotland to see these playful creatures. Back on dry land, we'll enjoy a beautiful coastal walk, exploring the sand dunes and nature of this often overlooked coastline. **(B, L, D)**

Day 7 | Ospreys and Red Squirrels

Leaving the hotel after breakfast we visit a nearby nature reserve where we should be able to see ospreys, red squirrels and a number of other species which inhabit this beautiful and ancient Scots Pine Forest. **(B)**



Trip Grading | Green 2 | ●●●●●●●●

Green graded wildlife holidays are suitable for active travellers who are reasonably fit and enjoy moderate hikes. We walk at a comfortable pace and you can expect to be out for 5-6 hours a day. The terrain will be mostly good paths and hill trails but these can still be muddy and rough in places. Some hikes may involve an ascent up to a max of approx 1,500 feet / 450m. Distances will be typically 8-10km but there may be the odd slightly longer day. Daily hike details are available in the itinerary

The weather in Scotland can be unpredictable and at times can make activities more challenging. Please do bear this in mind when thinking about what trip to join.

If our guides feel that you are not able to complete a scheduled hike they may ask you not to join in that day. If you have any questions about the grading, then please do give our Adventure Consultants a call to chat through your experience and suitability for this trip.



It is your responsibility to ensure you are appropriately fit and capable of doing the described hikes in the expected times. Please refer to the [grading section](#) on our website for more details. If you are unsure we encourage you to speak to us first.



Accommodation and Meals

In Ardnamurchan, we stay at a small, family-run, Highland guest house which has one of the best panoramic loch and mountain views in Scotland. The hotel was renovated in 2008 and offers comfortable rooms with free wi-fi. The meals here are a delight, with a strong focus on locally sourced produce.

We spend 3 nights in and around the Cairngorms National Park. Our base here is at the beautiful Dalrachney Lodge, located in a sleepy Highland village called Carrbridge. Dalrachney Lodge offers the highest standards of customer care and service, all set in a welcoming and comfortable environment.

On this trip we generally eat dinner as a group however if you would like to make alternative arrangements you are free to do so. Your guide will have an evening off during this trip where they do not eat with the group. They will recommend options for dinner that evening and will help you make any necessary reservations.

Single Rooms

For solo travellers: Accommodation is based on sharing a twin room with another solo traveller of the same gender. A limited number of rooms for single occupancy are available on a first come first served basis, subject to a single supplement. Please enquire for availability.

Single supplements vary across our itineraries so please refer to the 'What's Included - Accommodation' tab on the trip page on our website for this trip or contact our sales team.



Inclusions

This trip includes the following:

- 6 nights accommodation in carefully selected guest houses and hotels
- Most meals during the trip (**Meals included indicated as B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner**)
- The services of an experienced and knowledgeable guide / driver throughout
- All transport throughout the trip starting and finishing in Inverness
- All boat trips and ferry transfers
- Dolphin spotting boat trip
- 1 Day guided sea kayaking including all equipment
- Entrance fees to wildlife hides, nature reserves and historical sites as per itinerary



Our holidays reviewed in your words...

“

Very well designed, clearly much thought and effort was put into trying to get a lot of interesting events into the time available. As there is quite a lot of driving in the Wildlife trip, it is very suitable for those who want to view several areas of Scotland.

Isabel Draper ★★★★★

”

[All Trip Reviews Here](#)

Your Guide

During this trip you will be accompanied and led by one of our professional guides. Our guides are among the most highly experienced and qualified in the country. Defined by their passion for Scotland's wild places, they have an intimate knowledge of the natural and social history of this land which they will be delighted to share with you. For more info and to meet the team please see our [Guide Pages](#).



Sustainable Travel

Wilderness Scotland is committed to the principles of ecotourism. We work very hard to ensure our engagements with local communities, wild lands and wildlife are positive.

We are a proud partner of the Leave No Trace Centre for Outdoor Ethics, which enhances our commitment to responsible activity in Scotland's wild lands, as enshrined in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code (SOAC).

We are also proud to be a John Muir Trust Peak Partner. Thanks in part to the generosity of our clients through our [Conservation Contribution scheme](#) the John Muir Trust can rely on our investment to go towards conservation projects that have a deep connection to Wilderness Scotland and the areas we adventure in.

You can learn more about the work we're doing with the John Muir Trust and the other ways we care for the wild places we love [here](#).



Equipment List

Check out our guide on what to wear when adventuring in Scotland.

wildernessscotland.com/blog/hiking-in-scotland-what-to-wear



Eat | Stay | See

Looking for accommodation for before or after your adventure with us?
Check out our list of where to stay and what to do

[Eat – Stay – See – Inverness.pdf](#)



General Info – Scotland

From food and drink to the Loch Ness Monster, our General Info for Scotland guide has got you covered for all your need to to know facts.

[General-Info-Scotland.pdf](#)



Travel Insurance

It is your responsibility to take out appropriate travel insurance to cover you during your trip. This should include cover for cancellation prior to the trip, the activities undertaken (i.e hiking), curtailment, and adequate medical insurance for sickness/ injury and medical repatriation. We also strongly recommend you have cover for your other travel arrangements such as flights, and your personal possessions.

We suggest you do your own research to find the best insurance cover for you however the follow companies offer suitable policies.

Campbell Irvine Direct – campbellirvinedirect.com

Journeyman Insurance Services – journeyman-services.com/travellnsurance

If you cancel your holiday charges will apply. Please see section 2 of our terms and conditions for a breakdown:

wildernessscotland.com/make-a-booking/booking-conditions

Travel With Confidence

You can book with us in complete confidence that all trip payments made to us are fully protected.

Wilderness Scotland Ltd is a licensed and bonded tour operator. Your financial security is guaranteed through our membership and bonding with ABTA.



FAQs

Looking for more information? Check out our frequently ask questions page.

wildernessscotland.com/faq

Questions To Ask? Ready to Book?

If you want to get in touch please send us an email or give us a call. We accept bookings online, by email, or over the phone. A deposit of 25% is required at the time of booking to secure the trip with the balance payable 8 weeks (56 days) before departure. If booking less than 56 days before the trip start date, full payment of the trip price is required immediately.

We accept payment by credit or debit card, or bank transfer.

email: info@wildernessscotland.com
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Tel (US and Canada): 866-740-3890

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