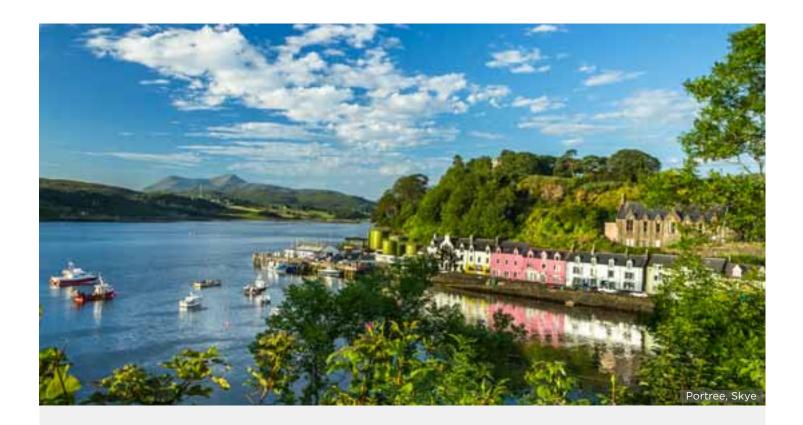


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# WELCOME

### to the 2024 Hebridean Princess Cruise Collection

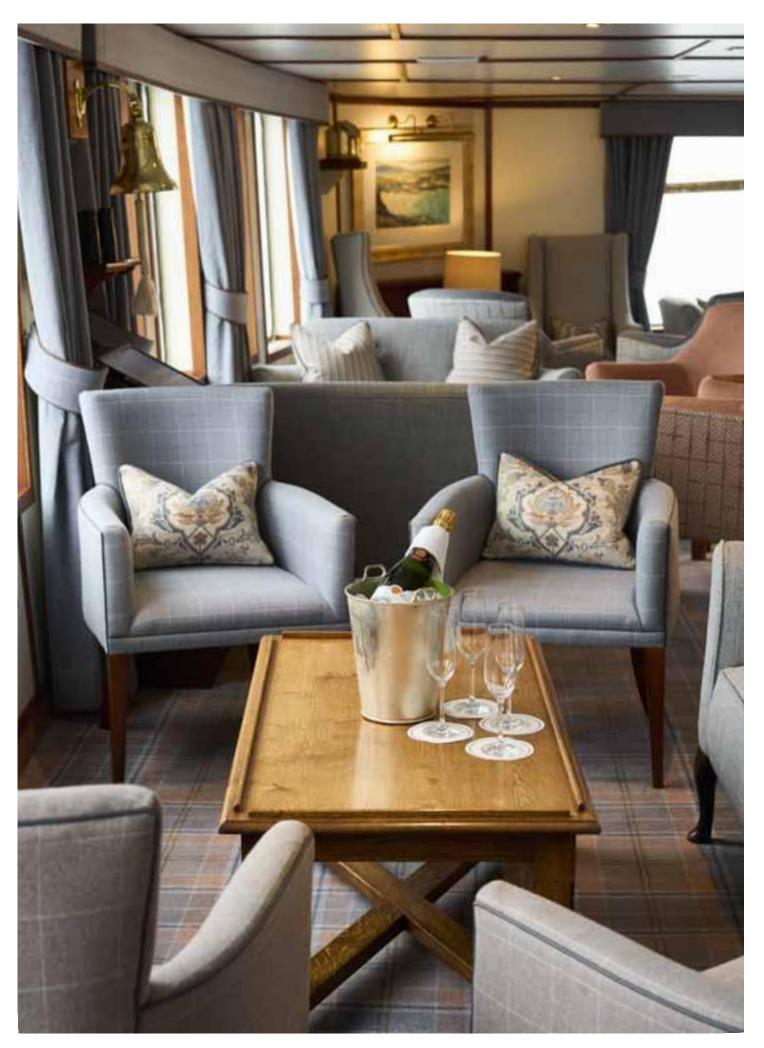
No cruising experience quite matches the magic and awe as *Hebridean Princess* steams majestically into a distant loch, dramatically ringed by mountains, or that of dining at anchor in the spectacular sunset of a far-flung bay.

Hebridean Princess combines the atmosphere of a fine country house with her renowned level of service and attention to detail that guests have come to expect over the years. This, along with knowledgeable on board guides, makes for a memorable experience.

The 2024 Hebridean Princess Cruise Collection sees this multi-award-winning ship embark on a series of extraordinary cruises, in her home Scottish waters and returning to the shores of Southern Ireland for the first time since 2012. Featuring many of our regular west coast, Western Isles and Northern Isles destinations, we will also be venturing to Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and the Isle of Man, offering endless opportunities to get close to local culture and reveal hidden gems.

Themed cruises include our usual programme of 'Footloose' walking cruises; one in the Emerald Isle and one which ventures to the northern extremities of Orkney and Shetland, and an extended wildlife cruise from Oban to Inverness taking in the delights of the natural world in these far northern archipelagos. Regular themes of gardens, food and drink, wildlife, golf, history and heritage also feature in the 2024 schedule; expert guest speakers accompany selected cruises for your added enjoyment.

Every aspect of a cruise on board *Hebridean Princess* adds to the experience of total relaxation. Why not join her and cruise to these enchanted lands?



## THE HEBRIDEAN DIFFERENCE

#### **Beautifully Small**

The delectably small and exclusive *Hebridean Princess*, purpose-built for the Western Isles and launched by Hebridean Island Cruises as a cruise ship in 1989, has been synonymous with luxury cruising for over 30 years. During this time she has established an enviable reputation for the highest of standards and attention to detail.

#### **Personal Service**

From the very first welcome, a friendly crew, numbering almost one to each guest, ensures exceptionally high standards, which embrace every aspect of life on board and ashore. Unobtrusive and friendly service, with that personal touch and constant attention to detail, sets *Hebridean Princess* apart from other cruise ships: unique and unmatched, she is simply in a class of her own.

#### A Warm Atmosphere

Perfectly complementing the wildly beautiful Scottish scenery through which she cruises, *Hebridean Princess* offers the unrivalled comfort and refined service of a country house. The welcome on board is always warm with the congenial atmosphere of a house party where old friends meet up, new acquaintances are quickly made and the unaccompanied need never feel alone.

#### Luxurious Décor

The epitome of good taste, an understated elegance pervades the whole ship in a carefully chosen décor of co-ordinating furnishings, fabrics and colours. Delightful features abound: peaceful corners that are perfect for reading, the home-from-home feel of the Inglenook fireplace in the Tiree Lounge and many more.

Twenty eight beautiful cabins are unusually spacious, offering Hebridean bathrobes, slippers and a large selection of Molton Brown toiletries for your convenience. Individually designed, each cabin is tastefully furnished with the best of classic and contemporary design and the finest fabrics.

#### **Gourmet Cuisine**

With an ever-changing menu, dining on board *Hebridean Princess* is a sensational feast. Our talented and dedicated chefs use only the freshest, locally sourced ingredients allowing the creation of the most delectable breakfasts, lunches, afternoon teas and dinners.

#### **Making Memories**

There is a world of difference between an ordinary holiday and a memorable one - at Hebridean we create unique experiences for a few people - never something ordinary for a crowd.



# GENUINELY FULLY-INCLUSIVE CRUISING

There is nothing quite like that sense of freedom you will feel, knowing that everything from tours ashore, to meals and drinks, port taxes and even gratuities are included in the fare you pay. Hebridean Princess cruises are genuinely fully-inclusive; not an empty promise, but a Hebridean pledge to ensure that you have a carefree holiday both on board and ashore.



#### FINE DINING EXPERIENCES

Dining is a major element of any cruise and on board *Hebridean Princess* you will dine in the elegant Columba Restaurant for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Afternoon tea is served in the comfort of the Tiree Lounge. Barbecues on the Skye Deck and picnics ashore are occasionally offered depending on daily activities.



#### **COMPLIMENTARY DRINKS**

Complement your meal with specially selected wines of the day, and enjoy other house wines and spirits, soft drinks and beers, tea and coffee during your time with us at no extra charge. Taittinger Champagne is also included by the glass throughout your cruise.



#### **ENGAGING SHORE VISITS**

There is no need to decide in which tours and visits you would like to participate as these are all included, as are fishing trips and speedboat rides, which can be arranged on request.



#### **GUIDES AND GUEST SPEAKERS**

Knowledgeable guides accompany all cruises, both on board and on the tours ashore. Renowned guest speakers feature on selected cruises; passionate about their subject, these captivating orators bring each itinerary to life.



#### A CELEBRATION

If you plan to mark a special occasion on board, perhaps a wedding anniversary or birthday, we will be only too happy to help you celebrate by arranging for champagne, a cake or canapés, to enjoy in the privacy of your cabin, or maybe share with family and friends in the Library. To celebrate these happy moments in true Hebridean style, please place a special request through our reservations staff.



#### **GRATUITIES ON BOARD AND ASHORE**

Knowing when and how much to tip can be a difficult decision, but on every *Hebridean Princess* cruise all gratuities are included in your cruise fare, both on board and ashore.



#### **BICYCLES**

Should you wish to invigorate yourself and explore independently, why not take one of the ship's modern bicycles ashore and enjoy the stunning scenery of the islands, many of which are traffic-free.



#### TRANSFERS AND CAR PARKING

Private coach transfers from the local airport or train station to and from *Hebridean Princess*. For those wishing to drive, secure parking is provided at the port.

#### INTERNET ACCESS AND WI-FI

Free Wi-Fi access and use of the ship's iPads, located in the Library.



# DISCOVERING MORE WITH HEBRIDEAN'S EXCEPTIONAL CREW

At Hebridean Island Cruises we believe it is simply not possible to look after large numbers of guests properly and give them the really personal service that differentiates an extraordinary holiday from a merely good one. That is why, on *Hebridean Princess*, you will find only 48 like-minded guests and no fewer than 38 crew.

If you would like to be known by your name within moments of stepping on board, to have your smallest preferences remembered, then mass-market style cruising will never be a satisfactory alternative.

Everything we do receives the same level of care and attention; from the carefully conceived shore visits to the spectacular overnight anchorages, the exquisite menus and the unique and individually designed cabins, every little detail aims to ensure that the whole experience is so complete that you will never even notice.

Discreet service is the bedrock of our reputation and the uncannily accurate anticipation of your needs is a skill that our crew has developed into almost an art form.

For us, resoluteness in the pursuit of perfection is something for which, in our view, there is no alternative. Behind the scenes we will be striving day and night to ensure that yours is the best holiday you have taken.

Your job is to simply sit back, relax and enjoy – Hebridean style!.





### LIFE ON BOARD

After an energetic walk ashore, the comfort and homeliness of *Hebridean Princess* welcomes you back as though to your own home; and that is how we, and more importantly our guests, like to think of this unusual little ship. 'Like home but better' is how she has been described.

The public rooms on board *Hebridean Princess* offer a truly cosy and welcoming atmosphere.

The Tiree Lounge, with its intimate bar, is the social focal point; beautifully designed and filled with soft armchairs and welcoming sofas providing cosy areas grouped around perhaps the most extraordinary feature of the ship – a brick inglenook fireplace!

'A Floating Country House' is how we have described Hebridean Princess for many years. Forty eight like-minded guests mix in a convivial atmosphere and create a house party mood.

In the peaceful wood-panelled Library a masculine feel has been created, using leather, unique upholstery and dark

woods and should a spot of solitude appeal, there is a fine selection of reference and general interest books to be enjoyed.

The soft tones furnishing the Look Out Lounge flow seamlessly from the colour palette in the foyer areas, creating a relaxing space to take in the stunning views.

Painted, rattan furniture brings a casual feel to the Conservatory and the natural look has been complemented by the beautifully restored teak flooring. A wonderfully calm space to enjoy the scenery.

The emphasis on low key entertainment is complemented by the gentle art of conversation and the certain knowledge that fellow guests have chosen this style of holiday as much for what it doesn't offer as for what it does.



















# DINING AND CUISINE

Fine dining is a vital part of the perfect cruising experience. On *Hebridean Princess*, we take special pride in the quality of our cuisine, prepared by expert chefs from locally sourced produce. Our wines are carefully selected to complement our varied menus.

Dinners and most lunches are served in the elegant Columba Restaurant, where awe-inspiring scenery is on view through the picture windows. Whilst dinner is usually at anchor, breakfast and lunch are often served en route to our next destination, as breathtaking landscapes roll by.

Weather permitting, light barbecues are sometimes held on deck or ashore. Hebridean picnics on some of our longer Footloose walks are said to be legendary!

Breakfasts are informal and are as healthy or as hearty as you choose with fresh fruit, home-baked breads, cooked Scottish

fayre and of course, Chef's own take on that Scottish staple (porridge), with or without a wee dram!

Our Gala Dinners are sparkling occasions, from the Champagne reception in the Tiree Lounge to a gourmet dinner - and no cruise would be complete without a traditional recital of Robert Burns' Address to a Haggis!

Guests can choose to dine on their own, with a companion or on a larger table hosted by one of the Ship's Officers, ideal for solo travellers.

### GOING ASHORE

Unlike most cruise ships, a *Hebridean Princess* cruise includes all shore visits. From cultural to historical, serious walking and biking to simply strolling around the bay, the opportunities to experience the peace are endless.

On most days *Hebridean Princess* berths or anchors in different locations both morning and afternoon, whilst the ship's tenders are on hand to operate a shuttle service ashore. Manned by our experienced able-bodied seamen, they are always ready to offer a friendly word of reassurance and a steadying hand. Should you choose to wander at will, the small boats are always available to transport you back on board if the yearning for a glass of something or chef's afternoon tea prove too hard to resist.

Some of the islands we visit are so off the beaten track that no landing place is available. We will then use our special beach landing craft for an exciting chance to wander an uninhabited island or headland.

Our long-standing connections in this remote corner of the kingdom enable us to arrange visits to privately owned castles and gardens, with an opportunity to talk to the owners and enjoy the different dimension of a visit that is utterly personal.

A highly knowledgeable and experienced guide, with three guides on our Footloose walking itineraries, will accompany your visits ashore. Whether exploring remote islands and historic sites, or simply taking in the magnificent scenery on board, you will appreciate their knowledge and insight of the spectacular areas through which *Hebridean Princess* cruises. The guide's evening talk is a convivial get-together in the lounge after dinner – and an ideal opportunity to relax over coffee or a digestif and mingle, whilst learning more of the tantalizing places to come.

In addition to our usual range of activities, the more adventurous can enjoy speedboat rides, fishing trips or cycling ashore on the ship's bikes, all of which can be arranged on request.







Please refer to the 2024 Cruise Diary and Tariff for prices

### THEMED CRUISES

If you are bewitched by wildlife, inspired by Scottish food and drink or fascinated by history and architecture then one of our specially themed itineraries may appeal to you.

#### **FOOD AND DRINK**

Scotland is celebrated for some of the most mouth-watering cuisine throughout the world and our gastronomic cruises will introduce you to some of the finest restaurants in the Western Isles. Visiting renowned distilleries in the Hebrides, we taste some of the rich malt whiskies for which the area is world-famous.

#### **FOOTLOOSE WALKING**

There is no better way to experience the wild beauty of the Scottish Highlands and Islands than on a Footloose walking cruise. Exploring on foot far off the beaten track, often to places only accessible from the sea, is the ultimate escape from the pressures and cares of the everyday world.

#### **GARDENS**

Relish the magnificent splendour of some of Britain's most beautiful gardens, cossetted by the warming effects of the Gulf Stream; a true horticultural extravaganza.

#### HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Scotland has a rich history and heritage. Epic landscapes were carved out by icy glaciers millennia ago, towering castles have stood for centuries and mesmerising stories, traditions and legends have been passed down for generations. Explore ancient sites that date from the Neolithic era, uncover the history of the Scottish clans or soak up the unique atmosphere of the double UNESCO World Heritage Site of St Kilda.

#### **WILDLIFE**

The Hebrides and the Northern Isles are some of the last untouched natural landscapes in Europe, and are home to some of the finest wildlife in the world. White-tailed eagles soar over the rugged coastline, red deer roam over the moorland and otters swim off shore. The islands are also popular bird watching destinations as well as the perfect place for marine wildlife spotting.

#### **GOLF**

As the home of golf, Scotland can justifiably boast some of Britain's best courses and our unique golfers and non-golfers itinerary features some of the 'hidden gems'!



Jewels of the Clyde 5th to 12th March 2024 Page 26 & 27





Guest Speaker: Elaine Hansen
Treasures of Argyll and Bute
19th to 26th March 2024

15.ARIS Page 30 & 31





Flavours of the Hebrides 2nd to 9th April 2024 Page 34 & 35





Footloose through the Western Seaboard 23rd to 30th April 2024 Page 40 & 41





Guest Speaker: Dr Sandy Primrose Scotland's Spring Colours 30th April to 7th May 2024 Page 42 & 43





St Kilda & Outer Isles Wildlife 7th to 14th May 2024 Page 44 & 45





Secrets of St Kilda and Sutherland 21st to 28th May 2024 Page 48 & 49





Guest Speaker: Darren Rees Natural World of the Northern Isles 28th May to 6th June 2024 Page 50 & 51





Guest Speaker: Bruce Bennison Prehistoric Scotland 6th to 15th June 2024 Page 52 & 53





Footloose in Orkney and Shetland 15th to 24th June 2024 Page 54 & 55





Guest Speaker: Jeremy Burton Home from Orcadia 24th June to 2nd July 2024 THE ART'S Page 56 & 57





Outlook on St Kilda 9th to 16th July 2024 Page 60 & 61





Guest Speaker: David Harper Voyage to the Emerald Isle 23rd to 31st July 2024 THE ARTS Page 64 & 65





Footloose in the Emerald Isle 8th to 16th August 2024 Page 68 & 69





Guest Speaker: Michael Buerk Treasures of the Celtic Coasts 16th to 26th August 2024 Page 70 & 71





Gaelic Links, Lochs and Isles 10th to 17th September 2024 Page 78 & 79





Footloose in the Hebrides 24th September to 1st October 2024 Page 82 & 83





Flavours of the Hebrides 8th to 15th October 2024 Page 86 & 87





Guest Speaker: Will Harrow From Oban to the Heart of Argyll 22nd to 29th October 2024 Page 90 & 91





Gems of Argyll 29th October to 5th November 2024 Page 92 & 93



# **ENRICHING GUEST SPEAKERS**

The enrichment of discovery and thrill of knowledge put Hebridean Princess cruises in a category of their own.

Our on board speakers are chosen precisely because they are among some of the best authorities in their field. Passionate about their subject, these captivating orators bring each cruise alive and are delighted to share their knowledge with their fellow guests - a true meeting of minds.

During our 2024 season Guest Speakers will accompany 8 specially selected cruises.

# KNOWLEDGEABLE **GUIDES**

On board Hebridean Princess and on visits ashore, we are fortunate to have an invaluable team of enthusiastic and energetic guides, all adept in their fields, whose broad knowledge of history, architecture, culture, folklore, wildlife and flora of the Scottish Highlands and Islands adds a special dimension to our cruises.

A highly knowledgeable and experienced guide accompanies guests for the duration of each cruise, with three on 'Footloose' walking itineraries and two on the wildlife and golf cruises, always there to offer information and an occasional helping hand. Single guests can enjoy their company at dinner, when they join an Officer's table in the Columba Restaurant. After-dinner talks outline the next day's activities and shed fresh light on the unique regions through which we sail.

### **PARTNERSHIPS**



The Arts Society's affiliation with Hebridean Island Cruises, through The Arts Society Tours, ensures that its members, who enjoy luxury small ship cruising, can visit cultural destinations, with excellent lecturers in the company of like-minded people.

The Arts Society was founded in 1968.

It remains a leading arts education charity, with a global network of local arts societies, continuing to connect people to the arts and each other and offering a warm welcome to all.

The society's world class lecturers continue to entertain and share the specialist knowledge with members and it believes that the arts enrich peoples' lives.

The Arts Society continues to support the skills of makers and artists, whilst its volunteering programme helps preserve our heritage for future generations to enjoy.



Our Arts Society's recommended cruise in 2024 is

#### TREASURES OF ARGYLL AND BUTE

Departing 19th March featuring accredited Arts Society lecturer, **Elaine Hansen**.

Please refer to pages 30 and 31 for full details of this cruise.

We are also pleased to welcome Arts Society Accredited Lecturers on the following departures:

#### HOME FROM ORCADIA

Departing 24th June featuring accredited Arts Society lecturer, **Jeremy Burton**. Please refer to pages 56 and 57 for full details of this cruise.

#### **VOYAGE TO THE EMERALD ISLE**

Departing 23rd July featuring accredited Arts Society lecturer, **David Harper**. Please refer to pages 64 and 65 for full details of this cruise.

For more than 10 years, Hebridean Island Cruises has been working to raise funds for UK marine conservation charity, Sea-Changers, and during this time *Hebridean Princess* guests have donated over £35,000.

Of the monies donated by *Hebridean Princess* guests, 100% will to fund marine conservation projects.

The donations will allow Sea-Changers to award more marine conservation grants across the UK, which over the years, have enabled a vast range of vital marine conservation activity, much of it in Scotland and including around the beautiful Hebrides themselves.

For more information on Sea-Changers visit www.sea-changers.org.uk

Sea-Changers is a Registered Charity in England and Wales (1142119) and Scotland (SCO43922).





### PRIVATE CHARTERS

Iconic and the epitome of understated elegance, *Hebridean Princess* is the ultimate vessel for a private charter for up to 48 guests or delegates.

Whether a conference with a difference, a celebration or wedding, *Hebridean Princess* delivers a style of service from a bygone age. More akin to a private yacht than a conventional cruise ship, the 28 cabins are each uniquely and elegantly furnished. Public rooms are reminiscent of a country house with service from an exceptional crew to match. Audio-visual equipment is available in the beautiful Tiree Lounge and break out rooms are available in the tastefully furnished Conservatory, Look-Out Lounge and Library. The Columba Restaurant is the setting for magnificent dining created by our talented brigade of chefs. For something more informal, barbecues can be arranged on the Skye Deck or buffet lunches in the lounges. Remain in touch with business back home via telephone and Wi-Fi internet facilities. Unforgettable entertainment can be organised in the form of ceilidh bands, accordionists for Scottish country dancing or pipers. As a venue for your conference, convention, private cruise or other event, chartering *Hebridean Princess* is equivalent to hiring your own luxurious private yacht.



# BELMOND ROYAL SCOTSMAN







Hebridean Princess and Belmond Royal Scotsman, Scotland's luxury sleeper train, have teamed up to offer the ultimate luxury tour of Scotland. Belmond Royal Scotsman takes you straight to the heart of the Scottish Highlands to explore the wild wonders and unique heritage that the area has to offer.

Akin to a country house on wheels, Belmond Royal Scotsman carries just 40 guests, in private ensuite cabins, through Scotland's finest countryside. From every window, there are glorious views of the passing scenery, but to really absorb the views head to the Observation Car with its open verandah. Come evening relax in the Bar and enjoy a dram, with a choice of over 50 whiskies.

Life on board this luxury train is relaxed and indulgent. In the two wood-panelled dining cars, the on board chefs create gastronomic delights, where menus feature flavoursome and seasonal ingredients from regions of where the train travels. Unwind in the most unique spa in Scotland and experience a world of indulgence on the rails. The Bamford Haybarn Spa is the perfect pampering retreat after a day exploring the Highlands.

Service on board the train is attentive, but never intrusive and colourful touches, such as being welcomed on board at Edinburgh Waverley Station by a Highland Piper, add to the thrill of the experience. Along the way, guests disembark to meet local personalities,

talk to experts on subjects from salmon fishing to whisky tasting and take part in fun activities; a truly Scottish rail vacation par excellence.

# Belmond Royal Scotsman Journeys include:

 Private en suite cabins, including all meals, wine, alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages, visits and onboard entertainment as stated in itineraries.

For information and to check if your chosen cruise can be extended with a Belmond Royal Scotsman train journey please contact our reservations staff on 01756 704704



# SCOTTISH ISLANDS A-Z

The wildly beautiful coast of Scotland is scattered with hundreds of islands and islets shaped by the relentless pounding of the sea and the ever-changing weather. Sublimely secluded, all are unique, forming a world apart that is little-known and accessible to the very few – yours to explore from the comfort of our delightfully small ship, *Hebridean Princess*. Experience their magic and mystery; revel in their rich diversity from the Firth of Clyde to the Inner and Outer Hebrides and the Northern Isles of Orkney and Shetland. Come and discover these precious island gems.

#### **AILSA CRAIG**

Firth of Clyde Islands

Known as 'Paddy's milestone' due to its location between Belfast and Glasgow, Ailsa Craig is a granite islet formed by a volcanic plug over 500 million years ago. Uninhabited and home to a large gannet breeding colony, Ailsa Craig is famed for blue hone granite used for curling stones.

Please see page 94.

#### **ARRAN**

Firth of Clyde Islands

Influenced by the mild North Atlantic Drift, Arran is a wildlife haven rising to high peaks, including four Corbetts. At the foot of the highest, Goatfell, nestles 16th century red-sandstone Brodick Castle, close to Brodick town. Fifteen miles (24 km) to the north, the 14th century ruined castle of Lochranza was once a royal hunting lodge.

Please see pages 24, 92, 94, 96.

#### **BARRA**

Outer Hebrides

Named after a 6th century saint and world-famous for its unique beach airport, Traigh Mòr, Barra is a beautiful, tranquil island with a fascinating history. Golden beaches backed by sandy, wild flower-dotted machair surround a more rugged interior. The main centre is the once prosperous herring port of Castlebay, where the Macneil's medieval fortress, Kisimul Castle, perches on a rocky outcrop offshore.

Please see pages 44, 48, 60, 62, 80, 82.

# BERNERAY, MINGULAY AND PABBAY

Bishop's Isles, Outer Hebrides

At the south tip of the Hebrides, these three uninhabited Bishop's Isles, swathed in white sandy beaches and flower-scattered machair, are awe-inspiring from the sea.

Please see pages 60, 62, 82.

#### **BUTE**

Firth of Clyde Islands

Crossed by the Highland Boundary Fault, Bute is an isle of distinctly contrasting landscapes from the bare, rounded and craggy uplands of the north to the lower, undulating and fertile south. Golden beaches fringe the west coast, many with views over the sound towards Arran. The Victorian resort of Rothesay is the only town

Please see pages 24, 28, 30, 90, 92, 94, 96.

#### **CANNA, SMALL ISLES**

Inner Hebrides

Joined to Sanday by a causeway, secluded Canna lies less than 5 miles (8 km) off Rum. Dubbed the 'Garden of the Hebrides', this elongated, green and grassy isle is capped by magnetic Compass Hill at 458 feet (140 m) in the north. Canna was one of the earliest Christian settlements, associated with St Columba, who was later adopted as its patron saint.

Please see pages 46, 60, 62, 72, 84.

#### COLL

Inner Hebrides

The rocky, wild and virtually treeless island of Coll was first settled in the Stone Age. Dotted with ruined cottages, this bird haven is picturesquely clad in flower-dotted machair, fringed by silver-white beaches, and offers refreshing bike rides and walks. Lying four miles west of Mull, Coll measures 13 miles in length and four miles across at its widest point. Arinagour is the main village which is home to half of the island's population.

Please see pages 74, 82.

#### **COLONSAY**

Inner Hebrides

Colonsay is located eight miles from Jura's north coast and the same distance from the west coast of Jura. Scalasaig is the main settlement. Another bird haven, home to some 200 bird species including the elusive corncrake, and 400 species of flora, Colonsay is a landscape of many contrasts from machair to woods, moors to green fields and rocky to sandy cliff-backed shores. Its finest beach is dramatic Kiloran Bay and inland lie the exotic woodland gardens of Colonsay House.

Please see pages 32, 34, 40, 80, 86.



#### **CUMBRAES**

Firth of Clyde Islands

The contrasting Cumbraes afford fine views to the mainland, Arran and Bute. Green and undulating Great Cumbrae is home to the only town at Millport, elegantly lining Millport Bay. Here the tiny but beautiful Cathedral of the Isles, regarded as Britain's smallest cathedral, seats only 100 worshippers. Rough and rocky Little Cumbrae, held by the Hunters and later by the Montgomeries, was maintained as a royal hunting forest. Its surviving ruins include the castle demolished by Oliver Cromwell's army in 1650 and a small chapel dedicated to St Beya.

Please see pages 24, 26, 28, 92, 94, 96.

#### EIGG, SMALL ISLES

Inner Hebrides

Bought out by its islanders in 1997, Eigg has been settled since prehistoric times and was once the seat of the Lord of the Isles. Its rich past is marked by Iron Age forts, a 6th century church, Viking burial mounds and a graveyard that is a moving testament to the 395 MacDonalds massacred in a cave by the MacLeods in 1577. Rising sheer above the plateau of this wildlife reserve, columnar pitchstone An Sgùrr adds magic and mystery.

Please see pages 38, 60, 72, 82, 84.

#### EILEAN BÀN

Inner Hebrides

Situated between Kyleakin on the Isle of Skye and Kyle of Lochalsh on mainland Scotland, Eilean Bàn ('White Island') is a sixacre nature haven nestling below the Skye road bridge that spans the island. Originally home just to the lighthouse keepers and their families, it later became the residence of the author and naturalist, Gavin Maxwell of Ring of Brightwater fame. Eilean Bàn supports a wealth of wildlife and natural heritage of both local and national importance.

Please see page 50.

#### **ERISKAY**

**Outer Hebrides** 

The reputation of the tiny, hilly yet well-populated isle of Eriskay extends far beyond its shores. Home to a rare pony breed, once used in the mines, it was here that Bonnie Prince Charlie first stepped onto Scottish soil in 1745. Eriskay is also famed as the site of the sinking of the SS Politician offshore in 1941, which inspired Compton MacKenzie's novel and the 1949 film, 'Whisky Galore'.

Please see page 62

#### FAIR ISLE, SHETLAND

Northern Isles

Fair Isle's landscape of high red-sandstone cliffs descends to a low coastline in the south. Archaeological sites bear witness to its occupation since the Bronze Age. An important watch-point for migrating birds, Fair Isle has been the site of a permanent observatory since 1948. The island is also synonymous with its unique geometric knitting, of possible Spanish or Scandinavian origin.

Please see pages 50, 52, 54.

#### FETLAR, SHELAND

Northern Isles

Fetlar is the fourth largest of the Shetland Islands, which lies South of Unst and to the East of Yell, and together the three islands make up the "North Isles" of Shetland. Fetlar is known as the "Garden of Shetland" due to it being by far the greenest of all the islands and its name is reputed to originate from the Viking term "Fat Land", further strengthening the island's claim to be a fertile area suitable for crops. The island also is home to a diverse range of flora, fauna and wildlife, and around two thirds of the island is designated in some form, whether as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSi), a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or as an RSPB Bird Reserve

Please see page 50.

#### **GIGHA**

Inner Hebrides

Three miles (4.8km) west of Kintyre, green and fertile Gigha, 'God's' or 'Good Island' is now owned by its community. In addition to dairy farming, goats are reared to produce a distinctive, fruit-shaped cheese - one of the island's main exports. Ardminish is the only village and site of Achamore House set in 50 acre (20 ha) gardens planted by Sir James Horlick.

Please see pages 40, 78, 80.

#### HANDA

Inner Hebrides

This small, rocky isle sits across the Sound of Handa from the wildly beautiful west coast of Sutherland. Magnificent, horizontally stratified rocks of Torridonian sandstone to the north-west, weathered through time into ledges, form a perfect habitat for nesting seabirds, making Handa one of the largest colonies in north-western Europe.

Please see pages 50, 56.

#### **HARRIS**

Outer Hebrides

Historically and geographically apart from Lewis, Harris is a small region of many contrasts, offering wonderful walks and the beauty of Luskentyre beach on its sandy western shores. Rodel boasts the finest Pre-Reformation church in the Western Isles and the Harris tweeds produced here are world-famous

Please see pages 46, 58, 62, 76, 82.



#### **HOLY ISLE**

Firth of Clyde Islands

Located across Lamlash Bay, Holy Isle has a long history as a sacred site; a spring or Holy Well held to have healing properties, the hermit cave of 6th century monk Saint Molaise and evidence of a 13th century monastery can be found here and there is evidence of some runic writing on the roof of the cave of Saint Molaise.

Please see pages 24, 94.

#### HOY

Northern Isles

Synonymous with the world-famous sea stack the Old Man of Hoy, Orkney's second largest island rises dramatically from the sea. Hoy is rightly famous for its birdlife. 10,000 acres of moorland and dramatic sea cliffs form an RSPB Nature Reserve which attracts large numbers of migrating and resident birds, including the much loved Puffin.

Please see page 54.

#### IONA

Inner Hebrides

The exiled Irish prince and missionary St Columba reached Iona in 563 to found his community, landing at pebbled St Columba's Bay in the south, as the legend goes. Originally dating from the 12th century, the restored abbey remains a much-revered place of pilgrimage.

Please see pages 32, 74, 76.

#### **ISLAY**

Inner Hebrides

Erstwhile seat of the MacDonalds, Lords of the Isles, mild Islay is renowned for the peaty single malts of its eight operating distilleries. Islay abounds in birdlife at the RSPB Loch Gruinart Nature Reserve, hub of a barnacle geese colony and historic treasures from the 18th century round church at Bowmore to the late 9th century High Cross of Kildalton.

Please see pages 40, 64, 78, 80.

#### **ISLE MARTIN**

Summer Isles

Uninhabited Isle Martin is the closest of the Summer Isles to Ullapool and is owned by the communities of Lochbroom and Coigach. The island has been the site of a monastery, a herring curing station and a flour mill. St. Martin, after whom the island is named, is reputed to have established a monastery on the island around 300-400 AD. Agriculture and fishing have been the mainstays of the island economy for most of its history.

Please see page 46.

#### **JURA**

Inner Hebrides

Crowned by the landmark Paps, Jura is a place of wild beauty offering a haven to a wide range of wildlife, including some 6,500 red deer. Glaciated raised beaches are a marked feature of its western shores, with the treacherous Corryvreckan Whirlpool to the north. Jura has one tiny village of 200 residents, Craighouse, where the small Jura Distillery has produced a unique single malt since 1810.

Please see pages 30, 32, 40, 70, 80, 90.

#### **KERRERA**

Inner Hebrides

Tiny Kerrera tranquilly guards the entrance to Oban from its two sheltered harbours at Ardentrive Bay and Horse Shoe Bay. Historically a stepping-stone for cattle drovers between Mull and the mainland, this fertile and hilly isle is crowned by the Renaissance MacDougall stronghold of Gylen Castle.

Please see page 30, 84.

#### **LEWIS**

Outer Hebrides

Lewis is the largest and most northerly of the Hebrides, forming one island with Harris. Most of its wild landscape, rising to 1,800 feet (549 m) in the south, is cloaked in peat bog - hence its Gaelic name 'Leodhas', meaning 'marshy'. The Callanish Standing Stones and well-preserved Carloway Broch stand testament to its occupation since prehistoric times. The port of Stornoway is the only town.

Please see pages 44, 48, 60, 62, 76.

#### LUNGA, TRESHNISH ISLES

Inner Hebrides

Designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest, Lunga is rich in plant life with many rare and endangered species native to the island. Described as a 'green jewel in a peacock sea' Lunga was inhabited until 1857 and the remains of the ruined village and its blackhouses can still be seen today.

Please see page 44.

#### MOUSA

Shetland

Mousa ("Mossy Island" in Old Norse) is an RSPB Nature Reserve with important breeding colonies of seals and seabirds including storm petrel. There are many opportunities for visitors to observe a wide range of fauna and flora including some quite rare species. The island has a rich history to experience with its archaeological sites, desolate ruins and most famously the Mousa Broch - the best preserved Iron Age tower in existence, where the visitor can still climb the staircase to marvel at the commanding view and workmanship of this 2000 year-old building.

Please see page 52.

#### MUCK, SMALL ISLES

Inner Hebrides

The flat and fertile Isle of Muck, scattered with wild flowers and rimmed by silver shell-sand beaches, is a peaceful haven for puffin, kittiwake, fulmar, shearwater, seaeagle and the porpoises that swim off its shores. Port Mòr is the only village, where the tearoom and craft shop serves delicious home baking.

Please see pages 46,58.



#### MULL

Inner Hebrides

Fringed by an indented 300 miles (480 km) coastline, Mull is an island of sweeping moors broken occasionally by picturesque clearings. Colourful Georgian-fronted Tobermory is the capital and Craignure the main port, south-east of which lies the ancient Duart Castle, seat of the Macleans.

Please see pages 32, 34, 40, 42, 44, 56, 58, 74, 77, 78, 86.

#### ORKNEY, MAINLAND

Northern Isles

Home to the burgh of Kirkwall, the Orcadian capital, and more recent Stromness, dating from the 16th century, Mainland is the most densley populated of the Orcadian isles. Its fertile soil attracted settlers from prehisoric times, as witnessed by the UNESCO World Heritage Neolithic Heart of Orkney, and later Pictish remains. As with the whole of the archipelago, the influence of the Norsemen was strong.

Please see pages 50, 52, 54, 56.

# PAPA WESTRAY AND WESTRAY, ORKNEY

Northern Isles

Westray, affectionately known as the 'Queen o' the Isles', is a thriving community of 600 islanders. The island's rich archaeological heritage is etched across its landscape. The high sea cliffs at the RSPB reserve at Noup Head identify one of the most important seabird sites in the UK. At Papa Westray step back in time and encounter the oldest house in Northern Europe, The Knap of Howar, a Neolithic farmstead which predates the Pyramids by over 1,200 years.

Please see pages 52, 54.

#### **RAASAY**

Inner Hebrides

Located between Skye and the mainland, Raasay, 'Isle of the Roe Deer', is relatively low-lying in the north and mountainous in the south, rising to 1,453 feet (443 m) on central Dun Caan. Visited by Boswell and Johnson in 1773, the island is most famous as the birthplace of Scottish Renaissance poet Sorley Maclean. The main village is Inverarish.

Please see pages 60, 84.

#### **ROUSAY**

Orkney

Rousay, known as The Egypt of the North, is a treasure trove of ancient archaeological sites, with more than 160 located on this unique island. Steeped in natural beauty, Rousay is home to some stunning wildlife, including several rare breeds of bird. Together with its amazing scenery, and the vast number, and exceptional quality of historical sites, this makes the island of Rousay a fascinating destination.

Please see page 50.

#### **RUM, SMALL ISLES**

Inner Hebrides

Capped by Askival (2,664 ft/812 m) in the rocky Cuillin, the wildlife haven of Rum is a National Nature Reserve and research centre. Owned by Scottish Natural Heritage since 1957, it was bought by the Lancashire industrialist John Bullough in 1879. At the turn of the 20th century, his playboy son, Sir George built the folly of Kinloch Castle, which remains a time-capsule of those headier Edwardian days.

Please see pages 34, 44, 50, 58, 86.

#### **SANDA**

Firth of Clyde Islands

Sanda, 'Sandaigh' in Gaelic, is a small, privately-owned island off the southern tip of the Kintyre Peninsula. An important bird migration and breeding point, it is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), housing the first bird observatory on the west coast of Scotland. Although the island is treeless today, north-western Wood Hill indicates that this was not always so.

Please see page 28.

#### SANDAY, ORKNEY

Northern Isles

One of the most northerly and third largest of the Orkney isles, fertile Sanday, named after its sandy shores, has been settled for some 5,000 years, as its prehistoric brochs and cairns attest. North Loch is home to a Site of Special Scientific Interest, the habitat of rare orchids, and the island's birdlife is prolific. The main settlements are Lady Village and Kettletoft.

Please see page 52.

#### SHETLAND, MAINLAND

Northern Isles

Home to Shetland's only burgh of Lerwick, Mainland is the third-largest of the Scottish Islands. The long peninsula of South Mainland, south of Lerwick, consists mainly of mixed farmland and moorland with many important archaeological sites, including Sumburgh and Scalloway. Blessed with varied scenery ranging from the charming to the wildly dramatic, the island is a paradise for birds and wildlife from otters to orcas

Please see pages 50, 52, 54.



#### SHIANT ISLES

Outer Hebrides

Privately owned by the Nicolson family since 1937, the Shiant Isles are geologically outliers of Skye, ringed by basalt rocks, reminiscent of Staffa and the Giant's Causeway, that teem with thousands of seabirds. Mythically haunted by kelpies, the isles are a renowned wildlife haven for common seals, basking sharks, puffin, herring gull, oyster catcher, eider, shag and many more.

Please see pages 44, 46, 58, 62.

#### **SKYE**

Inner Hebrides

The largest of the Inner Hebrides, Skye was connected to mainland Scotland by the Skye Bridge in 1996. Created volcanically some 60 million years ago, its awe-inspiring landscapes are a paradise for walkers and climbers. Bizarre rock formations punctuate The Quiraing, with the Old Man of Storr, Trotternish to the northeast and Vaternish to the north-west. The island has a rich history covering the Highland Clearances, the Jacobite Rebellion and Clan Warfare. Skye is home to both Clan Macdonald and Clan MacLeod who have their clan castles on the island.

Please see pages 34, 38, 42, 44, 46, 58, 62, 72, 82, 84, 86.

#### ST KILDA

Outer Hebrides

The last 36 Gaelic-speaking residents of St Kilda evacuated the main island of Hirta at their own request in 1930, thereby ending some 5,000 years of continuous settlement. Behind them they left a deserted village that survives today as an outdoor museum, roamed by Soay sheep. Renowned for its awe-inspiring bird cliffs and stacs, St Kilda's remote and exposed Atlantic location makes visits weather-dependent. The archipelago is now a double UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Please see pages 44, 48, 60.

#### **STAFFA**

Inner Hebrides

Staffa, named 'Stave' or 'Pillar Island' by the Vikings, lying 6 miles (10 km) west of Mull, was formed volcanically at the same time as the Giant's Causeway, cooling into mainly hexagonal black basalt columns. Cliffs rising to 131 feet (40 m) are riddled with caves, the most famous of which is Fingal's Cave at Staffa's southern tip, named after legendary Irish hero, Finn MacCool.

Please see page 74.

#### **TIREE**

Inner Hebrides

Enjoying long hours of sunshine, mild, fertile Tiree is the most westerly of the Inner Hebrides. This wild flower and birdlife haven, with shell-sand blown machair and surf-washed beaches, is much favoured by artists for its natural beauty and colour. Duns and brochs bear witness to its ancient history, while the white Thatched House Museum in Sandaig reveals its more recent crofting past. Housed in the old signal room at Hynish is the Skerryvore Lighthouse exhibition which tells the fascinating story of the hazardous construction of Scotland's tallest lighthouse.

Please see pages 32, 74, 76, 80.

#### THE UISTS

Outer Hebrides

North and South Uist are linked by causeways running via Benbecula and Grimsay. A paradise for walkers, these tranquil islands abound in geological and historical contrasts. The low-lying bird-haven of North Uist, scattered with greenblue lochans, is Norse and Protestant by tradition, and a world apart from the Catholic and Gaelic stronghold of South Uist. The second-largest of the Outer Isles, South Uist's softer, undulating landscape is carpeted in flower-decked machair and fringed by dunes.

Please see pages 44, 62, 72, 76, 78, 80, 82.

#### **ULVA**

Inner Hebrides

Situated off Mull, the tiny isle of Ulva is a traffic-free haven covering barely 2 square miles (5 km²) and home to only 16 permanent residents. One of the most ancient settlements in the Western Isles and erstwhile seat of Clan MacQuarrie, the island is now privately owned by the Howard family. Ulva's past is well documented at Sheila's Cottage Museum on the west coast. The island is separated from Mull by a narrow strait and connected to neighbouring Gometra by a bridge.

Please see page 74.

#### **UNST, SHETLAND**

Northern Isles

Britain's most northerly island has a landscape more varied than most in Shetland due to its unusual geology. This stunningly beautiful and varied landscape supports a rich variety of wildlife, as well as purebred Shetland sheep and ponies which roam the common grazing land. Large colonies of breeding seabirds inhabit the impressive cliffs at Hermaness National Nature Reserve. The Unst Boat Haven is dedicated to the history of the islands' distinctive wooden boats.

Please see pages 50, 54.

#### **VATERSAY**

Outer Hebrides

The most southerly inhabited island of the Outer Hebrides, Vatersay is one of the most scenic and beautiful in the archipelago with vast white sandy beaches and turquoise waters. It is now linked to Barra by a causeway which was completed in 1991, the island is home to some of the largest colonies of seabirds including razorbill, gannet, guillemot, and puffin.

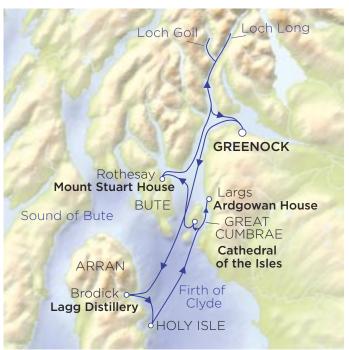
Please see pages 48, 62, 80.



# CLYDE COAST SAMPLER

#### **Greenock to Greenock**

Friday 1st March to Tuesday 5th March 2024 4 nights including 1 Gala Dinner



As the last days of winter slowly turn to spring at the start of the 2024 season, join us to sail the beautiful Clyde Coast. En route, visit stately mansions, an island distillery and other gems of this magical region from the warm comfort of the delightfully small *Hebridean Princess*.

Ashore on Arran, a tour of the new distillery at Lagg will add more understanding to your appreciation of peated malt. Here, they are working to bring a contemporary style to traditional methods of producing peated whisky.



Experience the peaceful seclusion of Holy Isle, where St Molaise sought refuge as a hermit and now a Buddhist retreat, before enjoying the Palladian style of Ardgowan House, a Georgian gem designed by George Cairncross who was assistant to Robert Adam at Culzean.

Head to Great Cumbrae where we visit Millport and find the Cathedral of the Isles which seats only 100 worshippers. Contrast the Victorian Neo-Gothic mansion of Mount Stuart House, extravagantly built by the 3rd Marquess of Bute and never fully completed.

Our finale is a relaxing sail of tranquil Loch Long and Loch Goil, sketched by renowned artist JMW Turner in 1831, a picturesque conclusion to our voyage.

#### Travel Plan - 4 nights

Friday 1st March

Greenock - Embarkation.

Saturday 2nd March

Brodick, Arran - Lagg Distillery. Holy Isle - Walks ashore.

Sunday 3rd March

Largs - Ardgowan House. Great Cumbrae - Cathedral of the Isles.

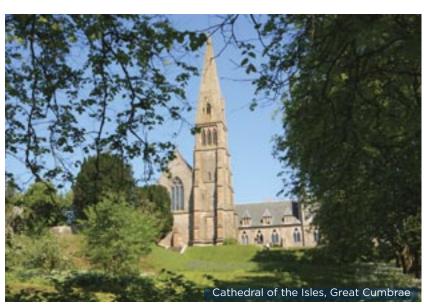
Monday 4th March

Rothseay, Bute - Mount Stuart. Cruise Loch Long and Loch Goil.

Tuesday 5th March

Greenock - Disembarkation.

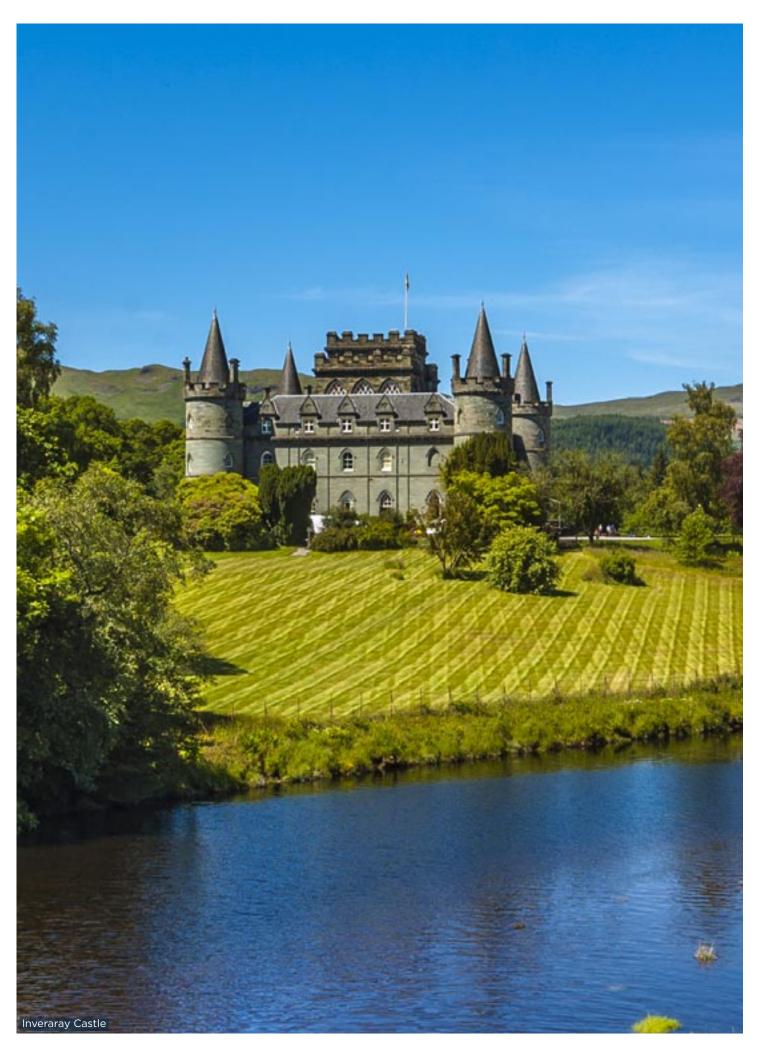




#### Hebridean Highlights

- Lagg Distillery
- Holy Isle
- Cathedral of the Isles
- Ardgowan House
- Mount Stuart House





# JEWELS OF THE CLYDE

#### **Greenock to Greenock**

Tuesday 5th to Tuesday 12th March 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Scotland is a unique treasury of priceless architectural gems, spanning a long and often turbulent history against haunting landscapes that evoke history and romance. We explore some of the Clyde's most ancient castles and historic houses, all from the elegance of *Hebridean Princess*.

Enjoy a private tour of Finlaystone House, seat of the Clan MacMillan for over 160 years and home to the MacMillan family and current clan chief who extend a warm welcome. Tarbert, at the mouth of Loch Fyne, is overlooked by the ruins of Robert the Bruce's castle which guards the entrance to the harbour.

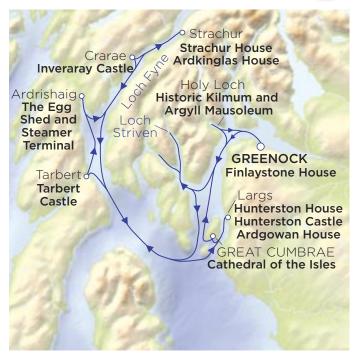
At the pretty village of Ardrishaig, we learn of local heritage and maritime history at the new community hub, the Egg Shed. Onwards to Crarae on the shores of Loch Fyne, where the magnificent baronial Inverary Castle is the fairytale home to the Duke and Duchess of Argyll.

At the head of the loch we go ashore at Strachur to enjoy a private visit to the home of Sir Charles and Lady McLean, Strachur House, before venturing to Ardkinglas House, completed in 1907 for Sir Andrew Noble, great grandfather of John Noble, founder of Loch Fyne Oysters.

We tour Hunterston Castle, seat of the Clan Hunter. The 13th century tower house was replaced in 1799 by Hunterston House. The sumptuous Palladian style Ardgowan House has been held by the Shaw Stewart family since the early 15th century.

On Great Cumbrae, the tiny Cathedral of the Isles offers a moment of quiet contemplation ahead of our final port of call, Holy Loch Marina where Kilmun Church and the Argyll Mausoleum have been the final resting place of Clan Campbell Chiefs since the 15th century.





#### Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 5th March

Greenock - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 6th March

Greenock - Finlaystone House. Cruise East Kyle and Loch Striven.

#### Thursday 7th March

Tarbert, Loch Fyne - Ruined castle and walks. Ardrishaig - The Egg Shed and steamer terminal.

#### Friday 8th March

Crarae - Inverary Castle - Private apartments. Strachur - Strachur House.

#### Saturday 9th March

Strachur - Ardkinglas House.

Cruise Loch Fyne.

#### Sunday 10th March

Largs - Hunterston Castle and Hunterston House.

Largs - Ardgowan House.

#### Monday 11th March

Great Cumbrae - Cathedral of the Isles.

Holy Loch - Historic Kilmun.

#### Tuesday 12th March

Greenock - Disembarkation.



#### Hebridean Highlights

- Inveraray Castle
- Strachur House
- Ardkinglas House
- Hunsterston Castle and Hunsterston House
- Finlaystone House

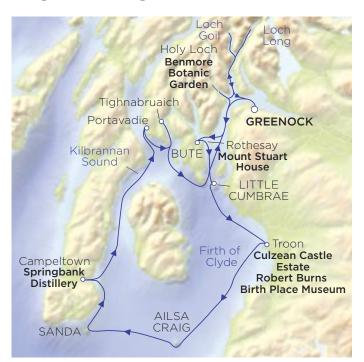


## DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY CRUISE



#### **Greenock to Greenock**

Tuesday 12th to Tuesday 19th March 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



On the 12th March 1964, *MV Columba* was launched at the Hall and Russell yard in Aberdeen, by Lady Craigton, and was relaunched as *Hebridean Princess* in 1989. Join her Diamond Anniversary celebrations as she explores the lochs and isles of the Firth of Clyde and the highlights of the Kintyre peninsula.

Steaming to the Victorian town of Rothesay, we tour the flamboyant Neo-Gothic Mount Stuart House, testament to the 3rd Marquess of Bute. Known locally as 'wee Cumbrae', Little Cumbrae plays host to tranquil walks ashore. Rough and rocky, Little Cumbrae bears more of a resemblance to a Hebridean island than to some of its neighbours in the Clyde.



South to Troon where coastal Culzean Castle Estate awaits; grandiosely transformed in the 1770's by the great Robert Adam and restored by the National Trust for Scotland. Visit the humble cottage where Robert Burns was born and spent the first years of his life and explore the museum which houses more than 5,000 Burns artefacts including his handwritten manuscripts – a celebration of the enduring legacy of Scotland's national poet.

After a circumnavigation of the granite islet of Ailsa Craig, we land on Sanda, a picturesque, privately owned island of 400 acres, rich in history. Venturing ashore on the Kintyre Peninsula, Campbeltown has been home to Springbank Distillery since 1828. Here, we discover each step of the whisky making process and taste a wee dram before sailing the Kilbrannan Sound.

On opposite sides of the Cowal Peninsula, Portavadie and Tighnabruaich offer stunning vistas and a chance to stretch your legs ahead of our visit to Benmore Botanic Garden in its magnificent mountainside setting. We reflect on our adventures as we enjoy a scenic sail of Loch Long and Loch Goil.

#### Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 12th March

Greenock - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 13th March

Rothseay, Bute - Mount Stuart House. Little Cumbrae - Walks ashore.

#### Thursday 14th March

Troon - Culzean Castle Estate.

Troon - Robert Burns Birth Place Museum.

#### Friday 15th March

Circumnavigate Ailsa Craig. Sanda Island - Walks ashore.

#### Saturday 16th March

Campbeltown - Springbank Distillery. Cruise Kilbrannan Sound.

#### Sunday 17th March

Portavadie - walks ashore. Tighnabruaich - View point.

#### Monday 18th March

Holy Loch -Benmore Botanic Garden. Cruise Loch Long and Loch Goil.

#### Tuesday 19th March

Greenock - Disembarkation.





#### Hebridean Highlights

- Little Cumbrae
- Culzean Castle
- Robert Burns Birthplace Museum
- Springbank Distillery
- Benmore Botanic Garden





### TREASURES OF ARGYLL AND BUTE



#### Greenock to Oban

Tuesday 19th to Tuesday 26th March 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Scotland has a rich heritage of art and culture and today the traditional and the contemporary all have their place in the fabric of the country. Visit some of the nation's most renowned art galleries and collections, and appreciate the work of Scottish architects and designers whose work and legacy have left beautiful and lasting marks on the landscape.

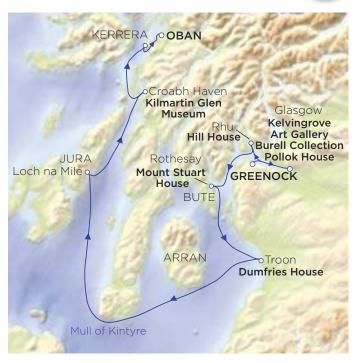
After navigating the narrow channel of the Upper Clyde, rich in shipbuilding history, we travel to Kelvingrove Gallery and Museum which houses one of Europe's finest art collections, boasting an extensive collection of over 8,000 objects.

We discover a staggering 9,000 objects which form the newly refurbished Burrell Collection. This magnificent collection is one of Europe's most beautiful museums. Neighbouring Pollok House is grand country house in the heart of Glasgow with an impressive collection of Spanish art, as well as works by Raeburn and Guthrie.

The architectural masterpiece of Hill House turns art into a home. Be inspired by the unique building, interiors and collection designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh and Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh in the 'Glasgow style', before we wonder at the flamboyant Victorian neo-Gothic mansion of Mount Stuart House.

Enter an 18th century time-capsule at Dumfries House, built for the 3rd Earl by brothers John and Robert Adam, and inherited in 1803 by John Stuart, Marquess of Bute. Here we have the full day to discover this architectural gem and enjoy lunch, before rounding the Mull of Kintyre to explore the wilderness isle of Jura where deer outnumber people.

Explore Kilmartin Glen, an area rich in prehistoric treasures with over 800 monuments which date back over 5,000 years. We land on tiny Kerrera en route to our home port of Oban.



#### Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 19th March

Greenock - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 20th March

Cruise Upper Clyde.

Glasgow - Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum.

#### Thursday 21st March

Glasgow - Burrell Collection.

Glasgow - Pollok House.

#### Friday 22nd March

Rhu - Hill House.

Rothesay, Bute - Mount Stuart House.

#### Saturday 23rd March

Troon - Full day at Dumfries House with lunch.

#### Sunday 24th March

Cruise the Mull of Kintyre.

Loch na Mile, Jura - Walks ashore.

#### Monday 25th March

Croabh Haven - Kilmartin Glen Museum.

Kerrera - Walks ashore.

#### Tuesday 26th March

Oban - Disembarkation.

This cruise starts and ends in different ports. Please refer to page 108-109 for travel options.



# Arts Society Accredited Lecturer Elaine Hansen

Elaine Hansen has a Master's degree in Education and taught for twenty-seven years. She now splits her year between Italy and Scotland. After taking early retirement she was free to pursue her passion, Art History, which she studied at the universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde. She became a guide at Kelvingrove Art Gallery, Glasgow in 2009 and gives lectures to her fellow guides. In 2018 she was awarded accreditation as a lecturer for the Arts Society UK and since then has been in demand for lectures delivered in the UK, in Europe and on cruises in the Mediterranean and in Scotland.





# EASTER ESCAPE

#### Oban to Oban

Tuesday 26th March to Tuesday 2nd April 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



Few experiences can compare with the unique atmosphere of Easter Sunday at Scotland's spiritual heartland of Iona, which contrasts with the breathtaking drama of Glencoe and its tragic past. Succumb to the eternal appeal of the remote and beautiful Highlands and Islands, and delightful spring gardens on this enthralling and thought-provoking cruise.

At Ballachulish, enjoy the majesty that is Glen Coe while learning about its tragic history. Discover the story of Bonnie Prince Charlie and the 1745 Jacobite Rising at Glenfinnan, where the moving tribute to those who died fighting for the cause is framed by dramatic Highland scenery.

Explore Kingairloch, a 14,000-acre highland estate, located in an unspoilt area of beauty, ahead of a guided tour of the ancient seat of Clan Maclean, Duart Castle. The position of Duart was well chosen, sited on a high crag jutting out into the Sound of Mull.





# Hebridean Highlights

- Glenfinnan Monument
- Kingairloch Estate
- Resipole Studios
- Iona Abbey
- Colonsay House Gardens



Resipole Studios is an award-winning fine art gallery located on the edge of Loch Sunart, showcasing contemporary Scottish painters and international artists. Enjoy free time in the colourful harbour town of Tobermory on foot, or perhaps by bicycle.

Hynish village on Tiree was built to house the workers whilst they constructed the outlying Skerryvore Lighthouse and now houses a museum telling the story of the lighthouse and the famous Stevensons who designed it.

On Mull, the hidden gem of Lip na Cloiche Garden is waiting to be discovered, before unwinding in the spiritual calm of Iona Abbey with the opportunity to join the Easter Sunday service where St Columba began his mission in 563.

Colonsay House woodland gardens are considered to have one of the finest rhododendron collections in Scotland and were planted mainly in the 1930's with many exotic species. Our final ports of call are Craighouse on Jura, and an amble along the peaceful towpath of the Crinan Canal or visit the renowned local gallery.

# Travel Plan - 7 nights

# Tuesday 26th March

Oban - Embarkation.

# Wednesday 27th March

Ballachulish - Glencoe. Fort William - Glenfinnan Monument.

#### Thursday 28th March

Loch à Choire - Kingairloch Estate. Craignure, Mull - Duart Castle.

#### Friday 29th March

Loch Sunart - Resipole Fine Art Gallery. Tobermory, Mull - Walks ashore.

#### Saturday 30th March

Hynish, Tiree - Skerryvore Lighthouse Museum. Ulva Ferry, Mull - Lip na Cloiche Garden.

# Sunday 31st March

Iona - Iona Abbey.

Colonsay - Colonsay House Gardens.

#### Monday 1st April

Loch na Mile, Jura - Craighouse.

Crinan - Towpath walks/Crinan Gallery.

# Tuesday 2nd April

Oban - Disembarkation.

# FLAVOURS OF THE HEBRIDES



## Oban to Oban

Tuesday 2nd to Tuesday 9th April 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

This cruise also departs on 8th October 2024

Scotland is rightly proud of its reputation for its wonderful natural larder and those who produce mouth-watering creations. Join *Hebridean Princess*, on this gastronomic voyage, as we explore the wonderful culinary offerings of the Highlands and Islands.

On Colonsay, we meet the man who supplies *Hebridean Princess* with oysters and learn about his other passion - honey and the native black bees he keeps. We sample his wares ahead of a cruise of the Small Isles which highlights their diversity.

At Armadale we learn of Clan Donald history and heritage at the Museum of the Isles and sample highland hospitality with lunch at Kinloch Lodge, a jewel nestled on the hills of Skye. A gentle stroll ashore at Shieldaig creates an appetite for lunch at the fine dining restaurant at the Torridon Hotel before relaxing on board as we relish a scenic sail of stunning Loch Torridon and the east coast of Skye.

Steaming into Loch Dunvegan we visit the oldest continually inhabited castle in Scotland, Dunvegan Castle, and savour lunch at the world renowned Three Chimneys Restaurant. Step ashore on the wildlife haven of Rum for refreshing walks and enjoy a drink at the most remote pub on the British mainland, the Old Forge at Inverie.

Tour Scotland's greenest distillery, Ardnamurchan, and travel to Isle of Mull Cheese, the only dairy farm on the island, to learn how the local cheeses are made by hand. Our culinary adventure concludes with a champagne reception at Duart Castle, hosted by Sir Lachlan Maclean, Chieftain of Clan Maclean.



# Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 2nd April

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 3rd April

Cruise the Firth of Lorne. Colonsay - Oysters and honey.

#### Thursday 4th April

Cruise Small Isles

Armadale, Skye - Clan Donald Centre, lunch at Kinloch Lodge.

#### Friday 5th April

Shieldaig - Walks ashore, lunch at the Torridon Hotel.

Shieldaig - Cruise Loch Torridon and the east coast of Skye.

### Saturday 6th April

Dunvegan, Skye - Dunvegan Castle, lunch at the Three

Chimneys Restaurant.

Cruise the west coast of Skye.

#### Sunday 7th April

Rum - Walks ashore.

Inverie - Old Forge Pub.

# Monday 8th April

Glenmore Bay - Ardnamurchan Distillery.

Tobermory, Mull - Isle of Mull Cheese.

Craignure, Mull - Duart Castle, Champagne reception.

#### Tuesday 9th April

Oban - Disembarkation.



- Kinloch Lodge Lunch
- Torridon Hotel Lunch
- Three Chimneys Restaurant Lunch
- Ardnamurchan Distillery
- Duart Castle Champagne Reception







# SPRINGTIME SURPRISE

# Oban to Oban

Tuesday 9th to Tuesday 16th April 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



Embark on a voyage into the unknown and join us on our Springtime Surprise where only the Captain knows our course.

As spring awakens, discover the hidden treasures, magic and mystery of Scotland's West Coast and the remote and wildly beautiful Hebridean islands. The Captain will take you to some favourite destinations, revealing the itinerary on a day to day basis.

Although the itinerary is unknown, the high level of comfort and service on board *Hebridean Princess* is always assured.





Please refer to the 2024 Cruise Diary and Tariff for prices •

# SECRETS OF THE SCENIC NORTH WEST

# Oban to Oban

Tuesday 16th to Tuesday 23rd April 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



Join *Hebridean Princess* as she ventures north to remote Wester Ross, visiting ancient castles, colourful gardens and rugged landscapes. Discover a different pace of life as we explore untouched coasts, fascinating history and ancient lands of contrasting cultures.

After cruising the Small Isles, we make landfall at Armadale and the Clan Donald Centre, home to the Museum of the Isles which depicts 1,500 years of island history. Strategically placed on an island fortified since the 13th century, Eilean Donan Castle was lovingly restored in the 1920's to what we see today.



Started by Baron Schroder in the late 19th century, Attadale Gardens include hill paths meandering through 20 acres of conifers and rhododendrons, along with an impressive collection of sculpture. Cruising north to Gairloch, Osgood Mackenzie's masterpiece of Inverewe Garden awaits; the jewel in the crown of Highland gardens.

Watch the artists and craftspeople at work at Highland Stoneware in Lochinver, where distinctive and unique pottery has been produced since 1974. Each piece is hand-made and individually free-hand painted, so no two pieces are ever the same. Corrieshalloch Gorge is one of the best examples of a box canyon in the UK with the spectacular Falls of Measach at its head.

From Skye's main town of Portree, tour the Trotternish peninsula, home to some of the island's most outstanding rock formations including the Quiraing and the Old Man of Storr. The Small Isle of Eigg plays host to our final foray ashore, and here we stroll in the shadow of the dramatic pitchstone ridge of An Sgùrr. Bought out by its islanders in 1997, Eigg has been settled since prehistoric times and was once the seat of the Lords of the Isles.

# Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 16th April

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 17th April

Armadale, Skye - Armadale Castle and Gardens. Kyle of Lochalsh - Eilean Donan Castle.

#### Thursday 18th April

Kyle of Lochalsh - Attadale Gardens. Cruise Inner Sound.

#### Friday 19th April

Gairloch - Inverewe Garden. Cruise North to Lochinver.

#### Saturday 20th April

Lochinver - Highland Stoneware. Ullapool - Corrieshalloch Gorge.

#### Sunday 21st April

Cruise Loch Broom and Sound of Raasay. Portree, Skye - Tour the Trotternish peninsula.

#### Monday 22nd April

Cruise the Narrows and Kyle Rhea. Eigg - Walks ashore.

#### Tuesday 23rd April

Oban - Disembarkation.





- Eilean Donan Castle
- Attadale Gardens
- Inverewe Garden
- Highland Stoneware
- Trotternish Peninsula tour





# FOOTLOOSE THROUGH THE WESTERN SEABOARD

## Oban to Oban

Tuesday 23rd to Tuesday 30th April 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners





Our first 'Footloose' adventure of the year takes us through the spectacular scenery of the Inner Hebrides and the heart of the Highlands, where the evocative beauty of Glen Coe exudes an air of mystery and poignancy in its historical context. As a walker or a stroller, why not escape with us and discover these mesmeric landscapes.

On Mull, head with the more energetic along the Treshnish Headland, or visit the Clan MacLean's ancient seat of Duart Castle. Explore Kingairloch, a 14,000-acre highland estate, located in an unspoilt area of beauty, with walks and strolls along the shore of Loch à Choire.

Discover the story of Bonnie Prince Charlie and the 1745 Jacobite Rising at Glenfinnan, or enjoy the majesty that is Glencoe on a full day walk; strollers can learn its tragic history at the visitor centre.





# Walking Highlights

- Walks on Mull
- Walks on Kingairloch Estate
- Walks at Glencoe
- Walks on Jura
- Walks on Colonsay



South to Crinan for a full day walk to Tayvallich, or visit the Crinan Hotel's renowned art gallery with exhibtions featuring contemporary Scottish artists. Tayvallich is a pretty fishing village on the shores of Loch Sween, the perfect place for scenic strolls which afford fine views.

Crowned by the landmark Paps, Jura is a place of wild beauty, haven to a wide range of wildlife and home to the tiny village of Craighouse with only 200 residents.

Community owned Gigha is green and fertile, where we can view the colourful and exotic gardens at Achamore House, planted by Sir James Horlick, or pull on your boots and stretch your legs. On Islay, we discover Finlaggan, the historic centre of the Lord of the Isles, and taste a wee dram at Kilchoman Distillery.

Contrast Colonsay's diverse landscapes on our final walk, or tour the idyllic woodland gardens at Colonsay House, designed in the 1930's to complement the natural setting.

# Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 23rd April

Oban - Embarkation.

# Wednesday 24th April

Craignure, Mull - Duart Castle/walks. Loch a' Choire - Kingairloch Estate/walks.

#### Thursday 25th April

Fort William - Glenfinnan Monument/full day walk. Ballachulish - Glencoe Visitor Centre - walkers rejoin ship.

#### Friday 26th April

Crinan - Crinan Gallery/full day walk to Tayvallich. Tayvallich - Strolls ashore/walkers re-join ship.

#### Saturday 27th April

Loch na Mile, Jura - Craighouse/walks. Gigha - Achamore Gardens/walks.

# Sunday 28th April

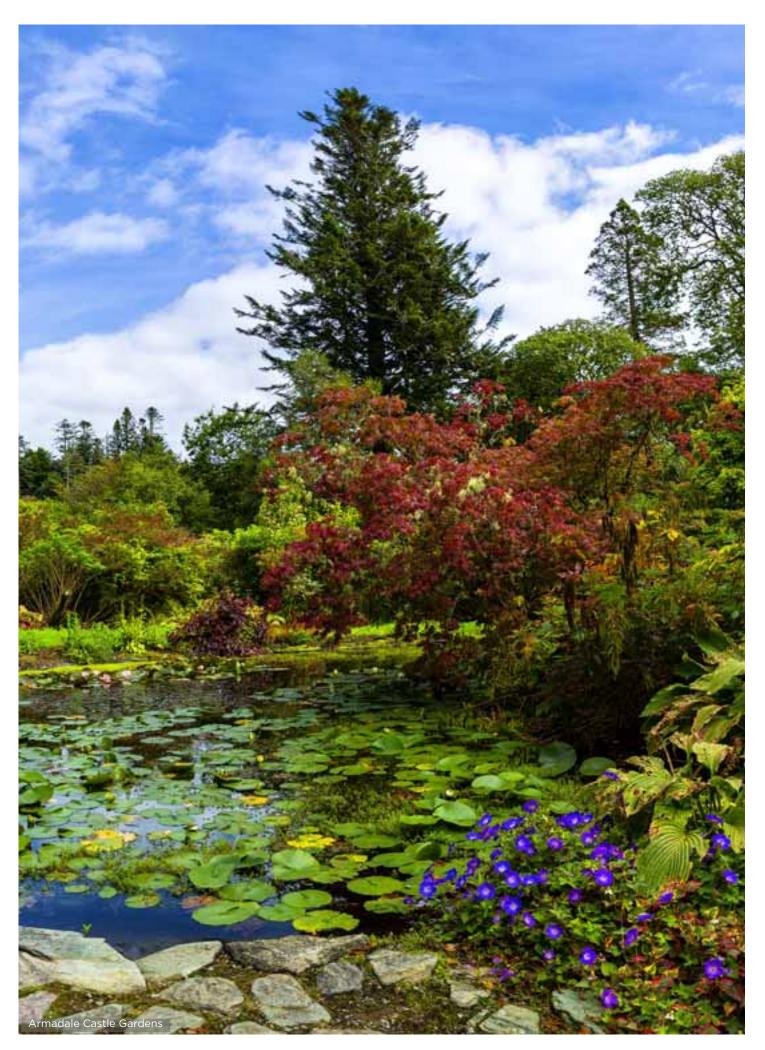
Port Ellen, Islay - Finlaggan/walks. Port Ellen, Islay - Kilchoman Distillery/walks.

#### Monday 29th April

Colonsay - Colonsay House Gardens/walks. Cruise the Firth of Lorn.

# Tuesday 30th April

Oban - Disembarkation.



# SCOTLAND'S SPRING COLOURS



## Oban to Oban

Tuesday 30th April to Tuesday 7th May 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Set sail from Oban, in *Hebridean Princess* style, to experience the blossoming spectacle of some of Scotland's most diverse gardens which showcase vast collections of plants from around the world in spectacular natural settings.

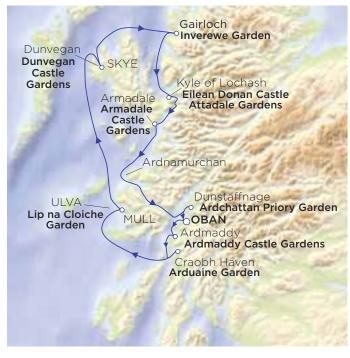
The walled garden at Ardmaddy is shielded by mature woodlands and protected from the Atlantic winds by the elevated castle to the south. Today we can appreciate rhododendrons, azaleas and climbing plants which line the garden walls, before travelling to the 20-acre plantsman's paradise of Arduaine Garden, now in the care of the National Trust for Scotland.

The remote, hidden gem of Lip na Cloiche Garden is situated on a steep hillside on the northwest coast of Mull, with stunning views to the Isle of Ulva, the Treshnish Islands and Ben More. Explore Dunvegan Castle's five acres of formal gardens which began life in the 18th century. In stark contrast to the barren moorland and mountains that dominate Skye's landscape, the gardens are a hidden oasis featuring an eclectic mix of plants.

Steaming north through Kyle Rhea and The Narrows to Gairloch we visit the jewel in the crown of Highland gardens, Sir Osgood Mackenzie's masterpiece, Inverewe. Strategically placed on an island fortified since the 13th century, Eilean Donan Castle was lovingly restored in the 1920's to what we see today.

Discover the skilfully restored Attadale Gardens where 20 acres of conifers and rhododendron contrast with an impressive collection of sculpture, and the historic gardens and woodland trails attractively complementing the romantic ruins of Armadale Castle, sheltered by 200-year old trees.

Onwards to our final garden at Ardchattan Priory, first planted in the 13th century by Valliscaulian monks, this tranquil oasis faces south with spectacular views over Loch Etive.



# Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 30th April

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 1st May

Ardmaddy, Ardmaddy Castle Gardens. Craobh Haven, Arduaine Garden.

### Thursday 2nd May

Ulva Ferry, Mull - Lip na Cloiche Garden. Cruise the Small Isles.

# Friday 3rd May

Dunvegan, Skye - Dunvegan Castle Gardens. Cruise to Gairloch.

#### Saturday 4th May

Gairloch - Inverewe Garden. Kyle of Lochalsh - Eilean Donan Castle.

#### Sunday 5th May

Kyle of Lochalsh - Attadale Gardens. Armadale, Skye - Armadale Castle Gardens.

#### Monday 6th May

Cruise- Ardnamurchan and the Sound of Mull. Dunstaffnage, Ardchattan Priory Garden.

#### Tuesday 7th May

Oban - Disembarkation.



# Guest Speaker **Dr Sandy Primrose MBE**

Sandy Primrose is a biologist who has worked in academia and industry, and as an advisor to various government departments on subjects such as food fraud and the safety of GM foods. He is a keen gardener and opens his garden in aid of various charities. He lectures widely on a diversity of plant-related topics and has written a number of plant books for lay audiences.

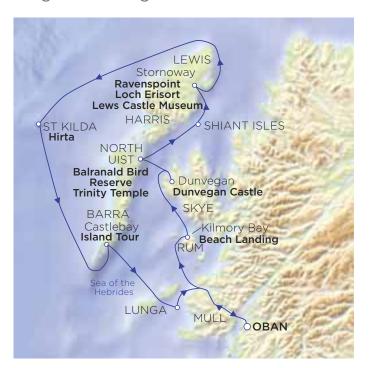


# ST KILDA & OUTER ISLES WILDLIFE



## Oban to Oban

Tuesday 7th to Tuesday 14th May 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



As the remotest part of the British Isles, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of St Kilda forms the most important seabird breeding site in northwest Europe. With cliffs, sea stacks and grassy slopes, the islands are ideally suited to nesting birds like puffin, kittiwake, fulmar, razorbill and guillemot.

Boarding the beachcraft, a landing on the Small Isle of Rum takes us in search of red deer, before a cruise of the west coast of Skye. We take a boat trip to view the resident seal population in the shadow of Dunvegan Castle and observe the wading and farmland birds at the Balranald RSPB Reserve on North Uist, or travel to the historic ruins of Trinity Temple.



A cruise of the seabird cliffs of the privately owned Shiant Isles allows us to witness the myriad of breeding seabirds, before cruising The Minch to Stornoway to visit the bird of prey trail at Ravenpoint on the shores of Loch Erisort, or discover local heritage at Lews Castle Museum.

Venturing to St Kilda, we cruise the archipelago and seabird colonies of Stac Lee and Boreray, ahead of anchoring in Village Bay. Weather permitting, we land on the main island of Hirta to explore the abandoned 19th century village, and set sail to Barra for an island tour or the opportunity to go in search of raptors.

Local boats take us to Lunga, an island designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest and where Atlantic grey seals and puffins are abundant. Our final destination is Mull, for afternoon walks ashore and the opportunity to spot Britain's largest and most impressive bird of prey, the white-tailed eagle.

# Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 7th June

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 8th June

Kilmory Bay, Rum - beach landing - red deer. Cruise west coast of Skye.

#### Thursday 9th June

Loch Dunvegan, Skye - Seal Colony/ Dunvegan Castle. North Uist - Balranald Bird Reserve/Trinity Temple.

#### Friday 10th June

Shiant Isles - Seabird cliffs by small boat. Stornoway, Lewis - Ravens Point & Loch Erisort/Lews Castle Museum.

#### Saturday 11th June

Cruise St Kilda archipelago and seabird cliffs/ land at Village Bay Hirta.
Cruise towards Barra.

## Sunday 12th June

Castlebay, Barra - Island Tour/looking for Raptors. Cruise the Sea of the Hebrides.

#### Monday 13th June

Lunga - Puffins by local boat. Tobermory, Mull - walks ashore/look for Sea Eagles.

#### Tuesday 14th June

Oban - Disembarkation.





- Balranald Bird Reserve, North Uist
- Shiant Isles
- Ravenspoint Bird of Prey Trail
- Double UNESCO World Heritage Site of St Kilda
- Puffin boat trip, Lunga





# HIDDEN ISLES AND HIGHLAND GEMS

# Oban to Oban

Tuesday 14th to Tuesday 21st May 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



Remote and untouched, boasting awe-inspiring scenery, wildlife and history, the spectacular Hebrides are an island paradise off our own shores. Reach the unreachable and share some of Scotland's best kept secrets in the impeccable style of *Hebridean Princess*, cruising the region she knows best.

Sailing from Oban, we head for a peaceful overnight anchorage before continuing to the secluded Isle of Canna for a morning of cultural exploration. Beneath the jagged Black Cuillin, Loch Coruisk, the most picturesque of freshwater lochs, is waiting to be enjoyed.

After a morning at the MacLeod stronghold of Dunvegan Castle with its resident seal colony, we make a beach landing on the wildlife haven of the Shiant Isles which teem with thousands of seabirds.





# Hebridean Highlights

- Loch Coruisk
- Dunvegan Castle and Seal Colony
- Shiant Isles Beach Landing
- Isle of Harris Distillery
- Isle Martin



We go behind the scenes to witness the heart of whisky and gin distilling operation at the croft working distillery on the Isle of Harris and sample the award-winning gin, ahead of a cruise over The Minch to Inverewe Garden, 50 acres of paradise on the same latitude as Hudson Bay in Canada. This heritage garden comprises species from across the globe and was created from a barren wilderness in the 19th century.

Corrieshalloch Gorge is Scotland's most impressive box canyon and here we marvel at the giant waterfall as it cascades through a wilderness rich in flora and fauna. The Summer Isles are calling; uninhabited Isle Martin offers tranquil walks.

Plotting a southerly course, we transit the Narrows of Kyle Rhea to Armadale Castle where the Clan Donald Centre depicts 1,500 years of history from the Gaels to the MacDonalds, former Lords of the Isles. On the Small Isle of Muck, enjoy peaceful seclusion, white sandy beaches, an impressive array of wildlife and excellent refreshments at the local tea room.

# Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 14th May

Oban - Embarkation.

# Wednesday 15th May

Canna - Walks ashore. Loch Scavaig, Skye - Loch Coruisk.

## Thursday 16th May

Loch Dunvegan, Skye - Dunvegan Castle and seal colony. Shiant Isles - Beach landing.

# Friday 17th May

East Loch Tarbert, Harris - Harris Distillery. Cruise across The Minch.

#### Saturday 18th May

Inverewe - Inverewe Garden. Ullapool - Corrieshalloch Gorge.

#### Sunday 19th May

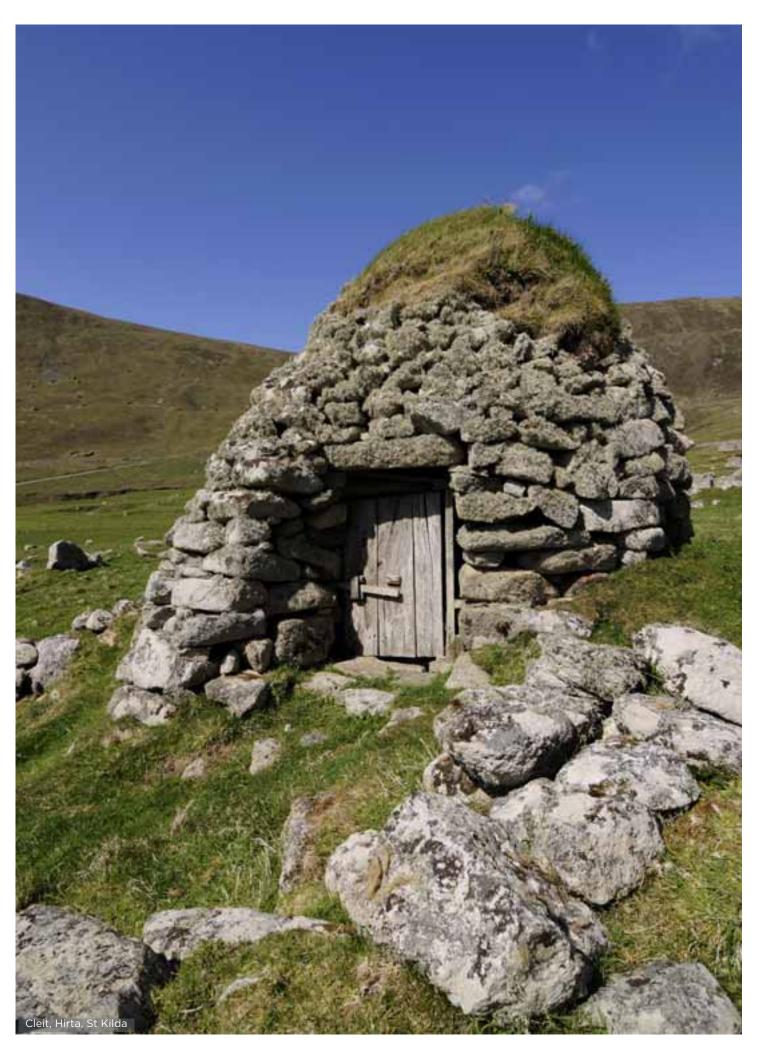
Isle Martin - Walks ashore. Cruise Inner Sound and Kyle Rhea.

#### Monday 20th May

Armadale, Skye - Clan Donald Centre. Muck - Walks ashore.

#### Tuesday 21st May

Oban - Disembarkation.



# SECRETS OF ST KILDA AND SUTHERLAND



## Oban to Oban

Tuesday 21st to Tuesday 28th May 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

This cruise of contrasts is a voyage to remember. Discover the heritage of the Outer Isles of Barra and Lewis, the rugged and remote Sutherland coast, and the far-flung archipelago of St Kilda, a Double UNESCO World Heritage Site which was occupied by man for 5,000 years until 1930.

The most southerly of the inhabited Outer Isles, beautiful Vatersay, offers dramatic beaches, spectacular wildlife and a history dating from the Bronze Age.

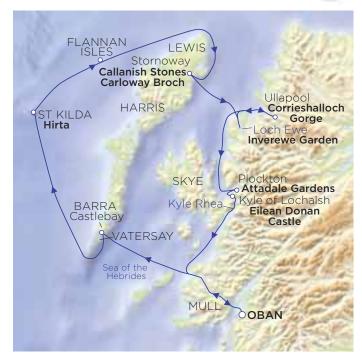
Few sights can compare with the bird cliffs of Boreray and Stac Lee emerging hazily from the horizon to the echoing cries of seabirds as we approach Hirta, the jewel in St Kilda's crown. As the cleits and grazing Soay sheep come into view, we go ashore to explore the abandoned village and imagine what life must have been like in this remote wilderness.

Cruising past the mysterious Flannan Isles, we arrive in Stornoway to sense the mystery of the awe-inspring Megalithic Callanish Standing Stones, older than the Egyptian pyramids, and the well-preserved, 2,000 year old Carloway Broch. Inverewe Garden is a paradise of 2,500 exotic subtropical species overlooking Loch Ewe, the life's work of Osgood MacKenzie.

From Ullapool, marvel at the deep Corrieshalloch Gorge and plunging Falls of Measach as they cascade through a wilderness rich in flora and fauna. Relax on board as we sail the spectacular coast of Wester Ross to Plockton where the artist's garden at Attadale House affords views over to Skye.

By scenic Loch Duich, the enchanting MacKenzie stronghold of Eilean Donan Castle is powerfully poised on an islet where three great sea lochs meet. Built in the mid-13th century to guard Kintail, the castle lay in ruins for 200 years and was restored by Colonel John MacRae-Gilstrap.

We reflect on our adventures as we sail Kyle Rhea and the Sound of Sleat, bound for Oban.



# Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 21st May

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 22nd May

Cruise the Sea of the Hebrides. Castlebay, Barra - Walks on Vatersay.

### Thursday 23rd May

St Kilda - Village Bay, Hirta.

Cruise past the Flannan Isles to Stornoway.

# Friday 24th May

Stornoway, Lewis - Callanish Stones and Carloway Broch. Cruise the Minch.

#### Saturday 25th May

Loch Ewe - Inverewe Garden. Ullapool - Corrieshalloch Gorge.

#### Sunday 26th May

Cruise the coast of Wester Ross. Plockton - Attadale Gardens.

#### Monday 27th May

Kyle of Lochalsh - Eilean Donan Castle. Cruise Kyle Rhea and the Sound of Sleat.

#### Tuesday 28th May

Oban - Disembarkation.



- Walks on Vatersay
- St Kilda Double UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Callanish Stones and Carloway Broch
- Inverewe Garden
- Eilean Donan Castle

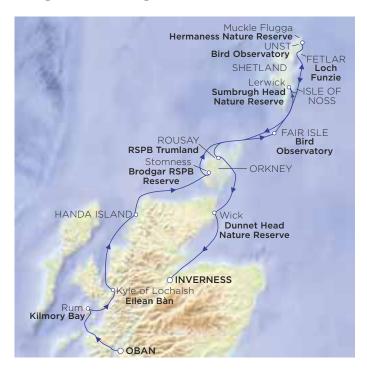


# NATURAL WORLD OF THE NORTHERN ISLES



## Oban to Inverness

Tuesday 28th May to Thursday 6th June 2024 9 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



Orkney and Shetland have a fascinating and unique natural environment. The location of the islands has contributed to the evolution of a truly awe-inspring collection of fauna and flora. Join *Hebridean Princess* on her voyage to these paradise islands right at the very top of Britain.

A thrilling beach landing at Kilmory Bay allows us to go in search of Red Deer, before we weigh anchor and enjoy a scenic sail to Eilean Bàn, a 6-acre nature haven and nestling below the Skye Bridge.

The dramatic sea cliffs of Handa Island beckon on our journey north. We land ashore and venture to the Scottish Wildlife Trust reserve celebrated for guillemots, razorbills and great skua before rounding Cape Wrath bound for Orkney.

Discover a wildlife haven in the heart of Neolithic Orkney. The RSPB Reserve at Brodgar is home to curlews, drumming snipe, lapwings, dunlins, redshanks and oystercatchers. Onwards to



Fair Isle; more species of bird have been recorded here than on any other piece of land of the same size in the British Isles.

At the southern tip of mainland Shetland, Sumburgh Head is characterised by steep cliffs and we enjoy the spectacle of thousands of seabirds. Cruising the east coast of Shetland and Isle of Noss seabird cliffs, be sure to keep watch for passing cetaceans such as minke whales, orcas and dolphins.

The National Nature Reserve at Hermaness overlooks Britain's most northerly point of Muckle Flugga and provides a haven to an incredible array of birdlife, whilst at Loch Funzie, on Fetlar, the mire habitat supports a variety of wading birds and in particular rednecked phalarope.

Returning to Orkney, RSPB Trumland affords fine island views and abundant wildlife within a 400-hectare nature reserve. En route to Inverness, listen out for the unmistakable calls of kittiwake and enjoy the comical antics of puffins at Dunnet Head.

This cruise starts and ends in different ports. Please refer to page 108-109 for travel options.

# Travel Plan - 9 nights

Tuesday 28th May Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 29th May

Kilmory Bay, Rum - Beach landing. Kyle of Lochalsh - Eilean Bàn.

#### Thursday 30th May

Cruise Sound of Raasay and The Minch. Handa Island - Bird Reserve.

#### Friday 31st May

Cruise North Coast to Orkney. Stromness, Orkney - Brodgar RSPB Reserve.

#### Saturday 1st June

Sail to Fair Isle. Fair Isle - Bird Observatory.

#### Sunday 2nd June

Lerwick, Shetland - Sumbrugh Head Nature Reserve. Cruise the east coast of Shetland including Isle of Noss Seabird cliffs.

#### Monday 3rd June

Unst, Shetland - Hermaness Nature Reserve at Muckle Flugga, Fetlar, Shetland - Loch Funzie.

#### Tuesday 4th June

Cruises south to Orkney. Rousay, Orkney - RSPB Trumland.

#### Wednesday 5th June

Wick - Dunnet Head Nature Reserve. Cruise east coast and Moray Firth .

Thursday 6th June Inverness - Disembarkation.



# Guest Speaker Darren Rees

Darren Rees has been painting and showing people wildlife for over 30 years and is one of the UK's most respected nature artists, as well as an experienced naturalist guide. His work has attracted many awards including BirdWatch Artist of the Year, Natural World Fine Art Award, RSPB Fine Art Award and a winner in the BBC Wildlife Artist of the Year. His first solo book Bird Impressions was also short-listed in the Natural History Book of the Year Award.





# PREHISTORIC SCOTLAND

# Inverness to Inverness

Thursday 6th to Saturday 15th June 2024 9 nights including 2 Gala Dinners







Nordic in heritage and culture, lush, undulating Orkney contrasts with the flatter, windswept landscapes of Shetland, closer to the Arctic and Scandinavia than Scotland's capital. Uncover the myriad secrets of ancient history, hidden for millennia beneath the sands of time.

Steam the Pentland Firth to Stromness and enter the Heart of Neolithic Orkney at the Ring of Brodgar, a stone circle measuring nearly 104 metres in diameter, and the Standing Stones of Stenness which stand up to 6 metres high. A huge storm in 1850 revealed the Neolithic dwelling houses at Skara Brae which were occupied between 3,200 and 2,200 BC and were hidden by sand for 4,000 years.

On Westray, discover the remains of over 40 well preserved buildings at the Links of Noltland, one of the most extensive





# Guest Speaker Bruce Bennison

Bruce Bennison has been an archaeologist and museum specialist for over 40 years. He has worked on many archaeological excavations covering the prehistory of Wales, the Lake District and at the Ness of Brodgar in Orkney. He also received a Churchill Fellow Travelling Fellowship to explore the Norse settlements in Scandinavia and Greenland. Uncovering the past and interpreting its evidence continues to be a lifelong passion for him.



prehistoric farming settlements in the British Isles. Found on the west coast of neighbouring Papa Westray, the Knap of Howar features the oldest standing stone buildings in north-west Europe.

Immortalised in the shipping news, and famous for its distinctive knitwear, Fair Isle is a birdwatcher's paradise being a stopping off place for migrating birds. Located close to Sumburgh Head, Jarlshof is a remarkable archaeological site containing remains from 2,500 BC up to the 17th century.

Brochs are a type of Iron Age roundhouse found only in Scotland, and Mousa is the best-preserved of them all. Thought to have been constructed in about 300 BC, it stands 13m tall. South to Orkney and enter the chambered cairn at Quoyness, a megalithic tomb dating back 5,000 years.

Explore the Broch of Gurness, a once mighty Iron Age settlement, and discover modern history at the Churchill Barriers and the Italian Chapel constructed by Italians prisoners of war from Nissen huts, ahead of our final port of call, the heritage museum at Wick.

# Travel Plan - 9 nights

Thursday 6th June Inverness - Embarkation.

#### Friday 7th June

Cruise east coast. Cruise Pentland Firth.

# Saturday 8th June

Stromness, Orkney - Ring of Brodgar and Standing Stones of Stenness. Stromness, Orkney - Skara Brae.

#### Sunday 9th June

Westray, Orkney - Links of Noltland. Papa Westray, Orkney - Knap of Howar.

#### Monday 10th June

Cruise to Fair Isle. Fair Isle - Bird observatory.

#### Tuesday 11th June

Lerwick, Shetland - Jarlshof. Sandwick, Shetland - Broch of Mousa.

#### Wednesday 12th June

Cruise to Orkney.

Sanday, Orkney - Quoyness Chambered Cairn.

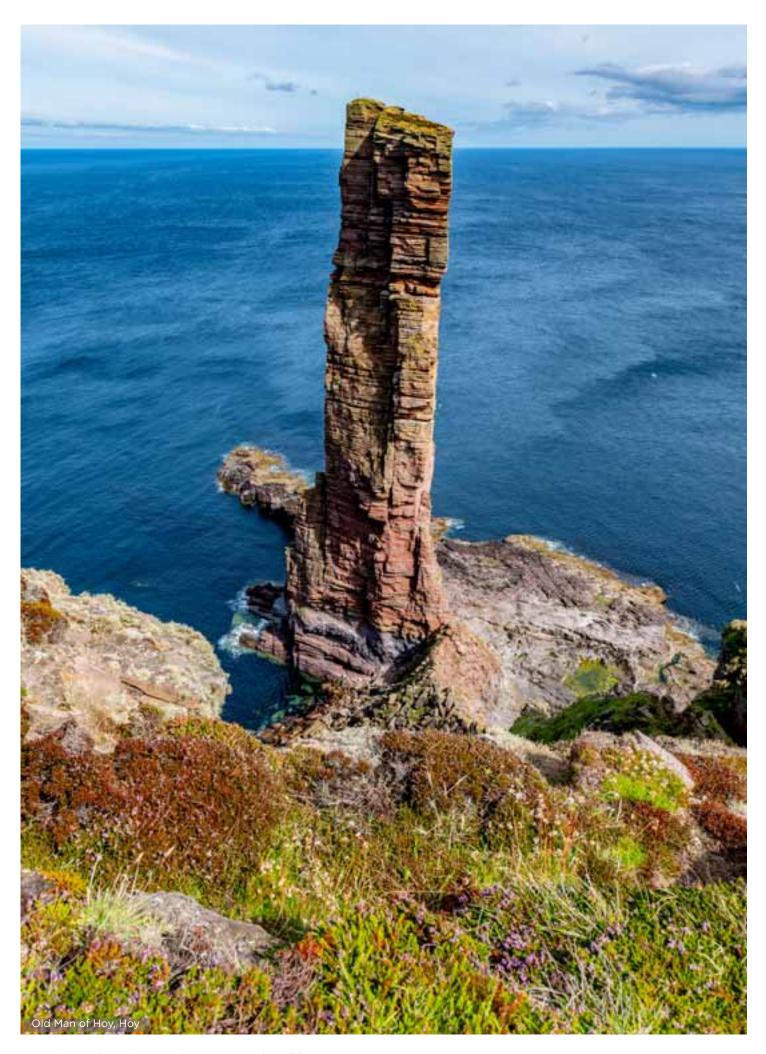
#### Thursday 13th June

Kirkwall, Orkney - Broch of Gurness.

Kirkwall, Orkney -Churchill Barriers and Italian Chapel.

# Friday 14th June

Wick - Wick Heritage Museum. Cruise east coast. **Saturday 15th June** Inverness - Disembarkation.



# FOOTLOOSE IN ORKNEY AND SHETLAND



## Inverness to Inverness

Saturday 15th to Monday 24th June 2024 9 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Take a stunning summer cruise around the beautiful outposts of Orkney and Shetland. Enjoy days filled with wonderful guided walks and an abundance of alternative visits for those who prefer a more relaxed pace, all combined with the elegant ambience of Hebridean Princess.

Relax at sea as we cruise the north east coast of Caithness to Wick, where we learn of the history of this former Viking settlement at the heritage centre, or enjoy strolls around the town.

After crossing the Pentland Firth, we go ashore at Kirkwall for a full day of walks, or visit the Churchill Barriers, Italian Chapel and St Magnus Cathedral, which dominates the skyline.

Lying remotely between Orkney and Shetland, Fair Isle offers magnificent walks or a visit to the bird observatory. We take in the scenic beauty and mystical charm of Unst as we stride out to explore on foot or embark on a tour of the island and boat haven.

Mainland Shetland offers bracing walks from Lerwick and Grutness, or the option to visit prehistoric Jarlshof with its oval shaped Bronze Age houses, and the Shetland Museum. We return to Orkney for walks on wonderful Westray and a visit to Noup Head lighthouse and bird reserve.

Hoy, Orkney's second largest island, rises dramatically from the sea. With almost-mountainous moorland and glacial valleys, it is an incredible landscape to explore. Walkers can appreciate the island's dramatic coastline, as they spend the day trekking, whilst the Scapa Flow Visitor Centre provides a fascinating insight into the role Orkney played during the two world wars.

Scrabster is our final port of call, where you can enjoy a final stretch of legs at Dunnet Head or travel to the most northerly castle on mainland Scotland and former retreat of the late Queen Mother, the Castle of Mey.



# Travel Plan - 9 nights

Saturday 15th June Inverness - Embarkation.

#### Sunday 16th June

Cruise east coast.

Wick - Wick Museum/walks.

#### Monday 17th June

Kirkwall, Orkney - Churchill Barriers/Italian Chapel/full day walk. Kirkwall, Orkney - St Magnus Cathedral.

#### Tuesday 18th June

Cruise to Fair Isle.

Fair Isle - Bird Observatory/walks on Fair Isle.

## Wednesday 19th June

Baltasound, Unst - Island tour/full day walks.

Baltasound, Unst - Unst Boat Haven.

## Thursday 20th June

Lerwick, Shetland - Jarlshof/Grutness circular walk.

Lerwick, Shetland - Shetland Museum/morning walk.

#### Friday 21st June

Cruise to Orkney.

Westray, Orkney - Noup Head lighthouse/walks.

#### Saturday 22nd June

Lyness, Hoy - Island tour full day walks.

Lyness, Hoy - Scapa Flow Visitor Centre and Museum.

#### Sunday 23rd June

Scrabster - Walks/Castle of Mey.

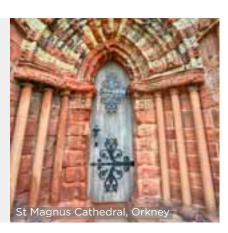
Cruise east coast.

Monday 24th June Inverness - Disembarkation.



# Walking Highlights

- Walks on Mainland Orkney
- Walks on Fair Isle
- Waks on Unst
- Walks on Mainland Shetland
- Walks on Hoy



# HOME FROM ORCADIA

## Inverness to Oban

Monday 24th June to Tuesday 2nd July 2024 8 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

The voyage from Inverness, to *Hebridean Princess's* home port of Oban, offers a unique view of the untamed, rugged beauty of the northern Caithness and Sutherland seaboard, crossing the Pentland Firth to gems of mainland Orkney. Be inspired by magic and myth, and the sights and sounds of Scotland's far north.

As we depart from Inverness, we look forward to our arrival in bustling Kirkwall to discover WWII history at the Churchill Barriers and the tiny Italian Chapel, both constructed by Italian prisoners of Camp 60.

Cruising Scapa Flow to Stromness, enter the Heart of Neolithic Orkney at Skara Brae, a collection of Neolithic dwellings which were hidden by sand for 4,000 years and revealed by a huge storm in 1850. Visit the most northerly castle on mainland Scotland, restored by the late Queen Mother, the Castle of Mey.

Rounding Cape Wrath we make landfall at Kinlochbervie and explore the imposing limestone Smoo Cave. The dramatic sea cliffs of Handa Island beckon. We land ashore and venture to the Scottish Wildlife Trust reserve celebrated for guillemots, razorbills and great skua.

Watch the artists and craftspeople at work at Highland Stoneware in Lochinver where distinctive and unique pottery has been produced since 1974, whilst Corrieshalloch Gorge is one of the best examples of a box canyon in the UK with the spectacular Falls of Measach at its head.

Built as a pass for cattle, the winding mountain pass of Bealachna-bà to Applecross affords dramatic views of Wester Ross, Skye, Rum and the Outer Hebrides. Cruising south under the Skye Bridge, the Isle of Mull is calling. The island capital of Tobermory was built as a fishing port in the 18th century and is now a picture-postcard town of brightly coloured houses.

This cruise starts and ends in different ports. Please refer to page 108-109 for travel options.





# Travel Plan - 8 nights

#### Monday 24th June

Inverness - Embarkation.

#### Tuesday 25th June

Cruise east coast.

Kirkwall, Orkney - Italian Chapel and Churchill Barriers.

# Wednesday 26th June

Cruise Scapa Flow.

Stromness, Orkney - Skara Brae.

### Thursday 27th June

Scrabster - Castle of Mey.

Cruise Cape Wrath.

#### Friday 28th June

Kinlochbervie - Smoo Cave.

Handa Island - Seabird Cliffs.

#### Saturday 29th June

Lochinver - Highland Stoneware.

Ullapool - Corrieshalloch Gorge.

#### Sunday 30th June

Cruise coast of Wester Ross.

Shieldaig - Applecross via Bealach na bà.

#### Monday 1st July

Cruise Inner Sound and Kyle Rhea.

Tobermory, Mull - Walks ashore.

#### Tuesday 2nd July

Oban - Disembarkation.



# Arts Society Accredited Lecturer **Jeremy Burton**

Jeremy worked as a mining geologist in Zambia before joining the Army. After Sandhurst he joined the Irish Guards and was seconded to Clarence House as the Queen Mother's equerry. Jeremy accompanied the Queen Mother to the Castle of Mey each August, and on numerous occasions thereafter as one of her guests. After she passed away in 2002, he was asked to help open the castle to the public. Jeremy had a particular interest in the Queen Mother's jewellery collection. This inspired him to study gemmology and he spent many years as a precious stone dealer in London's Hatton Garden, worked as an exploration geologist in South Africa and a gold miner in California.







# SUMMER TEMPTATIONS

# Oban to Oban

Tuesday 2nd to Tuesday 9th July 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



Enjoy the magic and splendour of the Hebrides from the Inner Isles of Skye, Muck and Rum, to the tranquility of the Shiant Isles and the Outer Isle of Harris where ancient history and traditions combine with some of the most unique scenery in Britain. A truly unforgettable experience, all bathed in the glory of summer.

North through Kyle Rhea to scenic Loch Duich, cross to the iconic Eilean Donan Castle, stronghold of the Mackenzies of Kintail, powerfully poised on an islet where three lochs meet. Stroll at white-washed Shieldaig, spilling picturesquely onto the loch below the mighty Torridon beinns, before landing at the tropical oasis of Inverewe Garden.





# Hebridean Highlights

- Shieldaig
- Shiant Isles beach landing
- Harris island tour
- Sunart ancient Oak Woodslands
- Tobermory



As we cross The Minch, we make a beach landing on the Shiant Isles, spellbound by the overwhelming sights and sounds of the vast seabird cliffs, ahead of an island tour of Harris where dune-fringed silver sands are lapped by turquoise waters. We go behind the scenes to witness the heart of whisky and gin distilling operation at the croft working distillery.

Steaming into Loch Dunvegan, the five acres of formal gardens which surround the castle are in stark contrast to the barren moorland and mountains which dominate the landscape.

Ashore on Rum, the jewel of the Inner Hebrides, this nature reserve is home to amazing wildlife, look out for otters, seals and a large variety of birds. Flat and fertile Isle of Muck plays host to afternoon strolls and a warm welcome at the wonderful local tea shop.

Walks through the ancient oakwoods at picturesque Salen afford stunning coastal views of Salen Bay and Loch Sunart. Our final port of call is the colourful Georgian harbour town of Tobermory, the bustling island capital of Mull, with time to shop and stroll along the waterfront.

# Travel Plan - 7 nights

# Tuesday 2nd July

Oban - Embarkation.

# Wednesday 3rd July

Cruise Sound of Sleat and Kyle Rhea. Kyle of Lochalsh - Eilean Donan Castle.

#### Thursday 4th July

Shieldaig - Walks ashore. Gairloch - Inverewe Garden.

### Friday 5th July

Shiant Isles - Beach landing. Tarbert, Harris - Island tour and distillery.

#### Saturday 6th July

Dunvegan, Skye - Dunvegan Castle Gardens. Cruise West coast of Skye.

#### Sunday 7th July

Rum - Walks ashore. Muck - Walks ashore.

#### Monday 8th July

Salen - Ancient Oak Woodlands. Tobermory, Mull - Walks ashore.

# Tuesday 9th July

Oban - Disembarkation.



# OUTLOOK ON ST KILDA

## Oban to Oban

Tuesday 9th to Tuesday 16th July 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Few island groups in the world exert the powerful fascination of the Hebrides, blessed with exquisite scenery, rich wildlife and an amazing history. This extraordinary voyage ventures out into the Atlantic to the most remote and spectacular of the Outer Isles, the rocky bird isles of St Kilda.

Steaming north to Kyle of Lochalsh, where Eilean Donan Castle lay in ruins for nearly 200 years, before it was restored by John Macrae Gilstrap. Enjoy highland hospitality at Raasay House and visit the island's first legal distillery for a tour and tasting of their handcrafted single malt whisky and gin.

Planted in the 1860's, and on the same latitude as Hudson's bay in Canada, the tropical oasis of Inverewe Garden blooms exotically on the shores of Loch Ewe. Plotting a westerly course, the Isle of Lewis beckons; exploring the Butt of Lewis and St Moluag's church in the north before discovering the island's rich history at the wonderous Callanish Standing Stones and ancient Carloway Broch, ahead of an overnight sail to St Kilda.

As the extraordinary spectre of the rocky archipelago looms, the stacs, the nesting place of thousands of seabirds, are awe-inspiring before landing on the far-flung island world of Hirta. Village Bay is beautifully preserved as a memorial to the last 36 resident who were evacuated at their own request in 1930.

Cruise the Atlantic, ahead of a beach landing on one of the uninhabited Bishop's Isles; Mingulay, Berneray and Pabbay offer peaceful walks and extraordinary birdlife. From Castlebay, watch the spellbinding landscapes of Barra unfurl on a scenic tour of the island.

We cross the Sea of the Hebrides to the Small Isles of Canna and Eigg and explore these contrasting islands, a fitting finale to our voyage of discovery.





# Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 9th July

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 10th July

Cruise Sound of Sleat and Kyle Rhea. Kyle of Lochalsh - Eilean Donan Castle.

# Thursday 11th July

Raasay - Raasay House and Distillery. Gairloch - Inverewe Garden.

#### Friday 12th July

Stornoway, Lewis - St Moluag's church and Butt of Lewis. Stornoway, Lewis - Callanish Stones and Carloway Broch.

#### Saturday 13th July

Cruise Sea Stacs and land at Village Bay on Hirta, St Kilda.

Cruise The Atlantic.

# Sunday 14th July

Bishop's Isles - Beach landing. Castlebay, Barra - Island tour.

## Monday 15th July

Canna - Walks ashore.

Eigg - Walks ashore.

#### Tuesday 16th July

Oban - Disembarkation.



- Raasay House and Distillery
- Inverewe Garden
- Butt of Lewis
- St Kilda
- Island tour of Barra



# WONDERS OF THE WESTERN ISLES

# Oban to Oban

Tuesday 16th to Tuesday 23rd July 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



A luminous kaleidoscope of contrasts unfolds as Hebridean Princess heads to the remote reaches of the Outer Hebrides, the heartland of Gaelic culture. Escape with us to a tranquil paradise rimmed with silver sands and crystal blue waters, an island world so near and yet so far.

Sail the Sea of the Hebrides to the uninhabited Bishop's Isles at the southern tip of the Outer Hebrides and land on one of these secluded isles, relishing the solitude as seabirds call overhead. Beautiful Vatersay offers wonderful windswept sands bordered by the rich machair grasses which are awash with wonderful wildflowers in season.

Walk at Prince's Bay on Eriskay, where Bonnie Prince Charlie first set foot on Scottish soil in 1745. On North Uist, the spectacular chambered cairn of Barpa Langass, and nearby



stone circle of Pobull Fhinn, bear witness to the island's fascinating ancient history.

Enjoy a panoramic tour of Harris or a visit to the local croft distillery before stepping ashore on Lewis, the largest of the Outer Hebrides where the standing stones of Callanish and Carloway Broch await. The 80 feet high cliffs at the Butt of Lewis are crowned with a 121 feet high lighthouse whilst St Moluag's Church has sat in a crofter's field since the 12th or 13th century.

Witness the dramatic cliffs of the Shiant Isles, home to thousands of breeding pairs of seabirds, before cruising The Minch to Skye where the MacLeod stronghold of Dunvegan Castle has been continuously occupied for over 800 years. Here we can take an exhilarating boat trip to see the Loch Dunvegan seal colony and observe these playful sea mammals at close quarters.

We enjoy refreshing walks on the Small Isle of Canna and discover the amazingly rich archaeological landscape – from prehistoric fortifications to early 19th-century abandoned settlements.

# Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 16th July

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 17th July

Cruise the Sea of the Hebrides. Bishop's Isles - Beach landing.

#### Thursday 18th July

Castlebay, Barra - Walks on Vatersay. Lochboisdale, South Uist - Prince's Bay, Eriskay.

#### Friday 19th July

Lochmaddy, North Uist - Pobull Fhinn and Barpa Langass.

Tarbert, Harris - Island tour or Harris Distillery.

#### Saturday 20th July

Stornoway, Lewis - Callanish Stones and Carloway Broch. Stornoway, Lewis - Butt of Lewis and St Moulag's Church.

#### Sunday 21st July

Cruise past the seabird cliffs of the Shiant Isles. Loch Dunvegan, Skye - Dunvegan Castle and seal colony.

## Monday 22nd July

Canna - Walks ashore.

Cruise the Small Isles and Sound of Mull.

#### Tuesday 23rd July

Oban - Disembarkation.





- · Bishop's Isles beach landing
- Prince's Bay, Eriskay
- Barpa Langass and Pobull Fhinn
- Shiant Isles
- Dunvegan Castle and seal colony



# VOYAGE TO THE EMERALD ISLE



## Oban to Dublin

Tuesday 23rd to Wednesday 31st July 2024 8 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Links between Scotland and Ireland are many and varied, reaching back into the mists of time. Two supremely rich Celtic and Gaelic cultures add history and romance against the stirring scenery of a cruise on board *Hebridean Princess* through the Irish Sea to the Emerald Isle.

With a sense of anticipation we set sail from Oban to Londonderry. Here, we embark on a walking tour of Ireland's only completely intact historic Walled City.

Experience the magic and awe of the basalt miracle, the Giant's Causeway on the Antrim Coast, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and observe the stunning birdlife of Rathlin Island, Northern Ireland's largest seabird colony. Travel to the heart of one of Ireland's oldest estates, Glenarm Castle, home to the Earls of Antrim for over 400 years and the setting of a glorious walled garden.

Belfast is home to Queen's Island, birthplace of the Titanic and the exhibition of the same name, which tells the story from her conception, through her construction and launch, to her maiden voyage and subsequent place in history.

Home to the Montgomery family since 1607, Grey Abbey House plays host to our visit before we cross the border into Eire and enjoy walks ashore at the charming medieval village of Carlingford. The World Heritage Site of Brú na Bóinne is Ireland's richest archaeological landscape and is famous for the spectacular prehistoric passage tombs of Knowth and Newgrange which were built around 3,200 BC.

Our final gem is the fair city of Dublin, astride the River Liffey, vivacious and cultural, exuberantly blending old and new. Explore this vibrant UNESCO City of Literature and discover the twin cathedrals of Christ Church and St Patrick, the nation's patron saint.

Scheduled flights are included in the cruise fare from selected UK airports to Glasgow at the start of the cruise and from Dublin to selected UK airports at the end of the cruise. Please refer to page 108-109 for travel options.



# Travel Plan - 8 nights

#### Tuesday 23rd July

Oban - Embarkation.

## Wednesday 24th July

Cruise the Sound of Jura.
Port Ellen, Islay - Ardbeg Distillery.

#### Thursday 25th July

Londonderry - City walking tour. Cruise the coast of Northern Ireland.

#### Friday 26th July

Ballycastle - Giant's Causeway. Rathlin Island - Bird reserve.

# Saturday 27th July

Larne - Glenarm Castle.

Belfast - Titanic Exhibition.

#### Sunday 28th July

Bangor - Grey Abbey House. Portaferry, Strangford Lough.

#### Monday 29th July

Carlingford - Walks ashore.

Clogherhead - Brú na Bóinne World Heritage Site.

# Tuesday 30th July

Dublin - City tour.

Dublin - St Patrick's and Christ Church Cathedrals.

# Wednesday 31st July

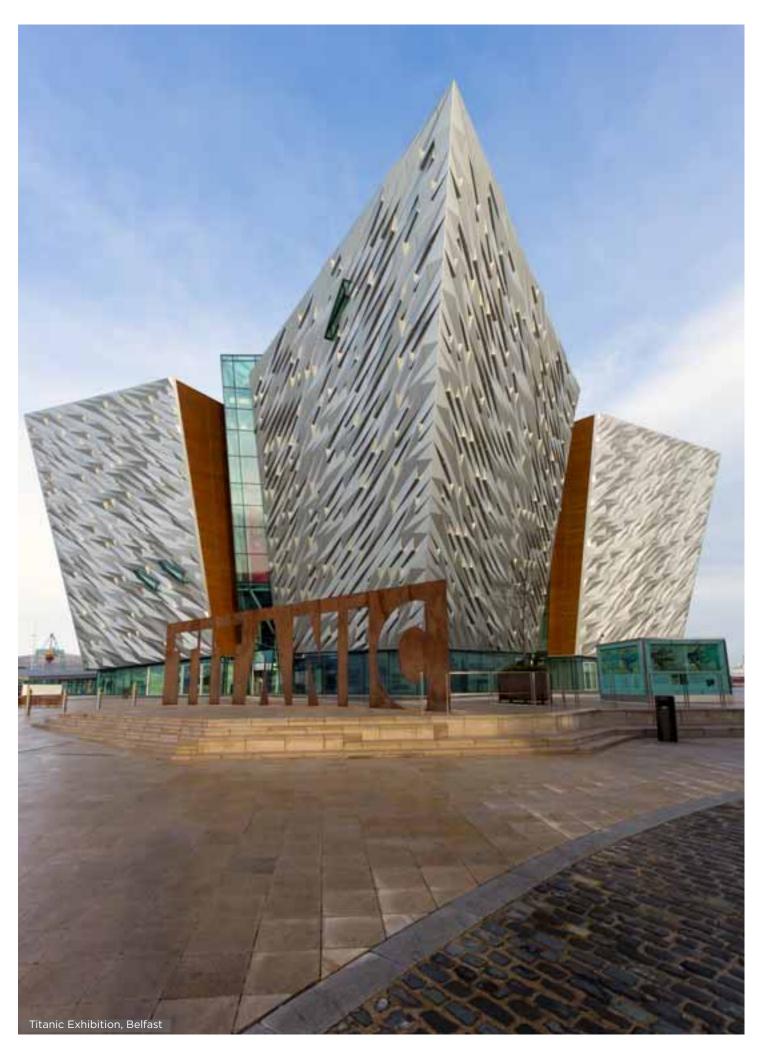
Dún Laoghaire, Dublin - Disembarkation.



# Arts Society Accredited Lecturer **David Harper**

David Harper is a BBC TV Antiques & History presenter on programmes like 'Antiques Road Trip' 'Flog It' and 'Bargain Hunt'. The programmes are shown in over 50 countries worldwide. He's also a published author, artist, speaker and event auctioneer (he holds the world record for selling Alex Ferguson for £170,000!). David fell in love with antiques and history at the age of 5 and he's been collecting, studying, buying, selling, talking and writing about wonderful objects from the past ever since! His passions also include travel, new adventures and classic cars...and often, all three at the same time!







# EMERALD ISLE EXPLORER

# **Dublin to Dublin**

Wednesday 31st July to Thursday 8th August 2024 8 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Truly the Emerald Isle, lush green by nature of its mild and moist climate, Eire is a jewel, wrapped in history and legend, blessed with inspirational landscapes and wildlife. Cruise south to Cork, along stunningly beautiful coastlines, to discover the magic and mystery of this ancient isle from the sea.

Discover the magnificent 800-acre estate of Kilruddery House which includes flowering woodland, painterly formal 17th century gardens, a high-hedge sylvan theatre, long ponds and a walled garden. From Rosslare we visit Johnstown, a fairy-tale, Gothic revival Irish castle, and embark on a city tour of fascinating Wexford where winding medieval streets are rich with Viking history, before sailing south to colourful Kinsale, the vibrant coastal town renowned for its rich history.

Embark on a city tour of cosmopolitan Cork, sitting proudly on an island in the middle of the River Lee ahead of our visit to the poignant Emigration and Maritime Story at Cobh Heritage Centre. The dramatic exhibition brings to life the origins, history and legacy of Cobh and its role in Irish emigration as well as tales of the ill-fated Titanic and Lusitania.

Established in 1783, a visit to the House of Waterford allows you to experience the sheer divinity of fine crystal, as well as the masterful techniques that create such opulent visions of beauty. Sitting in the heart of Ireland's Ancient East, Waterford is Ireland's oldest city and a treasure-trove of ancient artefacts and elegant architecture.

Our final gem is the fair city of Dublin, astride the River Liffey, vivacious and cultural, exuberantly blending old and new. Explore this vibrant UNESCO City of Literature and discover the twin cathedrals of Christ Church and St Patrick, the nation's patron saint.

Scheduled flights are included in the cruise fare from selected UK airports to Dublin and return.



# Travel Plan - 8 nights

#### Wednesday 31st July

Dún Laoghaire, Dublin - Embarkation.

#### Thursday 1st August

Dun Laoghaire - Kilruddery House and Gardens. Cruise south from Dublin.

### Friday 2nd August

Rosslare - Johnstown Castle. Rosslare - City tour of Wexford.

#### Saturday 3rd August

Cruise south east coast of Eire. Kinsale - Walking tour.

#### Sunday 4th August

Cobh - City tour of Cork. Cobh - Cobh Heritage Centre.

#### Monday 5th August

Cruise south coast of Eire. Waterford - Waterford Crystal Museum.

#### Tuesday 6th August

Waterford - City tour. Cruise east coast of Eire.

#### Wednesday 7th August

Dublin - City tour.

Dublin - St Patrick's and Christ Church Cathedrals.

### Thursday 8th August

Dún Laoghaire, Dublin - Disembarkation.



- Kilriddery House and Gardens
- Johnstown Castle
- Waterford Crystal Museum
- Walking tour of Kinsale
- City tour of Cork





# FOOTLOOSE IN THE EMERALD ISLE



# **Dublin** to **Dublin**

Thursday 8th to Friday 16th August 2024 8 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



We are delighted to welcome walkers and strollers alike on this walking cruise through Eire in the stimulating company of our experienced walking guides. Revel in the lush, soulful landscapes of the beautiful Emerald Isle and take in its timeless, spiritual beauty.

Ramble in lush landscapes with our walking guides or discover the magnificent 800-acre estate of Kilruddery House with our strollers before sailing south to Rosslare. Enjoy a full day of refreshing walks or visit the fairy-tale, Gothic revival Johnstown Castle, and embark on a city tour of fascinating Wexford where winding medieval streets are rich with Viking history.





## Walking Highlights

- Walks from Rosslare
- Walks from Kinsale
- Walks from Cobh
- · Walks from Waterford
- Walks from Dublin



Join the walkers from colourful Kinsale, or explore this vibrant coastal town renowned for its rich history on a guided tour. Relish a city tour of cosmopolitan Cork, sitting proudly on an island in the middle of the River Lee and visit the poignant Emigration and Maritime Story at Cobh Heritage Centre. Alternatively opt for a full day 'Footloose' adventure around Great Island.

Pull on your boots and stride out from Waterford, or admire the superlative craftmanship of the world's finest crystal which has been produced here for over 200 years and uncover the highlights of the city, a treasure-trove of ancient artefacts and elegant architecture.

The fair city of Dublin, astride the River Liffey, is vivacious and cultural, exuberantly blending old and new. Explore this vibrant UNESCO City of Literature and discover the twin cathedrals of Christ Church and St Patrick, or stretch your legs on a final 'Footloose' experience.

Scheduled flights are included in the cruise fare from selected UK airports to Dublin and return.

#### Travel Plan - 8 nights

Thursday 8th August Dún Laoghaire, Dublin - Embarkation.

#### Friday 9th August

Dun Laoghaire - Kilruddery House and Gardens/half day walk. Cruise south from Dublin.

#### Saturday 10th August

Rosslare - Johnstown Castle/full day walk.

Rosslare - City tour of Wexford.

#### Sunday 11th August

Cruise south east coast of Eire.

Kinsale - Walking tour/half day walk.

#### Monday 12th August

Cobh - City tour of Cork/full day walk.

Cobh - Cobh Heritage Centre.

#### Tuesday 13th August

Cruise south coast of Eire.

Waterford - Waterford Crystal Museum/half day walk.

#### Wednesday 14th August

Waterford - City tour/half day walk.

Cruise east coast of Eire.

#### Thursday 15th August

Dublin - City tour/full day walk.

Dublin - St Patrick's and Christ Church Cathedrals.

Friday 16th August Dublin - Disembarkation.



# TREASURES OF THE CELTIC COASTS



#### **Dublin to Oban**

# Friday 16th to Monday 26th August 2024 10 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Hebridean Princess heads back to home waters, carrying with her hypnotic images of the ruggedly beautiful Irish coast, backed by a lush hinterland of breathtaking mountains and glens. Drawn by an irresistible lure, we sail to the jewel of the Irish Sea, the Isle of Man, en route

Ashore in Eire's vibrant capital, taste the richness of Irish culture on a city tour of Dublin and discover the twin cathedrals of Christ Church and St Patrick. The World Heritage Site of Brú na Bóinne is Ireland's richest archaeological landscape and is famous for spectacular prehistoric passage tombs.

Encounter a hub of heritage and folklore at the charming medieval village of Carlingford, before crossing the Irish Sea to the Isle of Man, dubbed 'Britain in miniature' after its everchanging gallery of landscapes. Highlights of our visit include Peel Castle, constructed by the Vikings in the 11th century, the House of Mannanan which guides you through the island's rich Celtic, Viking and maritime past, the ancient capital of Castletown, and a ride on The Isle of Man Steam Railway, the longest narrow gauge steam line in Britain.

In Northern Ireland, Grey Abbey House, home to the Montgomery family since 1607, plays host to our visit, before we head to Queen's Island in Belfast, birthplace of the Titanic and the exhibition of the same name. After a city tour of the capital, we travel to the heart of one of Ireland's oldest estates, Glenarm Castle, home to the Earls of Antrim for over 400 years.

Taste Whiskey at Bushmill's Distillery and wonder at the volcanic basalt stacs of the Giant's Causeway, remarkably dating back 60 million years. Cruising the North Channel, taste the unspoilt, rugged beauty of Scotland's last wilderness on the deer isle of Jura, before exploring the rich, prehistoric landscape of Kilmartin Glen.

Scheduled flights are included in the cruise fare from selected UK airports to Dublin at the start of the cruise and from Glasgow to selected UK airports at the end of the cruise. Please refer to page 108-109 for travel options.



## Travel Plan - 10 nights

Friday 16th August Dun Laoghaire, Dublin - Embarkation.

#### Saturday 17th August

Dublin - City Tour. Cruise East coast of Eire.

#### Sunday 18th August

Clogherhead - Brú na Bóinne World Heritage Site. Carlingford - Walks ashore.

#### Monday 19th August

Cruise Irish Sea to Isle of Man.

Peel - Peel Castle and House of Manannan.

#### Tuesday 20th August

Peel - Castletown.

Peel - Steam Railway Douglas to Port Erin.

#### Wednesday 21st August

Portaferry - Grey Abbey House.

Bangor - Guests rejoin the ship.

#### Thursday 22nd August

Belfast - Titantic Exhibition and city tour.

#### Friday 23rd August

Larne - Glenarm Castle. Ballycastle - Bushmills Distillery.

#### Saturday 24th August

Ballycastle - Giant's Causeway. Cruise the North Channel.

#### Sunday 25th August

Loch na Mile, Jura - Craighouse. Ardfern - Kilmartin Glen Museum.

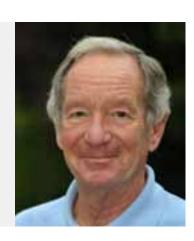
#### Monday 26th August

Oban - Disembarkation.



#### Guest Speaker Michael Buerk

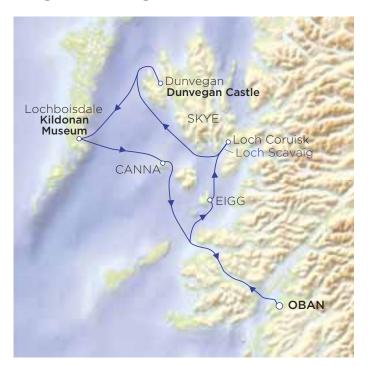
Michael Buerk is one of Britain's leading broadcast journalists and has won many of the industry's major awards. He has worked as a BBC foreign correspondent and presenter for more than thirty years. He anchored the BBC's main evening television news programme from 1989 to 2004. He continues to present documentary and other programmes for both BBC Television and Radio as well as ITV and other networks. He currently chairs the BBC's leading ethical debate programme, "The Moral Maze" on Radio 4. He lectures regularly on current affairs issues and chairs conferences on political, economic and ethical questions.



# HEBRIDEAN SAMPLER

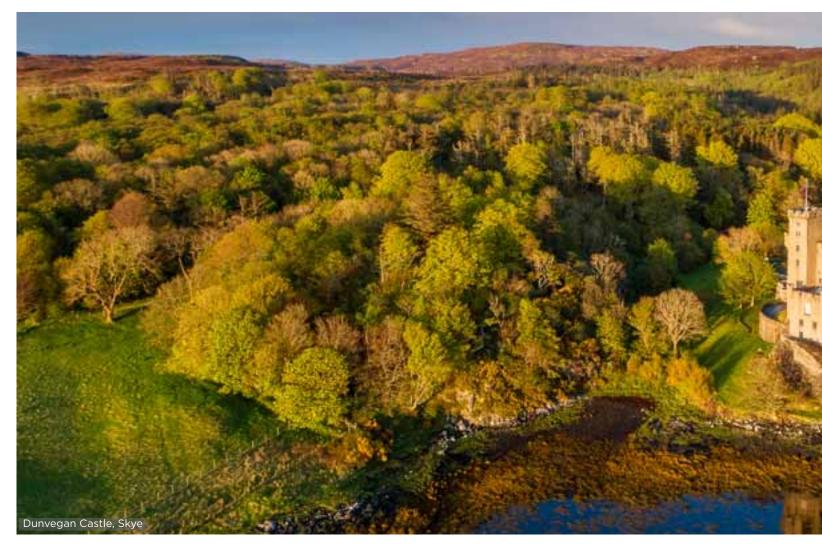
# Oban to Oban

Monday 26th to Friday 30th August 2024 4 nights including 1 Gala Dinner



Taste the luxury of this delightful little ship, immaculate service and gourmet cuisine in the untouched, surreal beauty of the Scottish Highlands and Islands on a four-night cruise with a difference. Wonder at breathtaking landscapes as you sample the delights of a *Hebridean Princess* experience.

Steaming from Oban, we head for the Small Isle of Eigg, dominated by An Sgúrr, the largest pitchstone ridge of its kind in Europe, and enjoy strolls on this lush wildlife haven. On Skye, walks in the awe-inspiring reaches of Loch Scavaig and Loch Coruisk are an almost ethereal experience set against the backdrop of the soaring Black Cuillin.



Experience the magic of history at Dunvegan, a fortressed castle powerfully dominating northern Skye for centuries, the ancestral seat of the MacLeods is set in attractive gardens overlooking Loch Dunvegan. It is the only castle in Scotland to be continuously occupied by the same family for over 800 years.

Over the Sea of the Hebrides, to South Uist, where the Kildonan Museum holds over 10,000 items charting the cultural history and heritage of an island that is incredibly rich in archeological remains dating from the bronze age to the Viking era.

Heading eastwards, compare the gentler feel of the nature haven of Canna, worthy of its reputation as the 'Garden of the Hebrides.' A peaceful afternoon of exploration on the island precedes a scenic cruise of the Sound of Mull and our Farewell Gala dinner, complete with Robert Burns' Address to a Haggis.

## Travel Plan - 4 nights

#### Monday 26th August

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Tuesday 27th August

Eigg - Walks ashore.

Loch Scavaig, Skye - Loch Coruisk.

#### Wednesday 28th August

Loch Dunvegan, Skye - Dunvegan Castle. Cruise The Minch.

#### Thursday 29th August

Lochboisdale, South Uist - Kildonan Museum. Canna - Walks ashore.

#### Friday 30th August

Oban - Disembarkation.





- Isle of Eigg
- Loch Coruisk
- Dunvegan Castle
- Kildonan Museum
- Isle of Canna



# HEBRIDEAN TAPESTRY

#### Oban to Oban

Friday 30th August to Tuesday 3rd September 2024 4 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

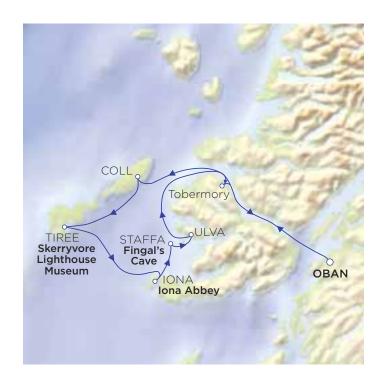
Always spellbinding, the Inner Hebrides are simply magical, clothed in iridescent late summer tints. Absorb the utter peace and seclusion of Iona Abbey, and listen to the rhythm of the waves echoing in the cavernous basalt columns of Fingal's Cave on Staffa from the reassuring comfort of this delightful little ship.

Far out in the Atlantic, the Isle of Coll is a tiny piece of Hebridean paradise, well off the beaten track. Blessed with some of the longest sunshine hours recorded in the UK, Coll is fringed by stunning sandy beaches lapped by turquoise seas, the island's coastline, meadows and moors provide a home for a wealth of flora and fauna.

Hynish, on Tiree, was built to facilitate construction of the Skerryvore Lighthouse and now houses a fitting tribute to the Lighthouse Stevensons. Here, we discover how the heroic engineers and keepers built and maintained Scotland's tallest lighthouse, Skerryvore, on one of Britain's most dangerous rocks, over 10 nautical miles out to sea.

Visit the Holy Island of Iona and its restored abbey, where St Columba landed in AD 563 to found his mission and still a place of pilgrimage for many Christians. Inspiration for Mendelssohn's Hebridean Overture, Fingal's Cave on Staffa is a truly aweinspiring sight. With its spectacular hexagonal basalt columns, its sheer size and the eerie sounds produced by the waves have also encouraged Celtic legends and art.

The hidden gem of Ulva is a paradise for wildlife, scenery and traffic-free exploration. Now owned by its community, Ulva is a pristine example of unspoilt island beauty. Bustling Tobermory, capital of Mull, is the perfect place to while away the last afternoon. The colourful Georgian waterfront offers the perfect opportunity for strolls and shopping.



## Travel Plan - 4 nights

#### Friday 30th August

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Saturday 31st August

Coll - Walks ashore.

Hynish, Tiree - Skerryvore Lighthouse Museum.

#### Sunday 1st September

Iona - Iona Abbey.

# Staffa - Fingal's Cave. Monday 2nd September

Ulva - Walks ashore.

Tobermory, Mull - Walks ashore.

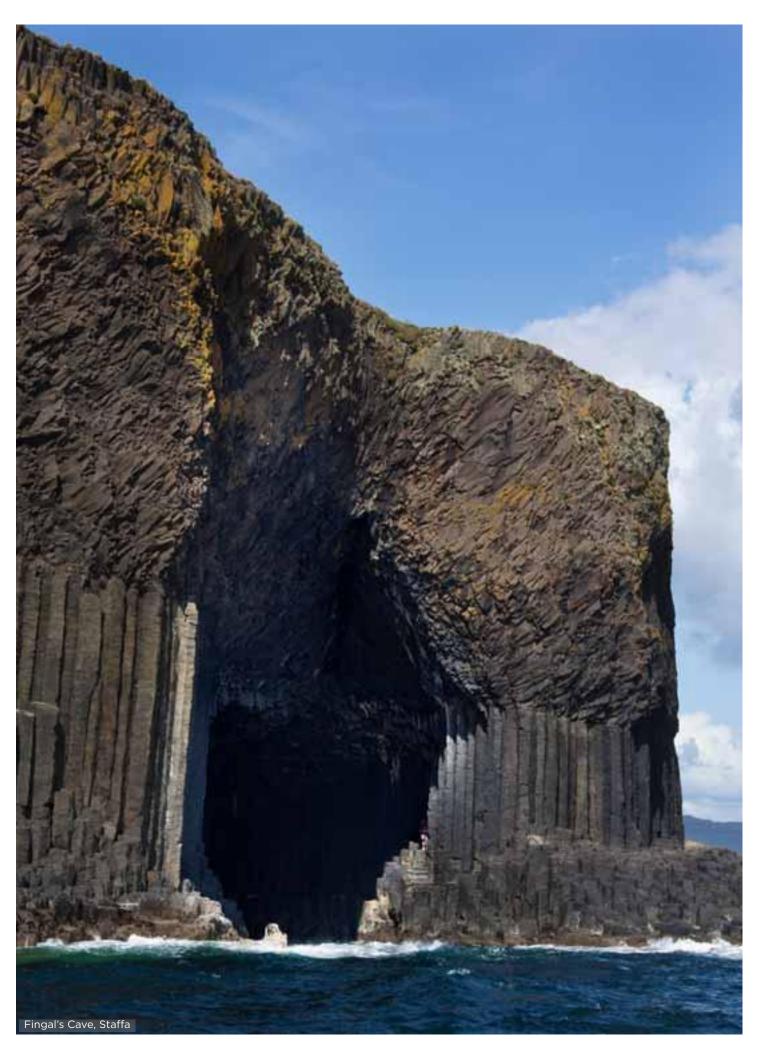
#### Tuesday 3rd September

Oban - Disembarkation.



- Isle of Coll
- Skerryvore Lighthouse Museum
- Iona Abbey
- Fingal's Cave. Staffa
- Isle of Ulva



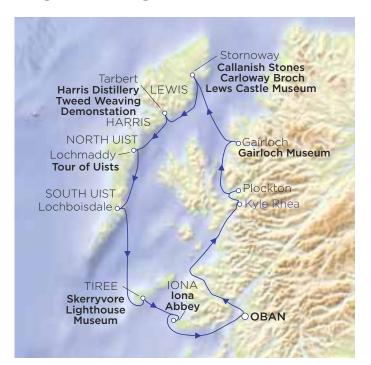




# THE CALL OF THE LONG ISLE

#### Oban to Oban

Tuesday 3rd to Tuesday 10th September 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



Sail across The Minch to the Outer Hebrides. Bathed in an ethereal, ever-changing beauty, their attraction is timeless and elemental whatever the season. Travel to the heartland of ancient Gaelic and Viking cultures and experience their uniqueness on a tantalising adventure in the inimitable style of *Hebridean Princess*.

Cruise north through Kyle Rhea, to land by small boat at the palm-dotted, artists' haven of Plockton, a gem set by a tranquil bay in Loch Carron. Admire the bright gardens lining its shore and stroll past the Telford church and unusual Open Air Chapel.

Located in a converted nuclear bunker, Gairloch Museum showcases the history, culture and natural heritage of this beautiful area, ahead of cruising The Minch to Stornoway. The power of history is tangible from the majestic 5,000 year old





# Hebridean Highlights

- Plockton
- Gairloch Museum
- Tour of Harris
- Tour of The Uists
- Skerryvore Lighthouse Museum



Callanish Standing Stones, and the awe-inspiring Iron Age Carloway Broch. Immerse yourself in local culture and heritage at Lews Castle Museum, and listen to the islanders tales of life on the edge of Britain.

From Tarbert on nearby Harris, attune to the spirit of this island on a kaleidoscopic tour taking in the silvery expanses of Luskentyre Bay and a traditional tweed weaving demonstration, before we go behind the scenes to witness the heart of whisky and gin distilling operation at the Isle of Harris distillery.

A tour of The Uists highlights their diversity and Gaelic traditions. Observe tranquil beaches, ancient monuments and amazing wildlife in stunning natural surroundings and absorb the rich island history peopled with colourful characters.

Leaving the Outer Isles in our wake, we land on the sunshine isle of Tiree and learn of the hazardous tale of the construction of the Skerryvore Lighthouse, an engineering wonder lying 11 miles out to sea. Holy Iona calls, chosen in 563 AD by Irish prince St Columba as the site of his great mission.

## Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 3rd September

Oban - Embarkation.

## Wednesday 4th September

Cruise Sound of Sleat and Kyle Rhea.

Plockton - Walks ashore.

#### Thursday 5th September

Gairloch - Garloch Museum. Cruise The Minch.

## Friday 6th September

Stornoway, Lewis - Callanish Standing Stones and Carloway Broch.

Stornoway, Lewis - Lews Castle Museum.

#### Saturday 7th September

Tarbert, Harris - Island tour and tweed weaving demonstration.

Tarbert, Harris - Harris Distillery.

#### Sunday 8th September

Lochmaddy - Tour of the Uists. Cruise the Sea of the Hebrides.

## Monday 9th September

Hynish, Tiree - Skerryvore Lighthouse Museum. Iona - Iona Abbey.

#### Tuesday 10th September

Oban - Disembarkation.



# GAELIC LINKS, LOCHS AND ISLES



#### Oban to Oban

Tuesday 10th to Tuesday 17th September 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Combine wonderful visits with the opportunity to play golf on courses that could only exist in the home of golf and Northern Ireland. Many of the courses are set in spectacular rolling sand dunes with breath taking coastal views. The added benefit is that nobody needs to be an expert to enjoy this wonderful cruise.

Craignure Golf Course is a scenic links course situated on the shore of Scallastle Bay; non-golfers can explore the Maclean stronghold of Duart Castle, proudly guarding the sea cliffs of Mull.

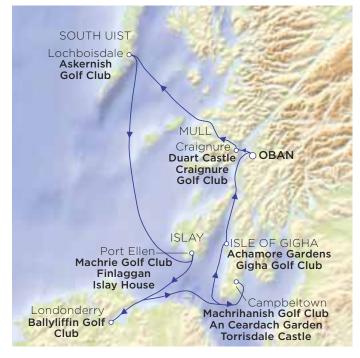
Cruise the Sea of the Hebrides to Lochboisdale for an island tour highlighting the geological and historical contrasts of The Uists or play a round at the Old Tom Morris course at Askernish.

Steaming south to Islay, we discover Finlaggan, the centre of the Lordship of the Isles, whilst the golfers play the historic links course at Machrie, one of the few examples of a great traditional links course, preserved for 120 years.

Situated on the northern most tip of Ireland, at the start of the Wild Atlantic Way, Ballyliffin Golf Club is widely regarded as the finest links complex in Ireland. Alternatively, embark on a walking tour of Londonderry, Ireland's only completely intact historic Walled City.

The 18 hole 'Championship Course', set in the wonderful Machrihanish Dunes, has become well known, especially for the exceptional first hole which requires the round's opening shot to carry the Atlantic. Non golfers head for a tour of An Ceardach Gardens and Torrisdale Castle and gin distillery.

Our voyage concludes on the fertile Isle of Gigha to explore Sir James Horlick's delightful gardens at Achamore or take in the stunning island and mainland vistas whilst enjoying 9 holes at the Gigha Golf Course.



#### Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 10th September

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 11th September

Craignure, Mull - Duart Castle/Craignure Golf Club. Cruise the Sea of the Hebrides.

#### Thursday 12th September

Lochboisdale, South Uist - Tour the Uists/Askernish Golf Club. Cruise the Sea of the Hebrides.

#### Friday 13th September

Port Ellen, Islay - Machrie Golf Club/Finlaggan lunch at Islay House. Cruise the North Channel.

#### Saturday 14th September

Londonderry - Ballyliffin Golf Course/City Tour. Sail the Northern Irish coast and the North Channel.

#### Sunday 15th September

 ${\it Campbeltown-Machrihanish\ Golf\ Club/An\ Ceardach\ Gardens/Torrisdale\ Castle.}$ 

Cruise the Mull of Kintyre.

#### Monday 16th September

Gigha - Gigha Golf Club/Achamore Gardens. Cruise the Sound of Jura.

#### Tuesday 17th September

Oban - Disembarkation.



# Golfing Highlights

- Craignure Golf Club 9 holes
- Askernish Golf Club 18 holes
- Machrie Golf Club 18 holes
- Ballyliffin Golf Club 18 holes
- Machrihanish Golf Club –
   18 holes



# HEBRIDEAN HERITAGE

#### Oban to Oban

Tuesday 17th to Tuesday 24th September 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



With a unique island feel, and calmer pace, sublimely peaceful and off the beaten track, the remote Hebrides are the perfect refuge from the pressures of life.

Whatever the season, the transient mood of these unspoilt landscapes never fail to stun and delight.

Experience Scottish history and romance from the comfort of Hebridean Princess.

Sailing the Sea of the Hebrides, we make landfall on South Uist, where the Kildonan Museum holds over 10,000 items charting the cultural history and heritage of an island that is incredibly rich in archeological remains.

Berthing in Castlebay, under the gaze of romantic Kisimul Castle, we tour the lovely island of Barra with its unique beach airport, and head to neighbouring Vatersay to explore on foot this island with dramatic beaches, rich wildlife and a history dating back to the Bronze Age.



Onwards to the Inner Hebrides and sunshine isle of Tiree to learn of the hazardous tale of the construction of the Skerryvore Lighthouse, an engineering wonder lying 11 miles out to sea. Colonsay exudes peace in the 20 acre informal woodland garden of Colonsay House, planted in the 1930's with many exotic species from the southern hemisphere.

Experience the thrill of a beach landing at Loch Tarbert on the tranquil Isle of Jura, where wild roaming deer far outnumber residents. Known for its tranquility, author George Orwell made Jura his home for peace and quiet and completed his most famous book '1984' here.

Famed for its birdlife and malt whisky, Islay beckons. We visit Kilchoman, the only independent farm distillery on the island. Delight in remote, Gigha, now owned by its community, where the woodland gardens of Achamore House laid by Sir James Horlick bloom spectacularly.

While away our final day at the picturesque, fishing village of Tayvallich situated on the shores of Loch Sween, and discover one of Scotland's richest prehistoric landscapes at Kilmartin Glen.

## Travel Plan - 7 nights

# Tuesday 17th September

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 18th September

Cruise the Sea of the Hebrides. Lochboisdale, South Uist - Island tour and Kildonan Museum.

#### Thursday 19th September

Castlebay, Barra - Island tour including airport. Castlebay, Barra - Walks on Vaterasy.

#### Friday 20th September

Cruise the Sea of the Hebrides. Hynish, Tiree - Skerryvore Lighhouse Museum or walks.

## Saturday 21st September

Colonsay - Colonsay House Gardens. Loch Tarbert, Jura - Beach landing.

#### Sunday 22nd September

Port Ellen, Islay - Kilchoman Distillery. Gigha - Achamore Gardens.

#### Monday 23rd September

Tayvallich - Strolls ashore. Ardfern - Kilmartin Glen Museum.

#### Tuesday 24th September

Oban - Disembarkation.





- Walks on Vatersay
- Colonsay House Gardens
- Beach landing on Jura
- Kilchoman Distillery
- Achamore Gardens





# FOOTLOOSE IN THE HEBRIDES



# Oban to Oban

Tuesday 24th September to Tuesday 1st October 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



For our final 'Footloose' adventure of the year, cross
The Minch to the Outer Hebrides, a superlative
backcloth for walking from Barra in the south to
northernmost Harris. The Inner Isles offer another world
of walks from Coll and Skye to Eigg, in the company of
expert guides, or enjoy the best of both worlds with
the strollers options.

Head from our anchorage to Coll and experience the thrill of a beach landing at Crossapol, the largest and most stunning beach on the island with a large dune complex. Steaming to beautiful Barra, embark on a scenic tour of the island or stride out to explore hills, machair and moorland.

Land by beach craft on one of the Bishop's Isles, located at the southern tip of the Outer Isles, Mingulay, Pabbay and Berneray





## Walking Highlights

- Walks on Barra
- Walks on The Uists
- Walks on Harris
- · Walks on Trotternish, Skye
- An Sgùrr, Eigg



are remote and uninhabited, swathed in white sandy beaches. Northwards to The Uists for a full day of walking in wild landscapes, or sit back and enjoy the contrasting scenery on a leisurely island tour.

Embrace the challenge of a full day ramble on Harris, an island with a unique Gaelic culture and fascinating history, or be enchanted by wild landscapes on a panoramic sightseeing excursion and visit the local croft distillery.

Cross The Little Minch to Uig on Skye, where the walkers spend a challenging day trekking on The Quiraing in Trotternish. With dramatic rock formations, cliffs and needles it feels almost other-worldly. Alternatively, you may choose to behold all that this area has to offer in more relaxed style, including a delicious seafood buffet lunch at the Flodigarry Hotel.

Finally, the historic wildlife haven of Eigg offers a choice of trails beneath the pitchstone ridge of An Sgùrr, perhaps climbing to the summit for sweeping views. Our Farewell Gala Dinner celebrates the close of a spectacular walking cruise.

#### Travel Plan - 7 nights

## Tuesday 24th September

Oban - Embarkation.

## Wednesday 25th September

Crossapol, Coll - Beach landing. Cruise the Sea of the Hebrides.

#### Thursday 26th September

Barra - Walks/Island tour. Bishop's Isles - Beach landing.

#### Friday 27th September

Lochboisdale, South Uist - Full day walks on Uists/tour of the Uists with lunch ashore.

Lochmaddy, North Uist - Guests re-join ship .

#### Saturday 28th September

Tarbert, Harris - Full day walks/island tour and distillery.

#### Sunday 29th September

Uig, Skye - Trotternish peninsula walks or tour with lunch ashore.

Portree, Skye - Guests re-join ship.

#### Monday 30th September

Eigg - An Sgùrr/walks ashore.

Cruise the Small Isles and Sound of Mull.

#### Tuesday 1st October

Oban - Disembarkation.

# **AUTUMN EXPLORER**

#### Oban to Oban

Tuesday 1st to Tuesday 8th October 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Autumn is undoubtedly the best season to see the North West of Scotland decked out in all her finery as leaves turn to copper, bronze and ruby before they fall. Sailing through awe-inspiring scenery into secluded lochs of sapphire and turquoise, indulge to the full in its immeasurable richness – refreshing walks, abundant wildlife, centuries of history and the reassuring comfort of *Hebridean Princess*.

Settle into life on board as we round Ardnamurchan to Canna, a green and fertile isle, dubbed the 'Garden of the Hebrides', before arriving at Armadale on Skye where the fascinating Clan Donald Centre sheds light on centuries of clan history.

Explore the rocky, walkers paradise of Raasay, where welcome refreshments are served at Raasay House and a tour of the local distillery offers a warming dram. Onwards to colourful Portree, steeped in an eventful Jacobite and Clearance past.

Delight in the tranquillity of Plockton, the 'Jewel of the Highlands', wrapped idyllically around a sheltered bay with magnificent views of Loch Carron. No Scottish castle is more photographed than Eilean Donan, seat of the MacKenzies, rebuilt in the 20th century on its scenic ancient site.

After a relaxing sail of Loch Hourn and Loch Nevis into wild Knoydart, stroll at Inverie to experience its remoteness, still unconnected to the road network of mainland Britain. Enjoy a drink at the Old Forge, one of the few community-owned pubs in Scotland.

The Small Isle of Eigg is a breathtaking spot for walks, peaceful beneath lofty An Sgùrr. We go ashore at Salen on the Ardnamurchan peninsula for walks through beautiful ancient oak woodlands close to the shores of Loch Sunart.

Immerse yourself in the romantic wilderness of the 14,000 acre coastal estate of Kingairloch, where deer, pine martens, eagles and otters are regularly sighted. Tiny Kerrera was once a stepping stone for cattle drovers between Mull and the mainland and hosts our final foray ashore.



## Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 1st October

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 2nd October

Canna - Walks Ashore. Armadale, Skye - Clan Donald Centre.

#### Thursday 3rd October

Raasay - Raasay House and Distillery. Portree, Skye - walks ashore.

#### Friday 4th October

Plockton - Walks ashore. Kyle of Lochalsh - Eilean Donan Castle.

#### Saturday 5th October

Cruise Loch Hourn and Loch Nevis. Inverie - Old Forge Pub.

#### Sunday 6th October

Eigg - Walks ashore.

Salen, Loch Sunart - Ancient Oak Woodlands.

#### Monday 7th October

Loch à Choire - Kingairloch Estate.

Kerrera - Walks ashore.

#### Tuesday 8th October

Oban - Disembarkation.



- Clan Donald Centre
- Raasay House and Distillery
- Plockton
- Kingairloch Estate
- Kerrera



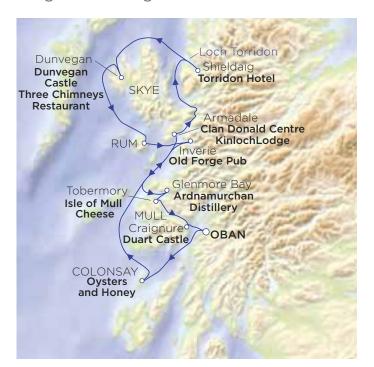




# FLAVOURS OF THE HEBRIDES

#### Oban to Oban

Tuesday 8th to Tuesday 15th October 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners





This cruise also departs on 2nd April 2024

Scotland is rightly proud of its reputation for its wonderful natural larder and those who produce mouth-watering creations. Join *Hebridean Princess*, on this gastronomic voyage, as we explore the wonderful culinary offerings of the Highlands and Islands.

On Colonsay, we meet the man who supplies Hebridean Princess with oysters and learn about his other passion - honey and the native black bees he keeps. We sample his wares ahead of a cruise of the Small Isles which highlights their diversity.

At Armadale we learn of Clan Donald history and heritage at the Museum of the Isles and sample highland hospitality with lunch at Kinloch Lodge, a jewel nestled among the hills of Skye.





## Hebridean Highlights

- Kinloch Lodge Lunch
- Torridon Hotel Lunch
- Three Chimneys Restaurant Lunch
- Ardnamurchan Distillery
- Duart Castle Champagne Reception



A gentle stroll ashore at Shieldaig creates an appetite for lunch at the fine dining restaurant at the Torridon Hotel before relaxing on board as we relish a scenic sail of stunning Loch Torridon and the east coast of Skye.

Steaming into Loch Dunvegan we visit the oldest continually inhabited castle in Scotland, Dunvegan Castle, and savour lunch at the world renowned Three Chimneys Restaurant. Step ashore on the wildlife haven of Rum for refreshing walks and enjoy a drink at the most remote pub on the British mainland, the Old Forge at Inverie.

Tour Scotland's greenest distillery, Ardnamurchan, and travel to Isle of Mull Cheese, the only dairy farm on the island, to learn how the local cheeses are made by hand. Our culinary adventure concludes with a champagne reception at Duart Castle, hosted by Sir Lachlan Maclean, Chieftain of Clan Maclean.

# Travel Plan - 7 nights

Tuesday 8th October Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 9th October

Cruise the Firth of Lorne. Colonsay - Oysters and honey.

#### Thursday 10th October

Cruise Small Isles. Armadale, Skye - Clan Donald Centre, lunch at Kinloch Lodge.

#### Friday 11th October

Shieldaig - Walks ashore, lunch at the Torridon Hotel. Shieldaig - Cruise Loch Torridon and the east coast of Skye.

#### Saturday 12th October

Dunvegan, Skye - Dunvegan Castle, lunch at the Three Chimneys Restaurant.
Cruise the west coast of Skye.

#### Sunday 13th October

Rum - Walks ashore. Inverie - Old Forge Pub.

#### Monday 14th October

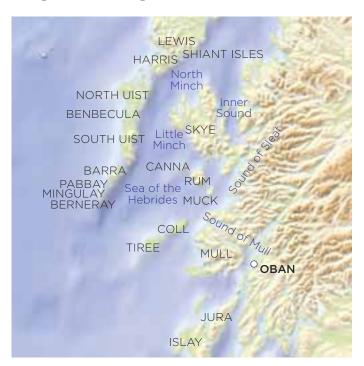
Glenmore Bay - Ardnamurchan Distillery. Tobermory, Mull - Isle of Mull Cheese. Craignure, Mull - Duart Castle, Champagne reception.

**Tuesday 15th October** Oban - Disembarkation.

# **AUTUMN SURPRISE**

## Oban to Oban

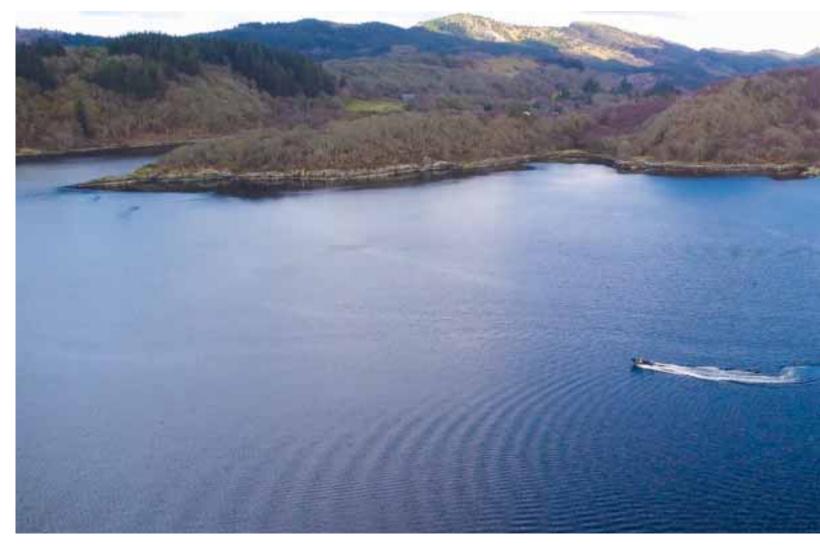
Tuesday 15th to Tuesday 22nd October 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



Embark on a voyage into the unknown. Join us on our Autumn Surprise where only the Captain knows our course.

As autumn dawns, discover the hidden treasures, magic and mystery of Scotland's West Coast and the remote and wildly beautiful Hebridean islands. The Captain will take you to some favourite destinations, revealing the itinerary on a day to day basis.

Although the itinerary is unknown, the high level of comfort and service on board *Hebridean Princess* is always assured.







# FROM OBAN TO THE HEART OF ARGYLL

#### **Oban to Greenock**

Tuesday 22nd to Tuesday 29th October 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

A cruise of enticing variety as *Hebridean Princess* cruises south from Oban to her winter home on the Clyde. This spellbinding cruise takes in a wonderful diversity of landscapes from the southern Inner Hebrides to the Firth of Clyde islands.

Breathe in the pure autumn air along the picturesque banks of Rennie and Telford's Crinan Canal, linking the Firth of Clyde and Western Isles during the heyday of sail. From Ardfern at the mouth of Loch Melfort, explore the ancient treasures of Kilmartin Glen, ranging from prehistoric stones to Dalriada, the first Scottish kingdom.

Experience the timelessness of Tayvallich in the inspiring scenery of Loch Sween. A world away, walk in the wilderness of rugged Jura, home to thousands of wild deer and dwarfed by the the three Paps. Cruise the legendary Mull of Kintyre to Campbeltown and a visit to the privately owned Springbank Distillery, tasting the magic of the age-old single malt.

Cruise Kilbrannan Sound and steam Britain's longest sea loch, Loch Fyne, to Ardkinglas House where we enjoy a private tour. Former home to the founder of Loch Fyne Oysters, Johnny Noble, the house was designed in 1907 by Sir Robert Lorimar.

At the pretty village of Ardrishaig, we learn of local heritage and maritime history at the new community hub, the Egg Shed, and enjoy sumptuous home baking at the Steamer Terminal café. At the mouth of Loch Fyne, Robert the Bruce's castle guards the entrance to the harbour at Tarbert, home to a working fishing fleet.

From Victorian Rothesay, travel to the Neo-Gothic flamboyance of Mount Stuart House, ancestral home to the Marquesses of Bute, adventurously designed by the 3rd Earl. On our final afternoon, relax on a cruise of Loch Long and Loch Goil, past Carrick Castle, en route to Greenock.

This cruise starts and ends in different ports. Please refer to page 108-109 for travel options.



## Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 22nd October

Oban - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 23rd October

Crinan - Towpath walks and Crinan Gallery. Ardfern - Kilmartin Glen and Museum.

#### Thursday 24th October

Tayvallich - Walks ashore. Loch na Mile, Jura - Craighouse.

#### Friday 25th October

Cruise Mull of Kintyre to Campbeltown. Campbeltown - Springbank Distillery.

## Saturday 26th October

Cruise Kilbrannan Sound. Strachur - Ardkinglas House and Garden.

#### Sunday 27th October

Ardrishaig - The Egg Shed and Steamer Terminal. Tarbert - Tarbert Castle.

#### Monday 28th October

Rotheday, Bute - Mount Stuart House. Cruise Loch Long and Loch Goil.

#### Tuesday 29th October

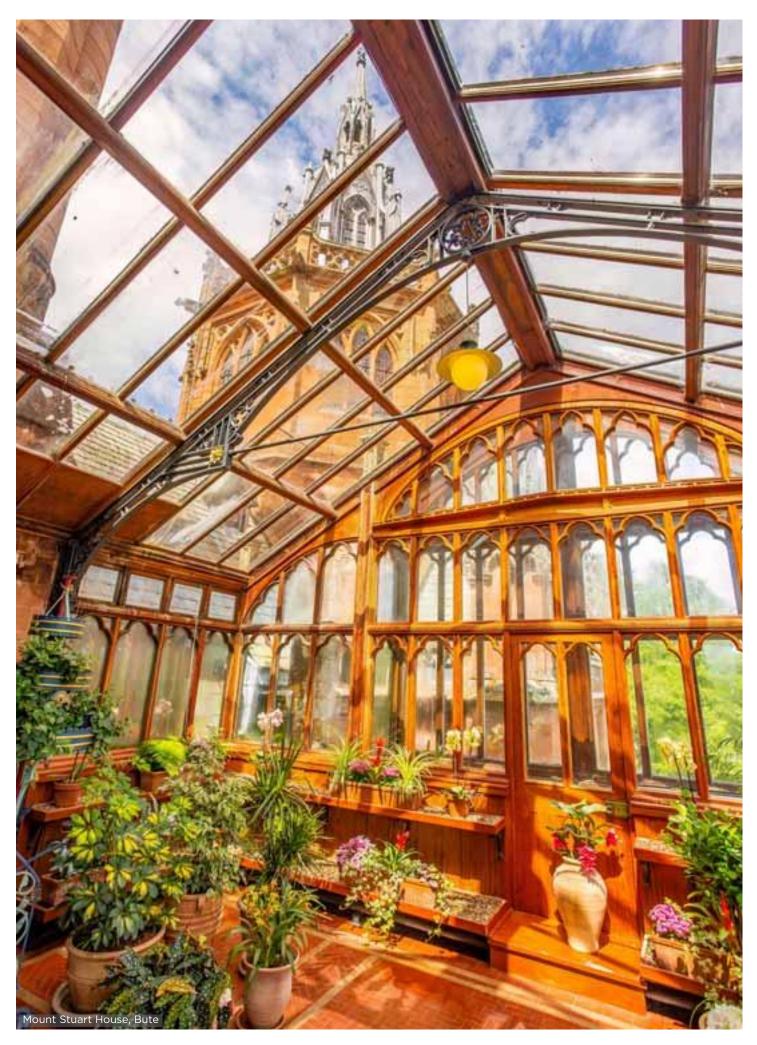
Greenock - Disembarkation.

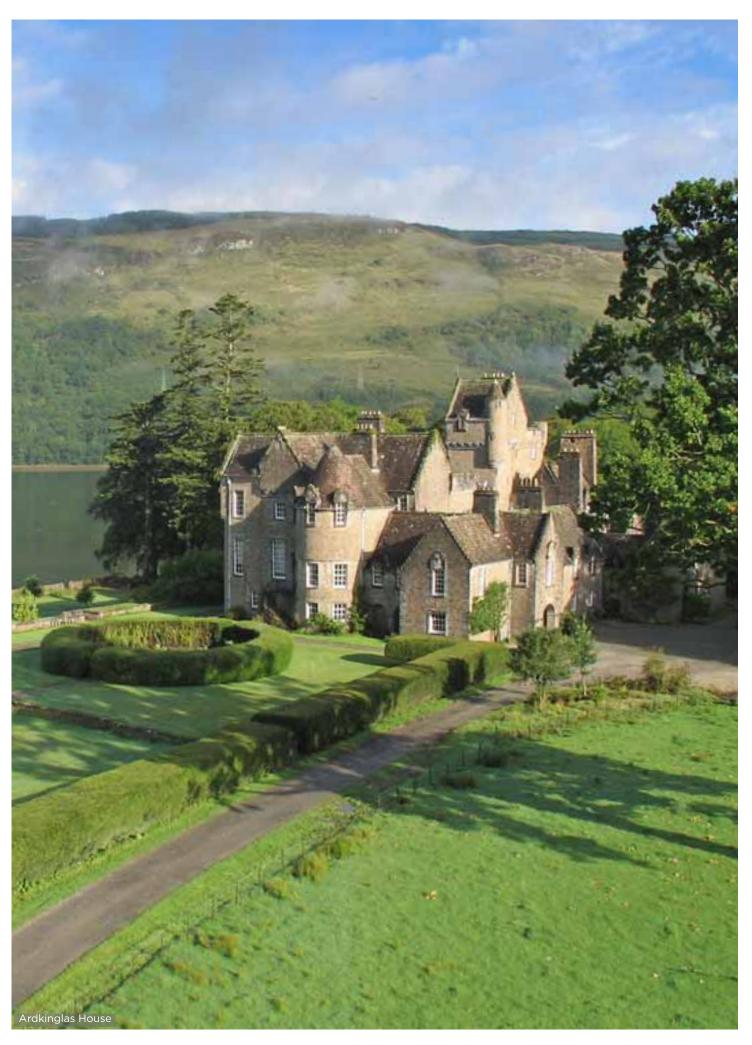


#### Guest Speaker Will Harrow

As a child in the Scottish Lighthouse Service, Will has lived in some of the most remote and beautiful coastlines of Scotland. After an unexpected interview with Sir Paul McCartney at the age of 19, Will spent the next 8 years touring the world. He joined the Band Aid Trust and become one of the organisers of Live Aid and Sport Aid. He was also appointed Charity Director of The Comedy Store, London, and elected Deputy Chair of the BBC Advisory Council. Will has returned to the world of contemporary music and is involved in supporting the production of tours, major sporting events and music festivals in the UK. His talks are full of personal anecdotes, photographs and of course, music.







# GEMS OF ARGYLL

# \*

#### **Greenock to Greenock**

Tuesday 29th October to Tuesday 5th November 2024 7 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Argyll boasts incredible scenery and an extraordinarily rich tapestry of history and heritage. Discover stately mansions, grand castles and architectural treasures in contrast with tranquil lochs and pretty fishing villages. Sail through stunning landscapes on this perfect, prewinter break in grand style.

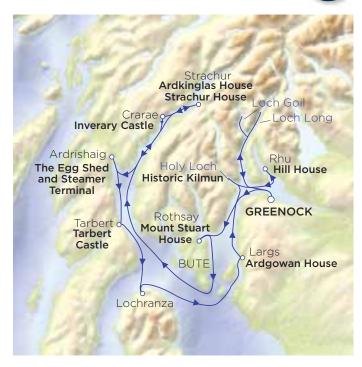
On the Isle of Bute, we wonder at the Victorian neo-Gothic mansion of Mount Stuart House, built by the 3rd Marquess. Sailing Britain's longest sea loch, Loch Fyne, we go ashore at Strachur to enjoy a private visit to Ardkinglas House, completed in 1907 for Sir Andrew Noble, before venturing to the home of Sir Charles and Lady McLean, Strachur House.

A castle has been standing at Inveraray on the shores of Loch Fyne since the 1400s, although the impressive castle we know today was inspired by a sketch by Vanbrugh. The fairytale home of the Duke and Duchess of Argyll hosts a behind the scenes tour of their private apartments.

At the pretty village of Ardrishaig, we learn of local heritage and maritime history at the new community hub, the Egg Shed, whilst at the mouth of Loch Fyne, Robert the Bruce's castle guards the entrance to the harbour at Tarbert, home to a working fishing fleet.

Step ashore on Arran to explore the scenic village of Lochranza, overlooked by the imposing ruin of its castle, before a private viewing of Ardgowan House which has been sitting on land that has been in the Shaw Stewart family for over 600 years.

On the shores of Holy Loch, the 19th century Kilmun church is adorned with magnificent stained glass windows by Stephen Adam. Our final port of call is Charles Rennie Mackintosh's Hill House, the epitome of his finest domestic Art Noveau style, now protected by 'the Box', a steel framed structure constructed to prevent further damage by the rain.



#### Travel Plan - 7 nights

#### Tuesday 29th October

Greenock - Embarkation.

#### Wednesday 30th October

Rothesay, Bute - Mount Stuart House Cruise Loch Fyne.

#### Thursday 31st October

Strachur - Ardkinglas House.

Strachur - Strachur House.

## Friday 1st November

Crarae - Inveraray Castle Private Apartments. Ardrishaig - The Egg Shed and steamer terminal.

#### Saturday 2nd November

Tarbert Loch Fyne - Ruined castle and walks. Lochranza, Arran - Walks ashore.

#### Sunday 3rd November

Largs - Ardgowan House. Holy Loch - Historic Kilmun.

#### Monday 4th November

Rhu - Hill House.

Cruise Loch Long and Loch Goil.

#### Tuesday 5th November

Greenock - Disembarkation.



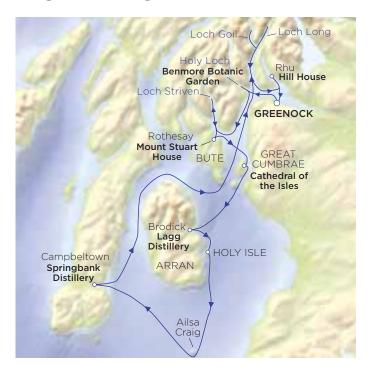
- Ardkinglas House
- Strachur House
- Inverary Castle Private Apartments
- Ardgowan House
- Hill House



# LOCHS AND ISLES OF THE LOWER CLYDE

## **Greenock to Greenock**

Tuesday 5th to Monday 11th November 2024 6 nights including 2 Gala Dinners



Explore the lochs and isles of the sheltered waters of the Lower Clyde. Relish their tranquility and magnificent scenery on this tantalising cruise where rich and rewarding treasures await discovery. Hebridean Princess introduces you to the delights of this area in comfort and luxurious style.

The Giant Redwood Avenue at Benmore Botanic Gardens forms one of the finest entrances to any garden in the world and gives a glimpse of the sheer variety of trees and shrubs beyond.

Go ashore on Bute to explore the wondrous Gothic structure of Mount Stuart House, home to the Stuarts of Bute, direct descendants of Robert the Bruce, which sits in 300 acres of glorious gardens.





## Hebridean Highlights

- Benmore Botanic Garden
- Mount Stuart House
- Holy Isle
- Springbank Distillery
- Hill House



Onwards to little-known Great Cumbrae, along Millport Bay to wonder at the diminutive Cathedral of the Isles which dates from 1861, the smallest cathedral in Britain. On Arran, we travel to the newly-opened distillery of Lagg where disitillers use peat to produce earthy, complex and rich tasting spirits to revive a centuries-old tradition of whisky production.

The seclusion of Holy Isle, where St Molaise sought refuge as a hermit is now a centre of World Peace and Health founded by a Tibetan Buddhist meditation master, offers peaceful walks and quiet contemplation. In Campbeltown, we visit the oldest independent distillery in Scotland, Springbank, founded in 1828 by Archibald Mitchell and now run by the 5th generation of the same family.

A scenic cruise of Loch Long and Loch Goil precedes the Art Nouveau jewel of Hill House is the last of our treasures. Be inspired by the unique building, interiors and collection designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh and Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh in the 'Glasgow style'.

## Travel Plan - 6 nights

## Tuesday 5th November

Greenock - Embarkation.

## Wednesday 6th November

Holy Loch - Benmore Botanic Garden. Cruise East Kyle and Loch Striven.

#### Thursday 7th November

Rothesay, Bute - Mount Stuart House. Great Cumbrae - Catherdral of the Isles.

#### Friday 8th November

Brodick. Arrran - Lagg Distillery. Holy Isle - Walks ashore.

#### Saturday 9th November

Campbeltown - Springbank Distillery. Cruise around Ailsa Craig.

#### Sunday 10th November

Cruise Loch Long and Loch Goil. Rhu - Hill House.

#### Monday 11th November

Greenock - Disembarkation.



# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FIRTH OF CLYDE

#### **Greenock to Greenock**

Monday 11th to Friday 15th November 2024 4 nights including 2 Gala Dinners

Join *Hebridean Princess* on her final voyage of the season and explore some hidden gems of the Firth of Clyde. Explore hidden islands and mainland delights on this short break of enticing variety. Cosseted in comfort, enjoy a house party atmosphere and celebrate the close of another rewarding season.

Set in five hundred acres of ancient woodland and mature, renowned gardens overlooking the Clyde, we visit Finlaystone House, home to the MacMillan family who are on hand to extend a warm welcome.

We arrive at the Victorian resort of Rothesay, for an island tour of Bute. Bute is crossed by the Highland Boundary Fault resulting in an island of contrasting landscapes; bare and craggy in the north, lower, undulating and fertile in the south.

Venturing ashore at Largs, we travel to Hunterston Castle, seat of the Clan Hunter. The 13th century tower house was replaced in 1799 by Hunterston House. Stepping ashore on the Isle of Arran, we explore the formal gardens and woodland country park at Brodick Castle. The walled garden provides a sheltered site in which to grow plants that are rarely seen growing outdoors in Scotland. Built in 1710, it's the oldest part of the gardens and has stunning views over Brodick Bay.

Rough and rocky Little Cumbrae was maintained as a royal hunting forest. Explore on foot to discover the ruins of a castle demolished by Oliver Cromwell's army in 1650 and a small chapel dedicated to St Beya. On the shores of Holy Loch, our final port of call is the 19th century Kilmun church, adorned with magnificent stained glass windows by Stephen Adam.



#### Travel Plan - 4 nights

Monday 11th November

Greenock - Embarkation.

Tuesday 12th November

Greenock - Finlaystone House

Greenock - Finlaystone House. Rothesay, Bute - Island tour.

Wednesday 13th November

Largs - Hunterston House and Hunterston Castle. Brodick, Arran - Brodick Castle Gardens.

Thursday 14th November

Little Cumbrae - Walks ashore. Holy Loch - Historic Kilmun.

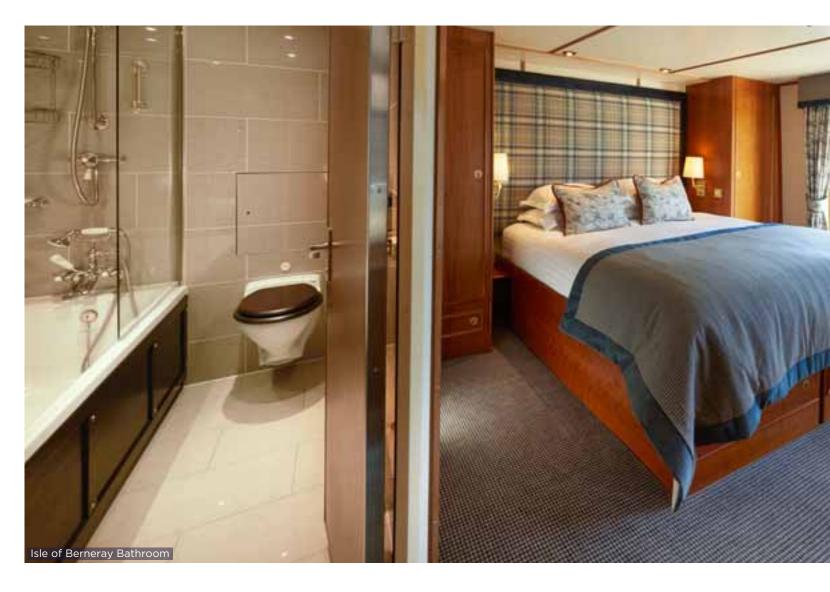
Friday 15th November

Greenock - Disembarkation.



- Finlaystone House
- Island tour of Bute
- Hunterston Castle and Hunterston House
- Brodick Castle Gardens
- Little Cumbrae







# **CABINS**

Elegantly decorated and furnished, Hebridean Princess cabins are individually designed to make the most of the available space. Poetically named after Scottish isles, castles, lochs and sounds, they are amongst the most spacious for vessels of her size.







All cabins offer ample wardrobe space, including a small personal safe, drawers and a dressing table, hairdryer, trouser press, iron and ironing board, tea/coffee-making facilities and television. There is also a refrigerator stocked with a selection of soft drinks with fresh milk supplied daily. For your added comfort and relaxation, bathrobes, slippers and a wide range of Molton Brown toiletries are also provided. All guests enjoy exactly the same high standard of service irrespective of cabin grade.

Please note that smoking is not allowed in the cabins.





# PROMENADE DECK

















# **BALCONY CABINS**

# Isle of Berneray Isle of Bute

Bed: Super king-size or twin Bathroom: Full-size bath with shower over

#### Cabin category

The roomy Isle of Berneray and Isle of Bute are situated on the port and starboard sides, towards the after end of the Promenade Deck. The private balconies in these cabins ensure total privacy as they cannot be overlooked from the ship, and with teak tables and chairs, they are the perfect place to sit back, relax and take in the breathtaking landscapes. These cabins contain super king-size beds, which can be re-arranged as twins. The bathrooms are generous in size with full-size baths and showers over.

# Isle of Iona Isle of Staffa

Bed: Super king-size or twin Bathroom: Full-size bath with shower over

#### Cabin category

Situated on the port and starboard sides of the Promenade Deck, towards the after end of the ship, these two superb cabins are fitted with super king-size beds convertible into twins. Large picture windows are perfect for watching the landscapes unfold. Spacious bathrooms contain full-size baths with showers over.

# Isle of Raasay

Bed: Double
Bathroom: Walk-in shower

#### Cabin category

An excellent port-side cabin in a quiet corner on the same level as the Tiree Lounge and the Library. This extremely comfortable cabin has open views from its windows and is well-equipped with private facilities, including a walk-in shower.

# PRINCESS DECK













# BALCONY CABINS

# Isle of Barra Isle of Benbecula

Bed: King-size Bathroom: Full-size bath with shower over

#### Cabin category

The Isle of Barra and Isle of Benbecula are located on the port and starboard sides forward on the Princess Deck. The balconies, which afford total privacy as they cannot be overlooked from the ship, are fitted with teak tables and chairs for you to enjoy the magnificent scenery. The bathrooms are generous in size with full-size baths and showers over.

# Isle of Coll Isle of Colonsay

Bed: Super king-size or twin Bathroom: Full-size bath with shower over

#### Cabin category

Located on the same deck as Reception and the Columba Restaurant, these roomy, forward-facing cabins, at the forward end of the Princess Deck, are fitted with three large picture windows offering excellent views ahead over the bow. The super king-size beds can be rearranged as twins. A well deck, some 40 feet (12 m) in length, between the cabins and the forecastle, ensures privacy. Large bathrooms feature full-size baths with showers over.

# Isle of Arran suite

Bed: Super Super king-size or twin Bathroom: Full-size bath with separate walk-in shower

#### Cabin category

The ship's largest cabin, the Isle of Arran Suite, is located on the port side of the Princess Deck and, as all windows are on the ship's side, privacy is assured. It comprises a large, separate day room, a spacious bedroom and a well-equipped bathroom with bath and separate walk-in shower. The bedroom contains a super king-size bed, which can be re-arranged as twins, generous wardrobes, drawers, dressing table and a second television.









# Isle of Danna

Bed: Super king-size or twin Bathroom: Walk-in shower

#### Cabin category

A roomy cabin that is in great demand with returning guests, the Isle of Danna is tucked into a quiet corner on the port side of the Princess Deck. It contains a super king-size bed, which can be converted into twin beds, and two comfortable chairs from which to enjoy panoramic views through full-size picture windows. Charming private facilities include a walk-in shower.

# Isle of Muck

Bed: Double Bathroom: Walk-in shower

#### Cabin category

This popular, double-bedded cabin, located on the starboard side of the Princess Deck, has three full-size picture windows, which afford superb views and give the room a bright, airy feel. Private facilities include a walk-in shower.

# Isle of Canna Isle of Eigg Isle of Rum

Bed: Single Bathroom: Walk-in shower

## Cabin category

These well-appointed cabins lie on the starboard side of the Princess Deck, enjoying good views from their windows. With a charming homefrom-home feel for the single traveller, they are much in demand. The private facilities include walk-in showers.

# WATERFRONT DECK





















# Duart Castle Kinloch Castle Torosay Castle

Beds: Super king-size or twin Bathroom: Full-size bath with separate walk-in shower

#### Cabin category

Very roomy and excellent value, these elegant cabins on the Waterfront Deck are connected by a flight of stairs to the Princess Deck, offering easy access to the embarkation area on the same level for the small boats when going ashore. While Kinloch and Torosay Castle cabins are fitted with two opening portholes, Duart Castle also has a forward-facing porthole. All feature spacious bathrooms with full-size baths and walk-in showers.

# Ardvreck Castle Lews Castle

Beds: Double Bathroom: Full-size bath with shower over

#### Cabin category

Excellent value, these elegant cabins on the Waterfront Deck are connected by a flight of stairs to the Princess Deck, offering easy access to the embarkation area on the same level for the small boats when going ashore. Both these cabins are fitted with two opening portholes and feature spacious bathrooms with full-size baths and showers over.

# Sound of Islay Sound of Jura Sound of Mull Sound of Sleat

Bed: Single (Jura and Sleat) Bed: Double (Islay and Mull) Bathroom: Walk-in shower

#### Cabin category

Situated on the starboard side of the Waterfront Deck, these are roomy single cabins, fitted with two opening portholes. The private facilities feature walk-in showers. A single staircase links these rooms to the Princess Deck, with direct access by a flight of three steps to the embarkation area for the small boats when going ashore.

# HEBRIDEAN DECK









# Loch Crinan Loch Harport Loch Torridon

Beds: Super king-size or twin Bathroom: Walk-in shower

#### Cabin category

These charming, interchangeable super king-size or twin-bedded cabins on the port and starboard sides of the Hebridean Deck are generous in size and attractively priced. Although there are no windows or portholes, fresh air is circulated day and night by the ship's forced-air ventilation system. Spacious private facilities include a walkin shower.

### Loch Scresort

Bed: Single Bathroom: Walk-in shower

#### Cabin category

This delightful cabin, located on the starboard side of the Hebridean Deck, is well-appointed and offers the single traveller excellent value for money. Fresh air is supplied by the ship's forcedair ventilation system, as this cabin does not have windows or portholes. Loch Scresort has goodsized private facilities with a walk-in shower.



# A SMOOTH START TO YOUR CRUISE

Our experienced reservations staff can assist with all your UK travel arrangements, including individually tailored packages, to make your journey to and from *Hebridean Princess* as relaxed and as stress-free as possible.

Whether you would prefer the convenience of a chauffeur transfer, or the comfort of a private airport lounge, we will be only too pleased to cater for your requirements.

#### **Flights**

Our reservations staff can advise and arrange flights from/to UK airports to/from the airport nearest to your port of embarkation in order to meet with our coach transfer.

#### Cruises to the Republic of Ireland

Cruises which start and/or finish in Dublin or Dún Laoghaire include scheduled flights from/to selected UK airports to connect with the cruise.

#### Rail

We can arrange standard or first class rail travel from/to your local UK railway station, together with seat reservations where available, to/from the station nearest to the port of embarkation in order to meet with our coach transfer.

#### Airports and railway stations

For cruises starting and/or ending in Oban and Greenock the nearest transport terminals are Glasgow Central Railway Station and Glasgow International Airport.

For cruises starting and/or ending in Inverness the nearest transport terminals are Inverness Railway Station and Inverness Airport.

For cruises starting and/or ending in Dublin and Dún Laoghaire, the nearest airport is Dublin International Airport.

#### Private coach transfers

Guests travelling by rail or air will be collected at the railway stations or airports listed and transported by coach to join *Hebridean Princess*.

#### Secure car parking

A garaging facility is provided for cruises starting and ending in Oban and secure car parking is available for Greenock and Inverness departures.

#### Door-to-door transfers

As an added touch of luxury, our door-to-door service makes it possible for you to enjoy the comfort of chauffeur driven travel from most places in the UK to your embarkation port, or any UK railway station or airport.

#### Luggage transfers

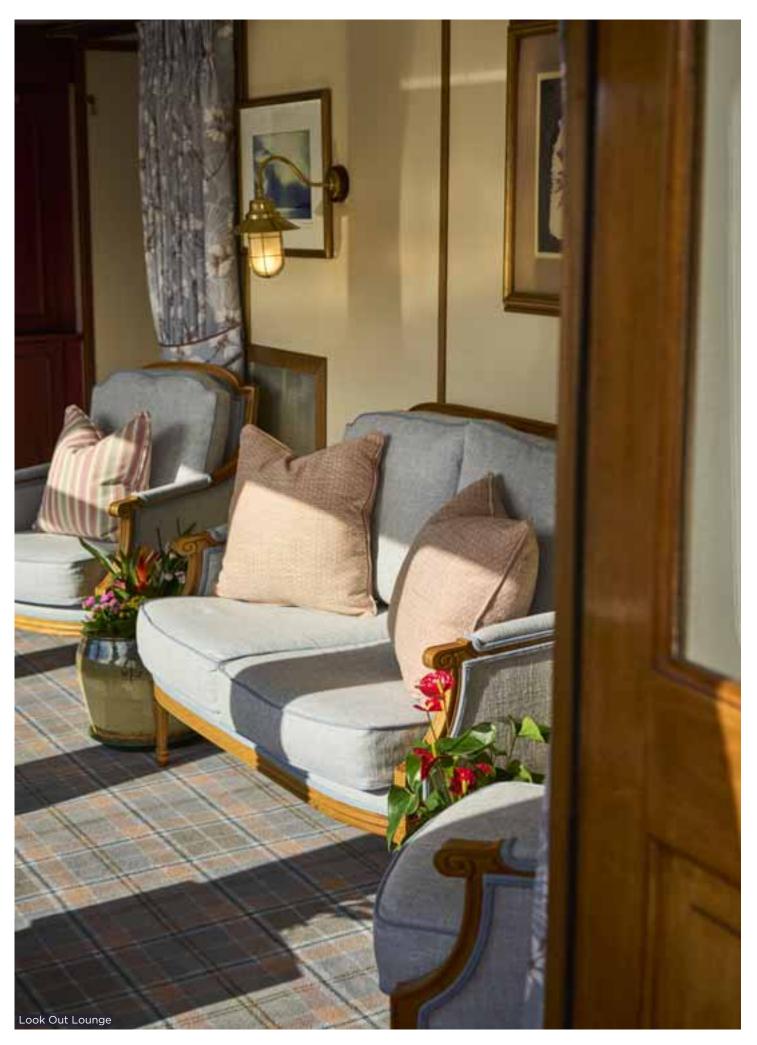
The Baggageman provides a luggage collection and delivery service from your home to *Hebridean Princess* and return.

Please contact The Baggageman directly on 01844 264890 or visit thebaggageman.com.

#### Hotels

You may prefer to extend your cruise with a pre- or post-cruise hotel stay and many of our hotel partners, like *Hebridean Princess*, are members of Luxury Scotland or PoB Hotels.





# CRUISES THAT START AND FINISH IN DIFFERENT PORTS

For cruises that embark and disembark in different ports, trouble-free arrangements have been made by our reservations staff.

#### Treasures of Argyll and Bute 19th to 26th March Greenock to Oban

Coach transfers will be provided from Glasgow Central Railway Station and Glasgow International Airport to Greenock at the start of the cruise, and from Oban to Glasgow International Airport and Glasgow Central Railway Station at the end of the cruise.

Car parking is available at Greenock and a complimentary transfer will be provided from Oban to Greenock on the day of disembarkation for guests wishing to utilise the car parking facility in Greenock.

#### Natural World of the Northern Isles 28th May to 6th June Oban to Inverness

Coach transfers will be provided from Glasgow
Central Railway Station and Glasgow International
Airport to Oban at the start of the cruise, and from
the port of Inverness to Inverness Airport and
Inverness Railway Station at the end of the cruise. Car
parking is available at the port of Inverness and a
complimentary transfer will be provided to Oban on
the day of embarkation for guests wishing to utilise
this car parking arrangement.

#### Home from Orcadia 24th June to 2nd July Inverness to Oban

Coach transfers will be provided from Inverness Railway Station and Inverness Airport to the port of Inverness at the start of the cruise, and from Oban to Glasgow International Airport and Glasgow Central Railway Station at the end of the cruise. Car parking is available at Oban and a complimentary transfer will be provided to Inverness on the day of embarkation for guests wishing to utilise this car parking arrangement.

#### Voyage to the Emerald Isle 23rd to 31st July Oban to Dublin

Scheduled flights are included in the cruise fare from selected UK airports to Glasgow at the start of the cruise and from Dublin to selected UK airports at the end of the cruise.

Coach transfers will be provided from Glasgow Central Railway Station and Glasgow International Airport to Oban at the start of the cruise, and from the ship in Dublin to Dublin Airport at the end of the cruise.

#### Treasures of the Celtic Coasts 16th to 26th August Dublin to Oban

Scheduled flights are included in the cruise fare from selected UK airports to Dublin at the start of the cruise and from Glasgow to selected UK airports at the end of the cruise.

Coach transfers will be provided from Dublin Airport to the ship in Dublin at the start of the cruise, and from Oban to Glasgow International Airport and Glasgow Central Railway Station at the end of the cruise.

#### From Oban to the Heart of Argyll 22nd to 29th October Oban to Greenock

Coach transfers will be provided from Glasgow
Central Railway Station and Glasgow International
Airport to Oban at the start of the cruise, and from
Greenock to Glasgow International Airport and
Glasgow Central Railway Station at the end of the
cruise.

Car parking is available at Greenock and a complimentary transfer will be provided from Greenock to Oban on the day of embarkation for guests wishing to utilise the car parking facility in Greenock.

# ON BOARD A-7.

#### **Animals**

We regret that no animals are permitted on board the vessel other than assistance dogs accompanying disabled passengers.

#### **Binoculars**

Wildlife lovers may wish to bring binoculars as there are only a limited number on board for loan.

#### Communications

There are iPads in the Library and Wi-Fi access is available. Mobile phones should be switched off in public rooms. The cellular system in the cruising areas can be somewhat patchy and reception can be irregular.

#### Dining and restaurant arrangements

The Columba Restaurant is large enough for all guests to dine at the same time. The majority of tables are for two, but should guests wish to dine together we will be delighted to reserve a table for a maximum of eight. Guests travelling on their own will be seated at a larger table, usually hosted by an Officer, unless they indicate otherwise.

Special diets: We can cater for most dietary preferences, with the exception of strict kosher and one or two other regimes. Special requests should be included in the Pre-Cruise Questionnaire issued before your cruise begins; our reservations staff will be pleased to advise you.

#### Dress and footwear

Daytime: During the day dress is casual. It is advisable to bring suitable clothing for the area in which you will be cruising.

Evening: For dinner in the evening, guests prefer to dress more formally, with a jacket and tie for gentlemen and the equivalent for ladies.

Gala evenings: The recommended dress code for Gala evenings is black tie for gentlemen and evening wear for ladies.

On these evenings, the Officers will wear formal dress. The number of Gala evenings depends on the length of the cruise, but as a guideline, two formal Gala Dinners will be held during a seven-night cruise.

Footwear: Non-slip shoes should be worn on deck and in the ship's small boats when going ashore. Some cruises visit remote locations where heavy-soled shoes or walking boots are recommended for shore visits and serious walking.

'Footloose' walking cruises: In addition to walking boots, we recommend that guests protect themselves against the unpredictable weather with waterproof clothing; we would stress that jeans are considered unsuitable. A reasonably sized rucksack would also be useful.

#### **Electricity supply**

The electricity supply on *Hebridean Princess* is 240v AC and standard UK 3-pin sockets are provided in cabins. If guests wish to use 110v equipment, a transformer will be required – a limited supply is available on board for loan. The ship also carries adaptors for European and US style plugs, obtainable from the Housekeeper.

#### Going ashore

Since many of the places on our itineraries are unsuitable for berthing alongside, *Hebridean Princess* is equipped with sturdy tenders to transport guests ashore. Buoyancy aids are provided and must be worn in all small boat operations.

Please note, however, that use of the ship's tenders does require a certain degree of agility. If in doubt, guests with physical disabilities and elderly or infirm passengers should contact our reservations staff before booking.

Our itineraries are planned to allow frequent visits ashore to interesting and unusual places, but participation is by no means compulsory. The emphasis is on pleasing one's self. As alternatives, we can usually suggest an independent stroll or a more serious walk ashore, perhaps a bike ride or, as many guests have discovered, the relaxation of staying on board.

#### Gratuities

Hebridean operates a 'no tipping' policy.

#### Hebridean shop

There is a wee shop on board selling a bespoke range of gifts and mementos. We support British designer makers and the majority of our items are made in the UK.

#### On board leisure

Hebridean Princess boasts a well-stocked library, and a card and games area with a range of board games, jigsaws, chess and backgammon. A small variety of gym equipment is available on the Waterfront Deck. Each cabin is equipped with satellite television; should you wish to view a DVD in your cabin, a number of DVD players are available for this purpose and DVDs may be borrowed from the Library.

#### Sailing

Most sailing on *Hebridean Princess* is scheduled to take place over breakfast and lunch, apart from overnight sailings to St. Kilda. Smaller ships tend to have a certain amount of vibration and some noise is inevitable when the main engines are running. At night, a sound insulated generator supplies domestic power to the vessel.

#### **Smoking**

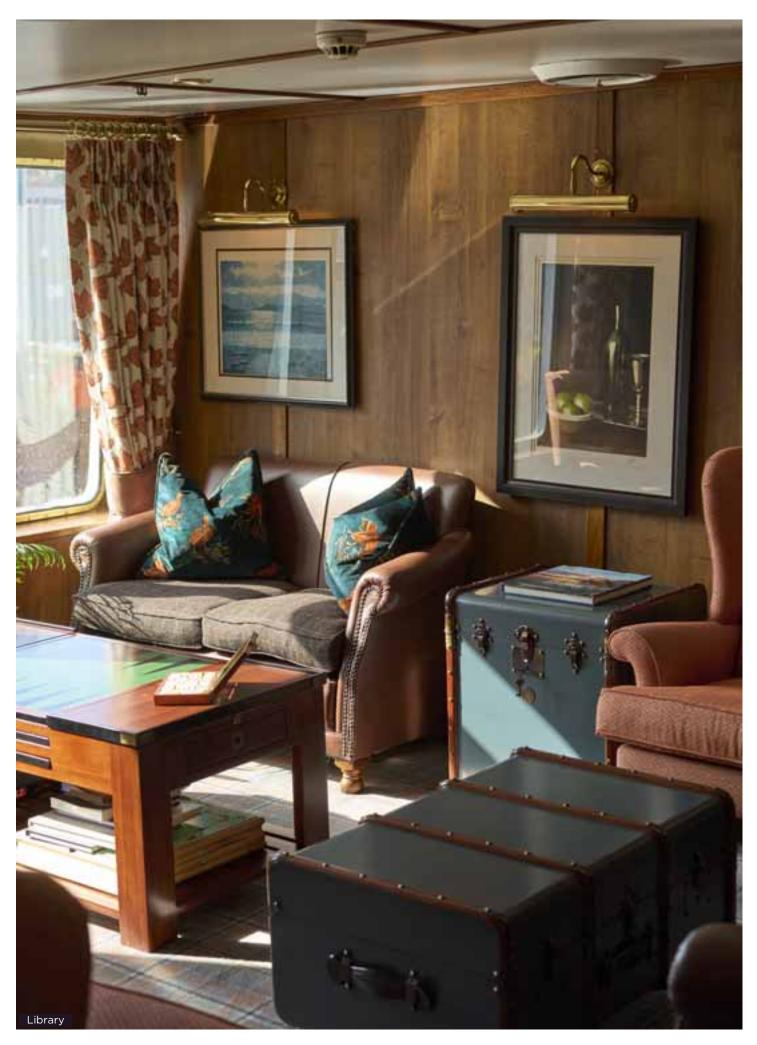
Smoking is not allowed inside the vessel at any time and is not permitted in cabins. Smoking is allowed only on the outer decks, and guests occupying balcony cabins are asked to show consideration to other balcony users.

#### **Stairs**

Please note that there are no lifts (elevators) on board Hebridean Princess and, although well equipped with handrails, some of the ship's stairways are steep, particularly those from the Princess Deck to the Waterfront and Hebridean Decks.

#### **Valuables**

A small safe is provided in each cabin to secure valuables. Hebridean cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage to guests' valuables.



# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

#### Disabled facilities

If wheelchair users wish to cruise with us, they must be accompanied by a fare-paying able-bodied companion to assist them on board and ashore. Wheelchair access may be limited. Entrances to the vessel have raised coamings and almost all cabins have a raised lip or step from bedroom to bathroom. Please note that bedroom doors are no wider than 70cm. As the vessel does not carry a supply of narrow wheelchairs for general use, guests should check that their own chair is of a suitable width.

#### Fitness on board and ashore

Many of our visits ashore call for reasonable walking ability if guests are to gain maximum enjoyment from the cruise. As many are to lesser-known and remote places, there are frequently landing stages, steps, slopes and rough ground to contend with. We therefore reserve the right not to take a guest on a particular visit if we feel that it would be beyond his or her capabilities or might affect the enjoyment of fellow guests. If you are uncertain of your ability to participate in these activities, please contact our reservations staff to discuss the route in detail before confirming your booking. Those requiring wheelchairs and/or regular assistance in order to participate in shore visits must be accompanied by a fare-paying, able-bodied companion to assist them.

#### Health

When booking, guests must advise Hebridean of particular health conditions necessitating special precautions and of any subsequent change. It is the responsibility of each guest to inform Hebridean of any prevailing condition which may affect them on board or ashore and, equally, other guests' ability to enjoy to the full any shore visits during their cruise. Please refer to the section 'Fitness on board and ashore' above relating to the requirements for able-bodied companions.

#### Itinerary detail and variations

Cruise itineraries are published in good faith, but may have to be altered on board to take into account climatic, geographical, political and other factors over which Hebridean or its agents have no control. We will do our best to minimise alterations and their potential effect on guests.

While the Captain will do his utmost to follow the itinerary, he will, where appropriate, adapt the route to suit the prevailing and forecast weather conditions. The Captain's decision is always final. If such amendments need to be made at short notice, we cannot make any financial adjustments. Please see page 4 of the 2024 Cruise Diary & Tariff for our Conditions of Business.

#### Medical facilities

Guests are advised to pack all necessary medical supplies, as our ports of call are generally off the beaten track and may lack facilities. If guests intend to bring any electrical or electronic medical equipment, they should first check with our reservations staff that it is compatible with the ship's 240v electricity supply.

Hebridean Princess does not carry a doctor as she is never far from land. Guests should ensure that, to their knowledge, they are fit to take a holiday during which immediate medical assistance may not be available. Arrangements to consult a doctor on land can be made at relatively short notice and assistance can be summoned quickly in the event of an emergency. Any medical and repatriation costs will be charged to the guest's account.

The ship's Officers are trained in first aid and a comprehensive medical supply is kept for emergency use.

#### Minors

We regret that children under the age of 12 cannot be accommodated.

#### Single room occupancy

Eight of our cabins are designed and let on a single occupancy basis. Once these cabins have been booked, solo guests requesting a double cabin for single occupancy will be charged a supplement of 85% of the per-person fare for that cabin grade. Please refer to the Cabin Facilities and Dimensions Guide in the inside back cover or contact our reservations staff for further details.



#### PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

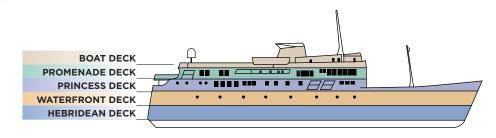
Nicola Gibbs (Page 83)

We would like to thank the following for permitting us to use their photography in the production of this Cruise Directory:

Captain Caz Palmer (Front cover and page 88)
John Noranni (Pages 24, 71, 73)
Doreen Thomson (Pages Inside front cover, 13, 36, 47, 49)
Paul Mills (Page 63)
Bryan Kennedy (Pages 33, 70, 78)
Margaret Soraya (Page 60)
Anita Mackay (Page 74)

# CABIN FACILITIES AND DIMENSIONS GUIDE

- British flag and management
- British officers
- Lloyd's registered
- Twin screw
- 2,112 gross registered tons
- Fully stabilised
- 5 passenger decks
- Maximum of 50 passengers
- Quick launch & recovery tender system

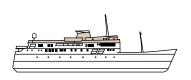


The ship was especially designed and built to sail in the waters of the Scottish Western Isles and has proven her ability over the years.

	Price category	Deck location	Separate day room	Private balcony	Windows	Portholes	Bath	Shower	Double bed	King-size bed	Single bed	Interchangeable twin/super king-size bed	Bedroom (m²)	Bedroom (sq ft)	Bath with shower Walk in shower (m²)	Bath with shower Walk in shower (sq ft)	Day room/ balcony (m²)	Day room/ balcony (sq ft)	Total private floor size (m²)	Total private floor size (sq ft)
Double/Twin Cabins			•		•		•	•				•	15.2	163.6	4.0	43.1	12.4	133.4	31.6	340.1
Isle of Arran Suite Isle of Berneray			Ļ		•		•	•				•	17.7	190.5	3.3	35.5	5.0	53.8	26.0	279.8
Isle of Bute				•	•		•	•				•	17.7	190.5	3.3	35.5	5.0	53.8	26.0	279.8
Isle of Barra				•	•		•	•		•		_	12.8	137.7	4.8	51.6	4.8	51.6	22.4	240.9
Isle of Benbecula				•	•		•	•		•			12.8	137.7	4.8	51.6	4.8	51.6	22.4	240.9
Isle of Coll					•		•	•				•	15.2	163.6	4.0	44.1	4.0	31.0	19.3	207.7
Isle of Colonsay					•		•	•				•	15.2	163.6	4.1	44.1			19.3	207.7
Isle of Iona					•		•	•				•	19.3	207.7	3.3	35.5			22.6	243.2
Isle of Staffa					•		•	•				•	19.3	207.7	3.3	35.5			22.6	243.2
Isle of Danna					•			•				•	19.8	213.1	2.8	30.1			22.6	243.2
Duart Castle						•	•	•				•	11.5	123.7	4.2	45.2			15.7	168.9
Kinloch Castle						•	•	•				•	13.4	144.2	4.8	51.6			18.2	195.8
Torosay Castle						•	•	•				•	13.0	139.9	4.8	51.6			17.8	191.5
Ardvreck Castle						•	•	•	•				12.2	131.3	2.9	31.2			15.1	162.5
Lews Castle						•	•	•	•				12.2	131.3	2.9	31.2			15.1	162.5
Isle of Muck					•			•	•				13.1	141.0	3.0	32.2			16.1	173.2
Isle of Raasay					•			•	•				11.9	128.1	3.1	33.3			15.0	161.4
Loch Crinan								•				•	14.0	150.6	3.4	36.5			17.4	187.1
Loch Harport								•				•	12.9	138.8	3.3	35.5			16.2	174.3
Loch Torridon								•				•	11.1	119.4	3.1	33.3			14.2	152.7
Single Cabins																				
Isle of Canna					•			•			•		8.6	92.5	2.7	29.0			11.3	121.5
Isle of Eigg					•			•			•		8.6	92.5	2.9	31.2			11.5	123.7
Isle of Rum					•			•			•		9.2	99.0	1.9	20.4			11.1	119.4
Sound of Islay						•		•	•				11.0	118.4	2.2	23.6			13.2	142.0
Sound of Jura						•		•			•		10.5	113.0	2.4	25.8			12.9	138.8
Sound of Mull						•		•	•				11.0	118.4	2.2	23.6			13.2	142.0
Sound of Sleat						•		•			•		9.9	106.5	2.2	23.6			12.1	130.1
Loch Scresort								•			•		10.2	109.7	3.2	34.4			13.4	144.1

All sizes are approximate

# **DECK PLANS**

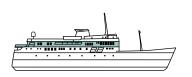


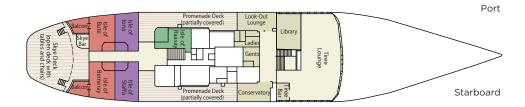
Port

| Company | Change | Cha

**Boat Deck** 

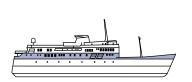
(No 5 Deck level)

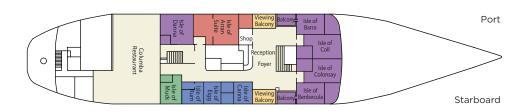




#### **Promenade Deck**

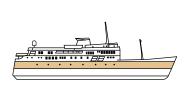
(No 4 Deck level)

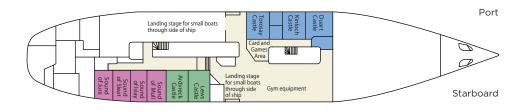




#### **Princess Deck**

(No 3 Deck level)





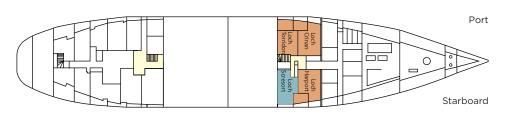
#### **Waterfront Deck**

(No 2 Deck level)



# Hebridean Deck

(No 1 Deck level)





# Small Ship Unique Experience











Purpose-built to cruise the historic locks of the Caledonian Canal following a multi-million pound rebuild, *Lord of the Highlands* has 19 picture-windowed cabins including a spacious suite and four with small private balconies.

The convivial company of just 38 fellow guests creates a relaxed house party atmosphere.

Cruising through the Caledonian Canal, the Great Glen and the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, *Lord of the Highlands* takes guests on a relaxing voyage of discovery in style and comfort.



# 2024 Hebridean Princess Cruise Calendar

			Nights	Page
March	1st	Clyde Coast Sampler	4 nights	24
	5th	Jewels of the Clyde	7 nights	26
	12th	Diamond Anniversary Cruise	7 nights	28
	19th	Treasures of Argyll and Bute	7 nights	30
	26th	Easter Escape	7 nights	32
April	2nd	Flavours of the Hebrides	7 nights	34
	9th	Springtime Surprise	7 nights	36
	16th	Secrets of the Scenic North West	7 nights	38
	23rd	Footloose through the Western Seaboard	7 nights	40
	30th	Scotland's Spring Colours	7 nights	42
May	7th	St Kilda and Outer Isles Wildlife	7 nights	44
	14th	Hidden Isles and Highland Gems	7 nights	46
	21st	Secrets of St Kilda and Sutherland	7 nights	48
	28th	Natural World of the Northern Isles	9 nights	50
June	6th	Prehistoric Scotland	9 nights	52
	15th	Footloose in Orkney and Shetland	9 nights	54
	24th	Home from Orcadia	8 nights	56
July	2nd	Summer Temptations	7 nights	58
	9th	Outlook on St Kilda	7 nights	60
	16th	Wonders of the Western Isles	7 nights	62
	23rd	Voyage to the Emerald Isle	8 nights	64
	31st	Emerald Isle Explorer	8 nights	66
August	8th	Footloose in the Emerald Isle	8 nights	68
	16th	Treasures of the Celtic Coasts	10 nights	70
	26th	Hebridean Sampler	4 nights	72
	30th	Hebridean Tapestry	4 nights	74
September	3rd	The Call of the Long Isle	7 nights	76
	10th	Gaelic Links, Lochs and Isles	7 nights	78
	17th	Hebridean Heritage	7 nights	80
	24th	Footloose in the Hebrides	7 nights	82
October	1st	Autumn Explorer	7 nights	84
	8th	Flavours of the Hebrides	7 nights	86
	15th	Autumn Surprise	7 nights	88
	22nd	From Oban to the Heart of Argyll	7 nights	90
	29th	Gems of Argyll	7 nights	92
November	5th	Lochs and Isles of the Lower Clyde	6 nights	94
	11th	Highlights of the Firth of Clyde	4 nights	96

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