



## **Drymen Red Bus Co. Scotland Tours**

corporate parties   day excursions   sightseeing   walking   cultural tours

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Grand Tour of Scotland 15. - 21. June 2010

**This tour has been booked by a small group and offers spaces for 3 additional participants**

**7 Day Sightseeing & Adventure on and off the beaten track, all activities optional**

- **Mountain biking**
- **Hiking**
- **Sea Kayaking**
- **Boat rides**
- **Island exploration**
- **Small group (max 8)**

Exploring Scotland's distinct culture, rich history and magnificent wild places both on and off the beaten track. This tour is designed for those who would like to infuse their cultural journey with some Scottish outdoors experience, stretching legs, smelling the heather and discovering some hidden historical secrets among the splendour of the big landscapes which this versatile country on the edge of Europe has to offer.

### **Day 1)**

#### **15 June Eastern Highlands -**

Stirling Castle, Highland scenery, mountain biking in Cairngorms National Park

- Travelling north from Edinburgh via the picturesque 18th century South Queen's Ferry harbour town with its enormous historic Forth Bridge which was the largest bridge in the world when it was built in 1890.
- Visit Stirling, Scotland's finest, historically most important castle. A great introduction to Scottish history.
- Travel north via Dunkeld, a picturesque medieval cathedral town by the magnificent River Tay.
- After lunch we continue to the pine forests of the Caingorm National Park for superb mountain biking.
- Night in Inverness, the Highland capital
- **204 miles, 5.45 hrs**

### **Day 2)**

#### **16 June North Western Highlands & Handa Island**

- Spectacular drive along Loch Shin to the remote north western Highlands.
- Visit Handa Island, home to one of Europe's largest seabird colonies
- Night in Ullapool
- **149 miles, 4.20 hrs**

### Day 3)

#### 17 June Hiking in Torridon and Kintail Mountains

- Fabulous hiking in the spectacular Torridon Mountains, some of the oldest mountains in the world.
- Visit the remote peninsula Applecross and drive over Scotland's most spectacular mountain pass – impressive scenery.
- Travel west through the remote mountains of Glen Shiel
- Night in Shiel Bridge, food & music in Kintail Lodge Hotel
- **110 miles, 2.40 hrs**

### Day 4)

#### 18 June Isle of Skye and scenic 'Road to the Isles'

- Visit the famous Eilean Donan Castle and take a guess at its age.
- The delightful and very picturesque coastal village Plockton is a dream location for any photographer and offers a memorable boat trip to see well populated seal colonies: a MUST!  
Travel over the bridge to the heart of the Isle of Skye, Sligachan
- Take a short and very scenic walk into Glen Brittle surrounded by the peaks of the famous Cuillin mountains (2 hours, 6 km, 300 m)
- Night on the Isle of Skye
- **57 miles, 2 hrs**

### Day 5)

#### 19 June Isle of Skye

- Boat trip to remote Loch Coruisk surrounded by the dramatic Cuillin mountains and hike
- Night on Skye
- **49 miles, 1.40 hrs**

### Day 6)

#### 20 June West Coast and Glen Nevis

- Passing through south, the Garden of Skye and travel by traditional ferry across to the mainland to Mallaig and along the famous and beautiful coastal road 'Road to the Isles' with its white sand beaches
- Visit Glenfinnan and its picturesque railway viaduct made famous in the Harry Potter films.
- Guided sea kayaking in sheltered waters near Arisaig, watching seals and sea birds, lagoons, adventure.
- Night in Port Appin
- **Torrin – Armadale 22 miles, 45 mins Mallaig – Ballachulish 58 miles, 1.25 hrs**

## Day 7)

### **21 June Coastal Argyll, prehistoric Stone Circles, medieval castles, ancient royal history**

- We travel the scenic Appin West Coast passing Castle Stalker (not open to visitors)
- Time for a good stroll: The wide valley of Kilmartin Glen introduces you to Scotland's richest prehistoric site, a wonderful landscape dotted with 5000 year old stone circles, impressive burial mounds, megalithic plinths and stone carvings. A superb nearby museum enlightens you on your discoveries and the organic café provides a little feast for snack time.
- Dunadd is the ancient royal seat of the Scots who were to rule the whole of Scotland in due course. Some unexpected surprises and unique historical relics.
- Travelling along one of Scotland's longest sea lochs we reach the seat of the powerful Campbell clan chiefs, Inveraray Castle, an opulent 18th century fairy castle, where the Dukes of Argyll display their wealth: a masterpiece of Scottish Georgian Architecture Inveraray Castle is splendidly furnished and contains an interesting selection of trophies, memorabilia, documents and weaponry - and an excellent insight into Scottish history.
- Passing over the rocky Arrochar Alps and the aptly named pass 'Rest and be Thankful' we reach the Queen of all Lochs, Loch Lomond.
- Glasgow - end of Tour
- **159 miles, 4.15 hrs**

### **About your Tour**

Your tour begins in Edinburgh and ends in Glasgow. Included in the price are:

1. Minibus travel,
2. tailor made tour itinerary,
3. booking of suitable accommodation,
4. tour guide
5. complementary refreshments and picnic snacks each day
6. ferry from Skye.

### **Price from £385 per person**

**Accommodation** is not included in the above price. Our service includes the booking of suitable accommodation and we happily advise you on recommendable, hand picked hotels, guest houses, bed & breakfast houses or hostels, as you choose. Payment of these is separate and to be made direct to the providers.

**Activities** can be booked by choice and are not included in above price.