7 Night Scottish Highlands Gentle Guided Walking Holiday



Trip style:	Destination:	Walking Grade	Carbon Footprint:
Gentle guided walking	Scottish Highlands	2, 3 & 4	136kg CO2

HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

A landscape of stunning mountains and rugged terrain steeped in history, the Scottish Highlands offer some of the most scenic walking in the UK. Yet it's also perfect for exploring at a much gentler and more relaxed pace. With this holiday we've designed a choice of guided walks that minimise gradients and rough ground without compromising on the sights and scenery. Choose from up to three different-grade daily walks that showcase the nation at its most beautiful, the shortest of which is just four miles.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Exploring the Scottish Highlands at a relaxed pace
- Riding the Nevis gondola for fabulous mountain views
- Visiting towns and villages packed with history
- Admiring the views from "Hospital Lochan" in Glencoe
- Discovering walking routes with your experienced HF Holidays Leader
- Staying in the comfort of our country house

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Comfortable en-suite accommodation in our country house
- Cream tea on arrival day
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Guided walking with experienced HF Holidays Leaders
- Choice of three guided walks (each walking day) from April to mid-October, and two from the end of October to March.
- All transport to and from walks where necessary
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

ITINERARY - ITINERARY 2026

Day 1 **Arrival Day**

Check-in at the hotel is available from 16:00. If you are a member you can arrive at the house from 14:00. Enjoy a complimentary cream tea at 16:30 and meet other guests.

Day 2 **Historic Glencoe**

Option 1 - Hospital Lochan and the Glencoe Visitor Centre

Distance: 4.5 miles (7km)

Ascent: 550 feet (160m)

We'll begin with a walk up the peaceful main street of Glencoe Village passing the local museum and the Glencoe Massacre Monument – a memorial to the 30 members of Clan MacDonald murdered by government forces during the Jacobite Uprising in 1692. Crossing the old Bridge of Coe, we'll head through the woodlands that surround "Hospital Lochan", an 18th century manor house that served as the local hospital for many years. After a circuit of the lochan, we'll follow the Glencoe Orbital track to the National Trust for Scotland Visitor Centre where there's free time to check out fascinating exhibits on the history and wildlife of the area.

Option 2 - Hospital Lochan and the Clachaig Inn

Distance: 5.5 miles (8.5km)

Ascent: 850 feet (260m)

This walk follows the same route as option 1 to begin with but makes a complete circuit of the lochan to take in several superb viewpoints. On descending to the Bridge of Coe, we'll walk through a glen along the lower slopes of the Pap of Glencoe. We'll continue on the Glencoe Orbital track until we reach the Clachaig Inn - a former climber's hotel steeped in mountaineering history.

Option 3 - Glencoe Lochan's and Signal Rock

Distance: 8 miles (13km)

Ascent: 1,200 feet (360m)

Starting at the National Trust for Scotland Visitor Centre, we'll have time to check out the exhibits that give a fascinating insight into the wildlife and history of the area and what we will see on the walk. We'll initially follow the same route as option 2 but before reaching the Clachaig Inn, we'll turn right to visit Signal Rock. This small but distinctive summit amongst the trees is reputed to be the place where the signal was made to start the infamous Glencoe Massacre.

Day 3 **Nevis Range**

Option 1 - Old Inverlochy Castle and Gleann Domhanaidh to Nevis Range Gondola

Distance: 4.5 miles (7km)

Ascent: 550 feet (160m)

From Fort William we follow the bed of a former railway line, continuing on good paths and gravel roads through the forest towards the ski centre and Nevis Range Mountain Gondola. The gondola carries us up to a height of 650m for us to enjoy impressive views of Lochaber. We descend with the gondola to then join our transfer back to Alltshellach.

Option 2 - Gleann Domhanaidh and Gondola to Viewpoint

Distance: 5.5 miles (8.5km)

Ascent: 650 feet (200m)

We take an old railway track just on the outskirts of Fort William to Inverlochy Castle, stopping along the way to find out about the 15th and 17th century battles fought here. Ascending through the forest we reach the ski centre at the foot of Ben Nevis. After riding the Nevis Range Mountain Gondola, we'll take an easy path north to the viewpoint of Sgurr Finniosgaig. Thanks to the far-reaching views, this route gives the feeling of a high-level walk for much less effort. We descend via the gondola to the bottom station, where we'll meet our driver for the journey back to the house.

Option 3 - Gondola to Viewpoint, Gleann Domhanaidh to Fort William

Distance: 7.5 miles (12km)

Ascent: 750 feet (240m)

Following the gondola ride, we'll take a long-but-easy path west to the viewpoint of Meall Beag for extensive views over both Loch Eil and Loch Linnhe. Then, descending through the forest and along an old railway track, we'll pass by the Ben Nevis whisky distillery before continuing to ancient Inverlochy Castle. Heading across the fields where the battles of Inverlochy were fought, we'll skirt along the shore of the River Lochy Estuary and finish in Fort William where, if time allows, you're free to explore.

Day 4 Free Day - Scottish Highlands

A free day for you to explore the local area or to relax at Alltshellach. Our Discovery Points help you make the most out of your free day. There's plenty of maps and a selection of the best local walking routes, as well as weather forecasts and public transport options – plus details about other places to visit. Discover more about Alltshellach and the local area for ideas on how to make the most of your free day.

Day 5 Ballachulish

Option 1 - Leitir Mhor and the Murder Cairn

Distance: 4 miles (6km)

Ascent: 500 feet (140m)

This walk visits several locations associated with the infamous Appin Murder – the 1752 assassination of Clan Campbell tacksman, Colin Roy Campbell, possibly in retaliation for his role in supporting the failed 1745 Jacobite rebellion. We'll walk up the lane towards Leitir Mhor and along a path to the murder cairn which marks the spot where Campell was killed. Following the former Connel to Ballachulish railway line, we'll enjoy views over Loch Linnie and, with luck, catch sight of seabirds, seals, or otters. Leaving the cycleway, we'll continue to Ballachulish Bridge and visit the memorial to James of the Glen – the man wrongly accused and executed for the murder of Colin Roy Campbell.

Option 2 - St John's Church and Gleann a Chaolais

Distance: 5.5 miles (8.5km)

Ascent: 1,000 feet (300m)

Starting at St John's Church on the south side of Loch Leven, we'll take a forest road that rises gently through the trees covering the lower slopes of Beinn a Bheithir – the mountain that can be seen from the windows of Alltshellach. We'll gain sufficient height for views up to the peak of Sgorr Dhonuil before descending into Gleann a Chaolais. Leaving the forest, we'll pass the new community owned hydro-electric scheme. From the Ballachulish Bridge look eastwards for over Loch Leven to see the first peak of the Aonach Eagach ridge in the distance and the Pap of Glencoe to its left. The woodlands of "Hospital Lochan" are at its base.

Option 3 - Cuil Bay and Duror

Distance: 8 miles (13km)

Ascent: 450 feet (140m)

Starting from the seaside at Cuil Bay, we'll have time to enjoy the views over Loch Linnhe to the Isle of Mull. Look out over the rocky shores and sea lochs that characterise Western Scotland, before an easy walk through the former crofting area of Cuil brings us to Duror. Walking north on the cycleway through fields and woodland to Kentallen Bay. Here, the cycleway heads uphill to a viewpoint with information boards on the special geology of the area. Descending to Kentallen village, we'll rejoin the old railway line and pass by Leitir Mhor to Gleann a Chaolais. We'll return to Alltshellach via the James of the Glen monument and the Ballachulish Bridge.

Day 6 Achnacarry Day

Option 1 - Waterfalls to Achnacarry and Gairlochy

Distance: 4 miles (6.5km)

Ascent: 400 feet (120m)

This option begins with a visit to Neptune's Staircase, a dramatic flight of eight locks on the Caledonian Canal in the shadow of Ben Nevis, Britain's tallest mountain. From here, we'll travel by coach to the large waterfall Eas Chia-Aig, the starting point of our walk. Crossing the bridge over the River Arkaig, where it flows out of the enormous Loch Arkaig, we'll explore Achnacarry Castle. This Scottish baronial home of the Clan Cameron was destroyed by the Redcoat British Army during the 1745 Jacobite rebellion. However, it was rebuilt in 1802 and later housed the Commando Basic Training Centre for British Special Forces in WWII. We'll continue via the unusual St. Ciaran's Church, following much of the route on the Great Glen Way. Our journey then takes us along a forest path on the shore of Loch Lochy, with chances to spot canoes, boats, and ships crossing the Caledonian Canal. We'll end our walk at Gairlochy.

Option 2 - Gairlochy to Achnacarry and Waterfalls

Distance: 6 miles (9.5km)

Ascent: 650 feet (200m)

Initially following the same route as option 1, we'll visit St Ciaran's Church, before taking the less frequented path through fields and forest. We'll pass the River Arkaig and the now disused walled garden to reach Achnacarry where there'll be time for a visit to the museum before making our way on to Loch Arkaig and the waterfall.

Option 3 - Loy Bridge to Achnacarry and Waterfalls

Distance: 8 miles (13km)

Ascent: 700 feet (220m)

We'll start by crossing under the Caledonian Canal through the 260ft-long masonry conduit built around 1810 to provide farm access. In storm conditions the tunnel can be wet with excess water from the River Loy but is normally dry. There is no lighting, so a torch is advised to avoid puddles. After just 2.3 miles of easy walking on the canal tow path we'll reach Gairlochy Canal Bridge. From here, we'll follow the same route as options 1 and 2 but extend the walk to cross the River Arkaig and continue upstream through the woods. Crossing back over via a foot bridge we'll pass Achnacarry House and continue past Loch Arkaig to the waterfalls.

Day 7 **Dunstaffnage Castle and Oban**

Option 1 - Dunbeg to Oban

Distance: 4 miles (6km)

Ascent: 400 feet (120m)

Starting with a visit to the historic Dunstaffnage Castle, we'll take the well-made path from Dunbeg across open moorland to the coast at Ganavan Sands - arguably Oban's best beach. Following the coast south on minor roads and field paths, we'll pass Dunollie Castle and round a headland by the war memorial. Here, the whole of Oban Bay including the harbour and town comes into view with McCaigs Tower above. After admiring the ferries coming and going to the islands, we'll walk along the seafront promenade past the cathedral, and enjoy time to explore the piers, cafés, shops, and attractions.

Option 2 - Dunstaffnage to Oban and McCaig's Tower

Distance: 5 miles (8.5km)

Ascent: 750 feet (220m)

After our visit to the historic Dunstaffnage Castle, we'll walk through the woods to the nearby beach. Following paths below the sea cliffs, there's a short-but-steep ascent to the viewpoint at Aonadh Beag where we'll enjoy panoramas over Appin, Lismore, and Mull. Undulating moorland paths take us to Ganavan Sands where we'll continue into Oban. From the North Pier, we'll turn steeply up narrow streets to reach McCaigs Tower for near bird's-eye views of the town and harbour.

Option 3 - Ledaig to Oban via Connel Bridge and McCaig's Tower

Distance: 8 miles (12.5km)

Ascent: 750 feet (220m)

This walk begins at Ledaig shingle beach. Crossing Loch Etive via the Connel Bridge, we can look out over the currents and tidal flows that can be seen at all ebb tides. We'll then head toward Oban through quiet countryside on minor and unsurfaced roads. Descending into Oban allows us to approach McCaig's Tower from behind and get the full effect of the spectacular views of the town that appear almost suddenly. Finally, we'll make an easy descent to the seafront for free time to explore.

Day 8 **Departure Day**

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

DAILY WALK OPTIONS



Gentle walking grade 2

Full or half-day gentle walks on good paths, with plenty of time for rest stops, views, and places of interest. Typically, 3-5 miles (5-8km) with around 350ft (100m) of ascent with few or no stiles.



Gentle walking grade 3

Slightly longer walks, mostly on well-trodden paths, with some gentle gradients plus stiles and steps possible. Typically, 5-6 miles (8-10km) with around 650ft (200m) of ascent.



Gentle walking grade 4

The most active Gentle grade, with longer walks, some ascent, and possible steps, stiles, or off-path uneven ground. Typically, 6-7 miles (10-12km) with around 1,000ft (300m) of ascent.

ACCOMMODATION

Alltshellach, Glencoe

For a combination of mountain views, olde-worlde charm, and somewhere comfortable to sleep, this stately Scottish house in North Ballachulish has an enviable setting right on the shores of Loch Leven. The walking opportunities here are as every bit rugged and romantic as you'd expect, especially around Glen Coe, the Mamores, Kinlochleven, Bidean nam Bian, and Ben Nevis – the 1,345-metre-high peak towering above glistening lochans and glacial valleys in the north-west Highlands. You can also spend time in Fort William and ride the Hogwarts-esque Jacobite steam train as it makes its way through beauty spots such as Loch Eil, Glenfinnan, and Arisaig to the fishing port of Mallaig.

About

· 38 well-appointed guest rooms · Exclusive occupancy: 53 guests minimum · Check in from 4:00pm · For members check in from 2:00pm · Full-board (including cream tea on arrival) · Free Wi-Fi · Free on-site parking · Boot room and drying room · 2 travel cots & 2 high chairs · Discovery Point offering a wide range of local area maps, route guides, and information for self-guided walks · Indoor pool · Books and games to borrow · Licensed bar · Three lounges · Lawns and wooded grounds leading down to Loch Leven · Electric vehicle charging point - Please note, you will need to bring your own cables to use this EV charging point

The pool opening hours: 7am -12pm and 4:30pm-9pm

Then & now

Designed in the early 1870s by Inverness architect Alexander Ross, Alltshellach was built for Lady Alice Ewing – fourth daughter of the 19th Earl of Morton and the second wife and widow of Alexander Ewing, a former Bishop of Argyll & the Isles. Their daughter, Margaret, married Liberal MP Alexander Crum while their granddaughter, also Margaret, married William Thomson (later known as Lord Kelvin) who was one of the most important physicists of the 19th century for determining the absolute zero on any temperature scale. The house remained in the family thereafter, with notable architectural additions including a private chapel, coach houses, stables, and five cottages built from Kentallen granite to house the groomsman and servants. It has been part of our HF Holidays line-up since 1929 (we purchased the property in 1953) and used as a military hospital during WWII.

Nowadays, Alltshellach has 38 well-appointed guest rooms in three categories (Classic, Premium, and Superior). Room 23 on the second floor is known as the Bishop's Room for its small prayer area, but this was most likely to have been the children's bedroom as the bishop would have slept in one of the larger rooms on the first floor. You'll find three comfortable lounges (the area with the small stained glass window at the end of the entrance hall was probably the private chapel), a dining room for a wide range of dishes made with fresh and seasonal ingredients, and a licensed bar with a superb Scottish whisky selection. Elsewhere, there's a handy boot and drying room, books and games to borrow during your stay, a Discovery Point offering a wide range of local area maps, route guides, and easy-to-follow information for self-guided walks, and beautiful lawns and wooded grounds leading down to Loch Leven. It also has a heated indoor swimming pool that is open all year round*.

Check-In & Check-Out

You are welcome to check in from 4pm at the earliest. HF Members can check in earlier, from 2pm. On arrival, you'll enjoy a complimentary cream tea and get to meet your fellow guests, our HF Holidays Leaders, and the rest of the friendly team. Check out 10am.

FOOD & DRINK

Dining

Seasonal dining, tailored for you

Our team of skilled chefs design our dinner menus to showcase the best of each season, from warming winter comfort food to vibrant summer dishes, including vegetarian, vegan and high-protein options. We also source fruit and vegetables within a 40-mile radius of each house, open every break with a Chef's Special menu inspired by dishes and flavours of the local area, and are able to adapt dishes to suit special dietary requirements.

Welcome Cream Tea

What better way to start your stay than with a cream tea, served fresh on arrival to make you feel instantly at home. A quintessentially English tradition, our scones are baked in-house and served with preserves and clotted cream, providing the perfect opportunity to meet fellow walkers.

A hearty breakfast to start the day

Start the day with a freshly-prepared cooked breakfast and a wide choice from our continental buffet, including hot drinks, juices and fresh fruit. Our team offer a quick and friendly service, leaving you fuelled and ready for your day's adventures.

Our famous picnic lunch

Our personalised picnic lunches are perfect for a day out walking, ready to enjoy when hunger strikes. Choose from a large selection of fresh sandwiches and salads, freshly baked cakes and snacks, including the ever-popular Freddos chocolate bar! Everything is designed to fit neatly into your rucksack, and all of the packaging we provide is recyclable or compostable.

3-course evening meals

Our à la carte evening menus feature a wide choice of starters, mains, and desserts, made with seasonal ingredients and, wherever possible, herbs and vegetables from our own gardens. Shared around sociable tables, dinners are relaxed occasions, with drinks available to order at the table or from the bar, and a traditional Sunday roast to round off the week.

ROOMS

Your room at Alltshellach

Designed with your comfort in mind, Alltshellach has 38 well-appointed guest rooms available in three categories: Classic, Premium, and Superior.

Classic Rooms are comfortable en-suite guest rooms, ideal for a peaceful night's sleep. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, and shower gel), and a TV.

Premium Rooms are more spacious en-suite guest rooms*. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, body lotion, shower gel), and a 32-inch TV. Extras include bathrobes, slippers.

Superior Rooms are even more spacious en-suite guest rooms offering upgraded views of the surroundings*. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, body lotion, shower gel), and a 32-inch TV. Extras include bathrobes, slippers.

We love: Room 21 for its extra space, corner position, and gorgeous views across Loch Leven. Equally fabulous is Room 23 (known as the Bishop's Room) on the second floor.

The **Choose Your Room** service is available at our UK country houses, allowing you the option of choosing and confirming a specific room for an extra charge of £30 per room. This is subject to availability. Upgrade supplements apply.

Room supplements

Superior	Premium single	Premium double/twin	Choose your room
£25 pppn	£20 pppn	£20 pppn	£30 per room

*Views and layout reflect each properties unique character and location

*Please note, pool opening hours are: 07:00am – 09:00am 16:00pm – 18:30pm

ACCESSIBILITY

For accessibility and assistance information, please contact our expert team on 020 3974 8865 or view the accessibility information online for Alltshellach

ABOUT YOUR STAY

A warm welcome
We want you to feel comfortable from the moment you arrive. You'll find a welcome pack in your room with guest registration forms, menus, order forms for dinners and picnic lunches, the Wi-Fi password, and the front door code. Our houses are locked at night, so we recommend noting the Duty Manager's number on arrival in case of an emergency (or getting locked out).

Evening entertainment

While evening entertainment varies from house to house, HF Holidays Inter-House Quiz night held after dinner on Wednesdays is a weekly staple. Your HF Holidays leader may be around for tips on guided and self-guided waking routes as well as visit-worthy local attractions.

Helping you enjoy the Great Outdoors - A natural focus on walks

Walks talks and Discovery Points
Our founder, country pastor turned social innovator, Thomas Arthur Leonard, was passionate about encouraging people to explore the countryside. His legacy continues in HF's continued focus on walking. Many guests choose to travel with us on guided or self-guided walking holidays, and as such, evenings at our houses are often busy with walk leaders hosting various briefings and talks. On guided walking holiday arrival days, there are walking information briefings before dinner, and for the duration of any guided walking holiday there will be a Walks Talk before (or on occasion after dinner), to go through the following day's walk options. Self-guided walking guests, and those on special interest holidays (where there is free time to explore independently), are of course welcome to also join in these Walks Talks - please talk to the team locally if you have any queries. Our Discovery Points are filled with handy maps and route notes, designed to ensure everyone, not just those booked on a guided walking holiday, can enjoy the beautiful countryside settings that our HF houses enjoy.

The walking day
Prior to setting off on guided walks, our HF Holidays Leaders run through a short safety briefing. There's also an up-to-date weather forecast on display at the house to ensure walkers have appropriate clothing and footwear. If you choose to do your own walks or are on a self-guided walking holiday, we ask that you please complete an Independent Walker Card each day. These can be found near the Discovery Point in the house.

TRAVEL DETAILS

Address

Alltshellach
Onich
Fort William
Invernesshire PH33 6SA

Tel: +44 (0)1855 821357

HF Holidays Sales and Support Team

Telephone: +44 (0) 208 0155108

Email: reservations@hfholidays.co.uk

(our office customer support team are happy to help with any requests or queries you may have for the house)

Flights to Glasgow are available on a request basis; please contact our team for a quotation. Thank you.

By HF Holidays Shared Transfer

We offer group transfers for your convenience/peace of mind on **Saturdays**, or over the **festive period**. Available transfers will show as options on the booking page, if appropriate, for your requested holiday date/s.

2026 Prices: £85 per person for a return transfer, or £55 per person for a single transfer.

Outward journey: Depart Glasgow Buichanan Street Bus Station at 15:15, or Glasgow Airport at 15:45. Arrive at Alltshellach approx. 18:30.

Return journey: Depart Alltshellach at 09:30, arrive at Glasgow Airport at approx. 11:30 or Glasgow Buchanan Street Bus Station at approx. 12:00

These transfers are at additional cost and MUST be booked in advance via our website, by email or with our team over the phone (please see above contact info for the Sales & Support Team. Thank you.

By Road

From Glasgow (or the south) take the A82 towards Crianlarich then Fort William. Once you reach Ballachulish go straight on at the roundabout, over the steel bridge and take the second right onto the B863 towards Kinlochleven. Once you've turned onto the B863, continue around 400 yards and you will find Alltshellach on your right.

From Fort William (or the north) take the A82 southbound towards Glencoe. Once you reach North Ballachulish, turn left onto the B863 towards Kinlochleven (if you've reached the steel bridge at Ballachulish then you've gone too far). Once you've turned onto the B863, continue around 400 yards and you will find Alltshellach on your right.

By Taxi

Alltshellach is an approx. 25 mins taxi journey from **Fort William**. There are frequent train services along the west coast between Glasgow and Fort William. Please see the 'By Train' section for further information. Taxi companies to consider include the below:

West Highland Taxis Tel: 01855 831495, jamie@westhighlandtaxis.com

Nevis Taxis Tel: 01397 703000, nevistaxi@hotmail.com

Lochaber Taxis Tel: 01397 703334, pedro@lochabertaxis.com

Alltshellach is approx. 97 miles from **Glasgow city centre**, which takes around 2h30 and is a considerable cost by taxi; we would suggest using public transport in the first instance as the most reasonable option.

By Bus

For journey planning, including for any bus, coach, ferry, Glasgow Subway or Edinburgh Tram service in Scotland, we recommend using www.travelinescotland.com for the most up to date information. There is also an app you can download or you can call 01421 465 1878 for further information.

Alltshellach's closest bus stop is **North Ballachulish, at/opposite Kinlochleven Road End on A82.** You can request that your driver stop here (there is no need to continue on to Fort William - however please check timetables that the bus is scheduled to stop at North Ballachulish). The bus stop is approx. 0.4 mile (or 8 mins) walk away from Alltshellach, on flat pavement. There is no need to cross the steel bridge. The bus stop is on the A82; disembark here and then turn onto the B863 towards Kinlochleven, and Alltshellach is 400 yards on your right. We regret that HF staff are not permitted to collect/drop you at the bus station for insurance reasons.

The bus to/from Glasgow and North Ballachulish takes approx. 2h45. The main bus station in Glasgow is **Buchanan Bus Station, Glasgow City.**

The bus between Edinburgh and North Ballachulish takes approx. 3h40 or longer. The main bus station in **Edinburgh is Edinburgh Bus Station, City of Edinburgh**.

If you are travelling by train and arriving into (or departing from) **Fort William**, then there is a bus service between Fort William and North Ballachulish, which takes approx. 25 mins, and at peak times the service runs approx every 30 mins.

Ember also run electric bus services across Scotland, including to Fort William. For further information see https://www.ember.to/

By Train

The nearest train station to Alltshellach is **Fort William**.

For journey planning by rail, please visit www.scotrail.co.uk. You can also view handy maps of Scotrail routes here; https://www.scotrail.co.uk/plan-your-journey/our-routes

Trains operate between **Glasgow Queen Street** and Fort William, and the journey time is approx. 3h50; this is a scenic journey on what is often known as the 'West Highland Line'.

There is a bus service between Fort William and North Ballachulish, which takes approx. 25 mins, and at peak times the service runs approx every 30 mins. Please see the 'By Bus' section on this webpage.

If you plan to travel from Edinburgh to Fort William, then there are trains between **Edinburgh Waverley station** and Glasgow. There are two train stations in Glasgow offering services to/from Edinburgh; Glasgow Central and Glasgow Queen Street, and it is a short 10 mins walk between the two (or you can take a taxi).

By Air

The nearest airport to Alltshellach is **Glasgow Airport (GLA),** which is around 87 miles away by road. For information on flights, car hire and other services from the airport, please visit https://www.glasgowairport.com/

There is an official bus service connecting the Glasgow Airport and the city centre (Glasgow Buchanan Bus Station); journey times from just 15 mins, aboard a fleet of electric buses. **Airport Express Service 500** is operated by First Glasgow; please see https://www.glasgowairport.com/to-and-from/glasgow-airport-express-service-500/ for further information. From the city centre, you can take a train and/or bus north to Alltshellach; please see those relevant sections for further information.

Other than the above mentioned Airport Express Service, regular buses from the airport to the city centre (Buchanan Bus Station) take between 30 mins and 1hr, dependent on the service you choose and traffic. Please visit www.travelinescotland.com for further journey planning.

Please note, Glasgow is served by two airports; the main Glasgow Airport (GLA) is located approx. 8 miles west of the city centre, in Paisley. There is also Glasgow Prestwick Airport (PIK) which is located about 32 miles southwest of the city, in Ayrshire.

Edinburgh Airport (EDI) is around 114 miles by road from Alltshellach. For information on flights, car hire and other services from the airport, please visit https://www.edinburghairport.com/

There is a convenient tram service between the airport and Edinburgh city centre, taking approx. 30 mins. For further information please see https://edinburghtrams.com/.

There are Scottish Citylink bus services between Edinburgh Airport and Glasgow, taking around 1h20. For information regarding transport links between Edinburgh Airport and the city centre, please see https://www.edinburghairport.com/transport-links

LOCAL AREA

Places to visit in the Scottish Highlands

Whether you're enjoying a guided or self-guided walking holiday, there's always the opportunity to linger for longer. Here's our pick of the very best things to see and do within easy travelling distance of Alltshellach.

Ballachulish

Split into three (North Ballachulish, South Ballachulish and Ballachulish Village), the village was once famous for its slate. Nowadays, one of the best-known attractions is the 9-hole Woodlands Golf Course, formally known as The Dragon's Tooth.

Fort William

Nicknamed the Outdoor Capital of the UK, this West Highland town on the banks of Loch Linnhe is a 25-minute drive away. The town centre has a high street with an excellent selection of shops selling outdoor clothing and walking equipment.

Jacobite Steam Train

Making its way through beauty spots such as Loch Eil, Glenfinnan and Arisaig as it travels to the fishing port of Mallaig, riding this Hogwarts-esque steam train is a must for *Harry Potter* fans. Trains run daily and early booking is recommended.

Isle of Mull

Reached by car ferry from Oban or Lochaline, this Inner Hebridean island is home to Tobermory - the colourful town featured in children's TV series, *Balamory*. Don't miss Duart Castle, the ancestral home of Clan Maclean – one of the oldest Highlands families.

Isle of Lismore

After hiring bikes at Port Appin, a 30-minute drive away, it's just a short ferry crossing to this quiet and rural island. Must-dos include making the most of the walking and cycling opportunities, spotting all manner of wildlife, and visiting the Lismore Gaelic Heritage Centre.

Oban

As the unofficial capital of the West Highlands of Scotland and the Gateway to the Hebridean Isles, this harbour town is a 45-minute drive away. The climb to McCaig's Tower rewards with spectacular views across Oban Bay to the Atlantic Islands.

Eilean Donan Castle

Claiming to be the most-photographed Scottish castle, this ancient stronghold worth the 80-mile drive. It opened to the public in 1955 and has since become one of the country's best-loved attractions. Most interesting is the banqueting hall, kitchen, and main keep.

SAFETY ON YOUR HOLIDAY

Walking safety

Walks may be changed for safety reasons and are subject to a maximum and minimum number of guests.

Leaders always consider the safety of the group as a whole, and may need to alter or curtail the walk if the conditions dictate. Your leader may refuse to accept a guest where clothing, equipment or behaviour is unsuitable. In the event of a problem all leaders carry a mobile phone, first aid kit, group shelter, spare maps and a compass.

Please note: If you choose to leave the group your leader is no longer responsible for you.

If you have a particular health condition or disability please put this on your guest registration form. This information will be confidential to your leaders and the house manager, but leaders do need to take account of any issues when planning walks. Please carry a copy of these trip notes with you, or note down the contact phone number for your accommodation (details in the travel section) should you need them in case of emergency.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Packing list

Weather conditions in the UK can vary throughout the day, and conditions in the mountains may be cold and windy even in summer. Use the following list as a guide when preparing for your holiday.

Essentials

- Suitable waterproof walking boots with ankle support and good grip
- Waterproof, wind-resistant jacket with a hood, taped seams and a hydrostatic head rating of at least 10,000 mm
- Waterproof overtrousers
- Spare warm clothing, such as a synthetic insulated jacket
- Comfortable walking clothing (jeans & waterproof capes are not suitable)
- Warm mid-layers, such as fleeces
- Gloves and a warm hat, even in summer
- Rucksack with a waterproof liner
- Water bottle with a capacity of at least 1 litre
- Flask for hot drinks
- Sunscreen
- UV-protective sunglasses
- Spare high-energy food
- Head torch and spare batteries for holidays between October and March
- Passport (if applicable)
- Visa (if applicable)
- Copy of your travel insurance policy

Recommended

- Several base layers, with long or short sleeves
- Cushioned walking socks to avoid blisters
- First-aid kit, including plasters, insect repellent, a midge net and a tick-removal tool
- Sit mat
- Waterproof pouch for valuables
- Rubbish bags
- Wallet or purse

- Camera
- Walking poles
- Sun hat
- Gaiters
- Mobile Phones
- Swimwear (please see accommodation information for hotel facilities)
- Membership cards for English Heritage, the National Trust or similar heritage organisations in Scotland and Wales, if you are a member. These may be useful when visiting attractions during your itinerary or on your free day.

TRIPNOTE VALIDITY

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred. In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary. The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

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