

7 Night Scottish Highlands Walking with Sightseeing Holiday

Tour Style: Walking with sightseeing

Destinations: Scottish Highlands, United Kingdom & Scotland

Trip code: LLWOD-7

Trip Walking Grade: 2



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

These holidays offer a perfect mix of short, guided walks (4-6 miles), combined with time spent sightseeing. Visit a selection of standout highlights in the Scottish Highlands with hassle-free coach travel and the help of an HF Holidays Leader.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Tickets for the Ben Nevis Gondola & Loch Shiel Cruise
- 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 walks and sightseeing visits with an experienced HF Holidays Leader
- All transport to and from walks and sites of interest

- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

Please note - Entrance fees are not included. See More Info tab for details.

HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- Discovering history of Glen Coe
- Visiting the 11th century Dunstaffnage Castle
- Sampling a wee dram at the Ben Nevis Distillery
- Riding the Nevis gondola for fabulous mountain views
- Staying in the comfort of our country house

TRIP SUITABILITY

This trip is graded Activity Level 2, Walks are up to 6 miles (10km) with up to 800 feet (250m) of ascent; walking is on field paths and hillside tracks, across open countryside and along the shoreline.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

You're welcome to check in from 4pm onwards. Enjoy a complimentary cream tea on arrival.

Day 2: Clan Cameron And The Caledonian Canal

Following the shores of Loch Lochy, we walk along the Caledonian Canal, the route of the national trail - the Great Glen Way. Our route takes us into the Achnacarry Estate, the family seat of the Cameron Clan and a Second World War commando training centre. We've time to visit the Clan Cameron Museum before continuing out to the Eas Chia-aig waterfalls and Loch Arkaig where we end our walk. A scenic drive then takes us along Mile Dorcha, and to the Commando War Memorial at Spean Bridge.

4½ miles (7½km) with 500 feet (160m) of ascent.

Day 3: The Mountain Gondola And Ben Nevis Distillery

The Nevis Range Mountain Gondola carries us effortlessly up to the north face of Aonach Mor, the eighth highest mountain in Britain. A short walk gives us breath-taking views of the Great Glen, Ben Nevis, and out to the Inner Hebrides, before we descend again and begin our walk from the ski centre, through the forests, to our day's finale - the Ben Nevis distillery. We've time to sample a wee dram or two, or to take a tour of the distillery.

4.5 miles (7.5km) with 250 feet (80m) of ascent and 550 feet (160m) of descent.

Day 4: Free Day - Scottish Highlands

Discover more about [Alltshellach and the local area](#) for ideas on how to make the most of your free day.

Day 5: Dunstaffnage Castle And Oban

Today begins with a visit to Dunstaffnage Castle, dating from 1220 and inextricably linked with the struggles to control the western approaches. We enjoy a coastal walk across Ganavan Hill, with views out to Lismore, Mull and Kerrera, finishing in Oban – the acclaimed 'Gateway to the Isles' – where there will be plenty of time to explore, perhaps visiting the Oban Distillery or the War & Peace Museum.

3½ miles (5½km) with 450 feet (150m) of ascent.

Day 6: Glen Coe And "Hospital Lochan"

We start with an introduction to the area at the fabulous NTS Visitor Centre in Glen Coe with some excellent displays on the history of this famous valley. After a short coach ride we then walk into Glencoe village and along the scenic trails up to and around Glen Coe Lochan (also known as "Hospital Lochan"), before continuing to the well renowned walkers bar at the Clachaig Inn. For anyone with extra energy, there's the additional option of extending the walk to Signal Rock too.

4.5 miles (7.5km) with 650 feet (200m) of ascent.

Day 7: Glenfinnan And Loch Shiel

A photo stop at Loch Linnhe and then we're bound for Glenfinnan and its famous viaduct, featured in the Harry Potter films. After exploring the station, we follow a trail that takes us up to a fantastic viewing point, hopefully in time to see the train cross the viaduct. We then head down to the shores of Loch Shiel for a cruise to discover the history of Bonnie Prince Charlie, leaving time in the afternoon to visit the Glenfinnan Monument.

2½ miles (4km) with 600 feet (180m) of ascent

Day 8: Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

ACCOMMODATION

Alltshellach

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.

Country House Accommodation

Rooms

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, and comfortable mattresses.

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, and comfortable mattresses.

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.

Check in & check out

You are welcome to check in from **4:00pm at the earliest**. 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.

On the day of departure, we kindly ask all guests to check out by **10:00am**. You'll be asked to settle your bill prior to leaving. You may, of course, make a charitable donation to our HF Holidays Pathways Fund if you wish. Please note that we only accept card payments.

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

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, the HF Holidays Big Pub Quiz held after dinner on Wednesdays is a weekly staple. Your HF Holidays Leader may be around for tips on guided and self-guided walking routes as well as visit-worthy local attractions.

Walks talks

Our HF Holidays Leaders host guided walking information briefings before dinner on arrival days. This is followed by a group Walks Talk for information on the following day's walking delights (held before dinner every evening). Self-guided walking guests are, of course, welcome.

The walking day

Prior to setting off on walks, your HF Holidays Leader will run you through a short safety briefing. There's also an up-to-date weather forecast on display at the house to ensure you 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.

Food & Drink

Led by experienced chefs, we serve a wide range of dishes made with fresh and seasonal ingredients. We always aim to source the best produce available and use home-grown herbs and vegetables from our own gardens whenever possible. Additionally, we have a licensed bar with beers, soft drinks, and a superb selection of spirits. Full-board comes as standard and includes a cream tea on arrival and a hearty breakfast on departure day.

HF Holidays understands the importance of managing allergens effectively to ensure food is safe for guests with food allergies. Whilst we are always able to confidently inform guests which allergens are present in our ingredients and dishes, we are unable to guarantee absolute freedom from the 14 main allergens in our kitchens. Vegetarian and vegan menu choices are available. If you have allergies, food intolerances, or any special dietary requirements, please inform our reservation team at the time of booking.

Accessibility

For accessibility and assistance information, please contact our expert team on [020 3974 8865](tel:02039748865) or view the accessibility information online for [Alltshellach](#)

TRAVEL DETAILS

Address

Alltshellach
Onich
Fort William
Invernesshire PH33 6SA

Tel: +44 (0)1855 821357

By Shared Transfer

If you are travelling to or from Alltshellach on Saturdays or over the festive period you can join our group coach transfer from Glasgow's Buchanan Street Bus Station or Glasgow Airport.

2024 prices are £70 per person for a return transfer or £48 per person for a single transfer. 2025 prices are £85 per person for a return transfer or £55 per person for a single transfer.

Outward journey: Depart Glasgow Buchanan Street Bus Station at 15:15 or Glasgow Airport at 15:45; arrive at Alltshellach at 18:30.

Return journey: Depart Alltshellach at 08:30; arrive at Glasgow Airport at 11:30 or Glasgow Buchanan Street Bus Station at 12:00.

Places are limited so booking is essential. We recommend booking at least 14 days in advance by contacting:

HF Holidays Sales and Support Team

Tel: [+44 \(0\)203 974 8865](tel:+44(0)2039748865)

Email: reservations@hfholidays.co.uk

By Train

The nearest station is Fort William.

Or you can take the train to Glasgow then the Scottish Citylink bus or our group coach transfer to Alltshellach.

Check National Rail for train times and routes.

By Taxi

The journey from Glasgow city centre is 97 miles, which takes around 2.5 hours.

By Bus

Scottish Citylink bus numbers 914 or 915 run from Glasgow Buchanan Street and Glasgow International Airport.

Ask the driver to stop at the north side of Ballachulish Bridge. From here you'll need to walk 400m to Alltshellach.

By Car

From Glasgow 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 on to the B863 towards Kinlochleven. Alltshellach is 400 yards on your right.

By Air

The nearest airport is Glasgow International Airport.

You can take the Citylink bus 915 (2.5 hours) or join our group coach transfer (2.75 hours).

If you fly into Manchester Airport, there are direct and indirect trains to Glasgow. Approximate journey time is four hours plus your transfer to Alltshellach.

LOCAL AREA

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.

USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

Essential Information

The UK has a famously unpredictable climate so it's best to be prepared for weather that's sunny one minute and raining the next. To make it easier, here's a list of items you should consider packing.

Essentials

- Suitable footwear such as waterproof walking boots that provide ankle support and good grip
- Waterproof and windproof jacket
- Comfortable clothing (jeans & waterproof capes are not suitable)
- Mid-layer(s) to keep you warm. Fleeeces make a good choice
- Waterproof overtrousers
- Gloves and a warm hat
- Rucksack with waterproof liner
- Flask for hot drinks
- Water bottle (at least 1 litre capacity)
- Sunscreen
- UV sunglasses

Recommended

- Several base layers (long-sleeve or short-sleeve)
- Cushioned walking socks to avoid blisters
- First aid kit, including plasters and insect repellent
- Sit mat
- Waterproof pouch for valuables
- Rubbish bag (remember to always leave no trace)
- Wallet/purse
- Camera
- First-aid kit

Safety On Your Holiday

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 while 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.

Admission Information

For 2024:

Admission fees are payable locally and aren't included in your holiday price, apart from what is stated in the what's included section. This gives you greater choice, freedom, and flexibility to only pay the entrance fees for the attractions that interest you most. Should you choose to visit all the highlighted attractions during your holiday please see the table below for the approximate totals. If you have Historic Scotland (HS), English Heritage (EH) or Cadw (C) membership, please be sure to bring your membership identification with you.

Approx. cost of entrance fees	3 night holiday	4 night holiday	7 night holiday
HS members	£16	£0	£16
EH & C members	£16	£3.75 if in 1st year	£19.75
No memberships	£16	£7.50	£23.50

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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