

# Highlands of Scotland Women's Adventure

8 Days



**CELEBRATING 50 YEARS** AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

## >Highlands of Scotland **Women's Adventure**

Venture deep into the heart of Scotland on this active women-only adventure, featuring historic cities, remote glens, and highland trails. Feel the stories of the past come alive in UNESCO-listed Edinburgh, historic palaces, and dramatic castles. Experience adrenaline thrills on gorge walks and mountain hikes, including the mythical Devil's Staircase and Ben Vrackie. Plus, delight in the serenity of stand-up paddleboarding and coastal kayaking. Spend your evenings sampling some of the best Scottish fare as you relax and enjoy the sociable culture of Scotland's welcoming towns.

## Details

Arrive:	Edinburgh, Scotland
Depart:	Edinburgh, Scotland
Duration:	8 Days
Group Size:	16 Guests
Minimum Age:	18 Years Old
Activity Level:	

## **Testimonials**

"Scotland is a beautiful country with very friendly people. Our guides were knowledgeable and enjoyable to be with."

lodi S.

Ruth P.

"We thoroughly enjoyed our Scotland trip with MI Sobek. The guides were extremely knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the areas we visited. The people and the landscapes were wonderful!"

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT. **1.888.831.7526** ➡ INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

## Why Take This Trip With Us?

#### REASON #01

MT Sobek has been operating in the Scottish Highlands for decades, working closely with expert local guides. REASON #02

This unique women-only adventure is perfect for those who want to combine an immersive cultural experience with days on the trail in Scotland's wilderness.

## What to Expect

#### REASON #03

Enjoy a flexible range of activity options depending on your skill level, from gentle walks to intensive peak bagging.



ACTIVITIES

Guided hikes through Scotland's rolling highlands, touring ancient landmarks, and relaxing at delightful inns.



#### LODGING

Charming hotels in scenic locales, all with heaps of character and excellent dining.



#### CLIMATE

Weather in Scotland and in the Highlands is constantly changing. Be prepared for rain, wind and sun. It is often cool and wet.

### **Meet Our Guides**

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

## Itinerary

#### DAY 1 ARRIVE IN EDINBURGH

Welcome to Edinburgh, Scotland's breathtaking capital! Meet your guides early this afternoon for a trip overview, then head out to explore the historic streets of Edinburgh. Enjoy a late-afternoon gin tasting before a relaxed welcome dinner with your guides and group.

Meals: D

#### DAY 2 FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS

Go back in time today on a visit to Falkland Palace, a striking Renaissance palace - said to be a favorite of Mary Queen of Scots. As well as being home to one of Britain's oldest tennis courts, scenes from the hit show Outlander were filmed in the cellar apothecary here! After touring the palace and gardens, make a short transfer to Loch Leven you'll take a short boat ride to the island-fortress of Lochleven Castle, where Mary was imprisoned from 1567-68. From here, venture north-west into the Highlands to reach our base for the next three nights, the rugged and wild valley of Glencoe.

Activity: Cultural touring

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 3 HIKE GLENCOE'S THREE SISTERS

Wake up in one of the most impressive valleys of Scotland - Glencoe. Hike in the midst of the striking Three Sisters, a series of three truncated spurs which dominate the view. Between two of these ridges lies the 'Lost Valley', where in times past clansmen used to hide their cattle to protect them from raiders. Head back to the Kingshouse Hotel tonight.

Activity: 3 hours/3 miles hiking with 1,120 elevation gain and loss Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 4 SEA KAYAKING & STORYTELLING

The west coast of Scotland is blessed with beautiful coastline, with towering mountains rising up from the shoreline. There are plentiful sheltered bays with lots of wildlife, such as seals, otters, porpoises and lots of birdlife too. Whether you are a first-timer or a seasoned paddler, this region will enchant you from the first paddle stroke. Your efforts will be rewarded with a drink in an historic inn, where you'll hear tales of legend and mystery told by a local storyteller.

Activity: 3-4 hours sea kayaking

#### DAY 5 HIKE THE DEVIL'S STAIRCASE

The West Highland Way is the most famous long distance trekking route in Scotland, and the hike over the pass known as the Devil's Staircase is the more famous, and notorious, stage of the trek. Starting from the hotel, hike into Glencoe to the foot of the pass. The ascent is steep with some switchbacks but very steady going with a constant gradient all the way. At the top of the pass (1,794'), be wowed by wonderful views of Glencoe and Loch Leven. Descending into the next valley, follow a trail to the small village of Kinlochleven, from where you'll transfer to Pitlochry.

Activity: 5-6 hours/9 miles hiking with 1,500' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 6 TRY STAND-UP PADDLEBOARDING & GORGE WALKING

Today is all about fun on the water with a chance to try stand-up paddleboarding. Learn from instructors before heading out to explore the scenic loch, which has an interesting wee island on it, as well as a reconstructed 'crannog.' After lunch, ramp up the fun with a guided clamber through a local gorge (wetsuits provided!), If you're game, you can finish with a 26-foot jump off a waterfall into the pool below. Supportive guides will give you the confidence to do it, or to just watch if you prefer.

Activity: 2-3 hours stand-up paddleboarding and 2-3 hours gorge walking Meals: B, L

#### DAY 7 SUMMIT BEN VRACKIE

On your last day in the Scottish Highlands, head out into mountains to finish on a natural high. There are many great options for hiking in this region and your guide will decide on the best route depending on the weather and the ambition of the group. One great option would be a hike up to the peak of Ben Vrackie (2,762'), where sweeping 360-degree views await. Tonight, reminisce about your adventures over a wine and Scottish cheese tasting. Raise a toast to your final night in Scotland - you have earned it!

Activity: 4 hours/6 miles with 2,582' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

### DAY 8 DEPART FROM EDINBURGH

Enjoy a relaxed breakfast and then transfer back to Edinburgh Airport for your homeward-bound flight. Call us for post-trip extension ideas in Scotland, England and Ireland!

Meals: B

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Dates

Sep 12 - 19, 2020

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

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→ INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

## Pricing

2020



#### **Additional Cost**

\$1,100 Single Supplement

#### PRICE INCLUDES

- Expert leadership from experienced adventure guides
- Accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- Meals as noted in the daily itinerary
- Potable water and snacks throughout
- 1 glass of wine or beer at dinner
- All necessary kayaking and paddleboarding gear
- All group entrance fees, activities, and ground transportation
- Arrival and departure day group airport transfers

#### **PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE**

- International airfare, any airport taxes, or excess baggage charges
- Dinner on Day 6
- Optional tips to your adventures guide(s) and driver(s)
- Personal expenses such as medical immunizations, phone calls, laundry, or souvenirs
- Airport transfers if arriving or departing outside of the group transfer
- Optional travel protection

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## > The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are the adventure company.



#### TWO HUNDRED ADVENTURES.

#### SEVEN CONTINENTS.

A WORLD OF DISCOVERY.

Where's Your Next Adventure?



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