



# Scotland Western Isles Hiking

## Dramatic Landscapes, Stunning Lochs & Whisky Tasting

Thank you for checking out our adventures and for downloading this itinerary. Please note that this itinerary may be subject to change depending on the specific departure date. Be sure to check with us before scheduling any flights.

**We love talking travel!**

Contact us at [info@mtsobek.com](mailto:info@mtsobek.com)

or call **800-974-0300**



# Feel the difference

with **Mountain Travel Sobek**

## Unrivaled Expertise

MT Sobek started it all! Since our first Everest Base Camp trek in 1969, we've been leading award-winning adventures and building authentic connections in far-flung locations around the world. We were named Best Adventure Tour Company in 2022 by USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards.

## Unique Trip Design

Our adventures are perfectly paced, with incredible attention to detail — the right mix of fun, learning, and challenge that guarantees lifelong memories. Plan nothing, enjoy everything. We take care of all of the logistics so that you can have more time to do what's most important: relax, take in the experience, and enjoy!

## Small Groups

We keep our groups intentionally small — usually fewer than 10 people. This allows you a more intimate experience with the people and wildlife you encounter. With a smaller group size, we can take advantage of many unexpected invitations and opportunities that would be impossible with larger groups.





## Leading the Way

### World-Class Local Guides

Our knowledgeable and passionate expert guides effortlessly create an immersive local experience for you. They are trained to the highest professional standards and are at the heart of everything we do. They make it possible to meet the challenges of adventure travel, and help create lasting memories and lifelong friendships... we can confidently say our guides are the best in the business.





# Why take this trip with us?

## REASON 1

MT Sobek has been operating in the Scottish Highlands for decades, working closely with expert local guides to ensure an immersive and memorable adventure.

## REASON 2

This well-paced and incredibly scenic 9-day adventure is perfect for those who want to pair exciting days on wilderness trails with enriching historical and cultural experiences.

## REASON 3

Explore the Cairngorms, visit Loch Ness, hike the Inner Hebrides, and stay at specially selected comfortable hotels at every leg of the journey. We make it easy!

## At A Glance

### ACTIVITIES

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



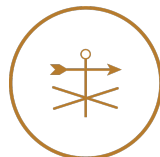
### LODGING

Charming hotels with lovely countryside and loch views, excellent dining, and heaps of character.



### CLIMATE

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



### KNOW BEFORE YOU BOOK

*"What a total comfort to know that with MT Sobek, you're in the hands of professionals who have been doing it so long and so well. That was part of why we landed on them as our operators for our dream trip, and everything about the experience they gave us—from tailored expertise to unswerving professionalism—confirmed the company's emphasis on excellence." - Alex M.*



# Scotland Western Isles Hiking

## Dramatic Landscapes, Stunning Lochs & Whisky Tasting

Discover wild and beautiful Scotland, a land of glimmering lochs, sweeping valleys, and dramatic cliffs on this perfect Highlands and Islands hiking experience. Head for a hike through the ancient Caledonian Pine Forest, home to red deer and osprey. At Cairngorms National Park, look out for Scotland's only free-ranging herd of reindeer. Visit Loch Ness, famed for the mythical Nessie, then it's off to the Hebrides for hikes on the Isles. Wrap up your magical Scottish journey with a stop at the 5,000-year-old Callanish Standing Stones.

### 9 Days

**Start:** Inverness, Scotland

**End:** Inverness, Scotland

**Departing:** May, June, July, August, September

**Activities:** Hiking & Trekking, Cultural Discovery

**Lodging:** Comfortable Hotels

**Group Size:** 4-16 Guests

#### ACTIVITY:



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*"The MT Sobek Scotland Western Isles Hiking Tour is a must do. You will experience Scotland in a way you have never before. Hiking with our guide on the isles provided an amazing perspective on how special these isles are in so many ways."*

- Barb B.

Check [mtsobek.com](https://www.mtsobek.com) for date-specific pricing.

# The Itinerary

DAY  
01

## Visit the Tomatin Whisky Distillery & Journey to the Cairngorms

Arrive in Inverness, the capital of the Scottish Highlands and take a mid-morning transfer to the Tomatin Whisky Distillery, for a tour and a whisky tasting. Have lunch in a café in the village of Carrbridge before a leg-stretching hike at the Loch Garten Nature Reserve, looking out for ospreys and smaller birds found in the ancient Caledonian Pine Forest. A short transfer then leads to the lively village of Aviemore, home for the next three nights. Get to know your fellow travelers over a welcome dinner tonight.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Cairngorm Hotel, Aviemore

**MEALS:** Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 1.5-hour private van transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 1.5 hours/2.5 miles hiking

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DAY  
02

## Explore Cairngorms National Park

Today hike to an often-overlooked summit in Cairngorms National Park which offers incredible views for less effort than you might imagine. From the trailhead, cross a bridge over a bubbling burn and then climb up onto the lower plateau, where you may encounter Scotland's only herd of reindeer. Follow a good trail which cuts across the heather-clad slopes before a short climb leads to a summit with superb views of some of the highest peaks in Scotland.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Cairngorm Hotel, Aviemore

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**ACTIVITY:** 4–5 hours/7.5 miles hiking with 1,310' elevation gain

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DAY  
03

## Hike to the Cairngorm High Plateau

After a hearty breakfast, venture out to tackle the Cairngorm high plateau. Home to five of the six highest mountains in Scotland, the rolling plateau is split by several deep valleys where the results of the last Ice Age are very visible. Starting from a high elevation trailhead, there is still a further 1,950 feet of elevation gain before reaching the high plateau. Once gained, hike through a sea of mountain tops with outstanding views in all directions. Return to the hotel, with time to relax before dinner. Dinner tonight is on your own in town.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Cairngorm Hotel, Aviemore

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch

**ACTIVITY:** 4–5 hours/7.5 miles hiking with 1,950' elevation gain

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## DAY 04

### Journey to the Isle of Skye

Head west today to the Isle of Skye, the largest and most northerly island in the Inner Hebrides of Scotland. En route, take a brief stop to enjoy the views over Loch Ness and another to visit the spectacular Eilean Donan Castle, dating from the 13th century. Arriving on Skye in the early afternoon, take a short hike in the iconic Glen Sligachan, a deep glacial valley which separates the Red Cuillins from the craggier Black Cuillins. After the hike, have a pint of ale in a mountaineers' inn before arriving at the hotel.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Cuillin Hills Hotel, Portree Hotel Eilean Iarmain, Isle of Skye

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 3.5-hour private van transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 2–3 hours/5 miles hiking with 490' elevation gain

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## DAY 05

### Hike the Isle of Skye

Explore the magnificent Isle of Skye on one of many hikes available on the island. Depending on the weather and the group's mood, the guide selects the best route to take today. A great option is an ascent of the Storr — a craggy peak which gives impressive views of the famous 'Old Man of Storr' rock spire, as well as wide-ranging panoramas across the island and across the sea to the mainland.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Cuillin Hills Hotel, Portree Hotel Eilean Iarmain, Isle of Skye

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**ACTIVITY:** 4–5 hours/5 miles hiking with 2,300' elevation gain

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## Discover the Quiraing & Ride to the Outer Hebrides

Today head north onto the resplendent Trotternish Peninsula, to enjoy a short hike amidst the otherworldly pinnacles, spires and cliffs of the Quiraing. Then jump on a ferry across the Minch to the Isle of Harris in the Outer Hebrides. Check into the hotel, located in the sleepy village of Tarbert, before enjoying dinner this evening.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Hotel Hebrides, Isle of Harris

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 1.5-hour private van transfer & 1.5-hour ferry ride

**ACTIVITY:** 2–3 hours/3 miles hiking with 650' elevation gain

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## Enjoy Views from Toe Head & Explore the Golden Road

Begin today with a lovely walk along beautiful Luskintyre beach. Continue south to Toe Head, a wonderful wee peak with unbeatable coastal views from its summit (1,300'). Then complete a circuit of Harris by traveling back north via the 'Golden Road' on the east coast, a picturesque road with dazzling views at every turn.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Hotel Hebrides, Isle of Harris

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 1.5-hour private bus transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 4–5 hours/7.5 miles hiking with 1,300' elevation gain

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## Venture to the Isle of Lewis & Visit the Callanish Standing Stones

Head north to the Isle of Lewis, to take in the Callanish Standing Stones which date back to 2,900 B.C. Then continue to explore the west coast of Lewis, visiting historic sites and enjoying a short but astounding coastal hike from a blackhouse village. Afterwards, continue to the town of Stornoway, and from there catch the late afternoon ferry back to the mainland. A short transfer takes you to the hotel, located in a sleepy Highland village.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Coul House Hotel, Contin by Strathpeffer

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 2-hour private van transfer & 2.5-hour ferry ride

**ACTIVITY:** 1 hour/1 mile hiking with 200' elevation gain

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## Tackle a Final Summit & Return to Inverness

After breakfast, set out for one last hike. It's a short but rewarding walk up a superb little hill called Knockfarrel. At the summit, see a vitrified fort which dates back to the Iron Age (around 100 B.C.) and take in the expansive views which stretch across the Highlands in every direction — a fine place to reflect upon the journey. Then descend back to the trailhead and make the short transfer to Inverness, where the trip ends at 1pm.

**MEALS:** Breakfast

**TRANSPORTATION:** 40 minute private van transfer

**ACTIVITY:** 2–3 hours/4.5 miles hiking with approximately 820' elevation gain



# Where You'll Stay

**These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.**

## **Cairngorm Hotel**

Situated in the heart of Aviemore, a year-round resort town in Cairngorms National Park, Cairngorm Hotel is a delightful base for exploring the Scottish Highlands. The 32 en-suite rooms come complete with a full spectrum of amenities and feature lovely views over the Cairngorm Mountains or Craigellachie. The vibrant bar and restaurant is a great spot to swap travel tales.

## **Hotel Eilean Iarmain**

Nestled in a picturesque bay in southern Skye, Hotel Eilean Iarmain offers a truly enchanting Scottish escape! All of its 16 bedrooms come with modern amenities and panoramic views of the sea! Sip on gin or whisky at the bar, or enjoy a delicious meal at the on-site restaurant before cosying up by the roaring fire in the sitting room.

## **Hotel Hebrides**

A boutique hideaway on the charming Isle of Harris in the Outer Hebrides of Scotland, this delightful hotel showcases stylish, contemporary guest rooms equipped with Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs, and complimentary tea and coffee-making facilities. Many of the rooms offer loch and harbor views. Food served at the Pierhouse Restaurant is a definite highlight — locally sourced and deliciously prepared.



# Where You'll Stay

**These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.**

## **Coul House Hotel**

Housed inside a lovingly restored 1820's mansion, this delightful hotel showcases magnificent fireplaces, ornate ceilings, and great views from the public areas. The guest rooms ooze character, the cuisine served at the restaurant is creative, and the location stellar — just 25 minutes north of Inverness on the door step of the North Coast 500 route leading to the Highland wilderness.

# Departure Dates

This trip is available to run in: May, June, July, August, September

**Book early for a greater choice of available dates.**  
Once you book, your price is GUARANTEED!

May 24-June 1, 2024

June 24-July 2, 2024

July 19-27, 2024

August 16-24, 2024

May 2-10, 2025

May 30-June 7, 2025

June 27-July 5, 2025

July 11-19, 2025

August 15-23, 2025

September 12-20, 2025

# What's Included

## PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portorage

## PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses



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The Adventure Company | Est. 1969

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