

Jewels of Scotland: Shore Excursions

From the legendary Giant's Causeway and the seabird cliffs of Rathlin Island to Orkney's monuments and the mysterious waters of Loch Ness, our Jewels of Scotland expedition offers a curated program of optional shore excursions. Every outing pairs expert local guides with the region's most extraordinary landscapes, fascinating history, vibrant island culture, and enduring legends.

EIGHT GUIDED EXCURSIONS • FIVE PORTS • 2027 EXCLUSIVE

Giant's Causeway & Dunluce Castle Experience

APR 30 • PORTRUSH (morning)

DIFFICULTY: ●●○○○

Set out from Portrush along the Antrim Coast, one of the world's most spectacular coastal routes, to the legendary Giant's Causeway. An exclusive early opening of the Visitor Centre puts you ahead of the crowds, before the road continues to Dunluce Castle, perched on a rocky cliff above the Atlantic.

- > Stand among the basalt columns of a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- > Discover the myths, geology, and natural beauty of this iconic landscape
- > Photo stop at the spectacular cliffside ruins of Dunluce Castle

Duration: 3 hours

Details: Motor Coach • Walking • Steep Slopes • Gravel walking paths • Wheelchair accessible • Shopping possibilities



Rathlin Island Discovery

APR 30 • RATHLIN ISLAND (afternoon)

DIFFICULTY: ●●○○○

The RSPB Rathlin West Light Seabird Centre sits at the western tip of Rathlin Island, above Northern Ireland's largest seabird colony. Travel by coach across rolling countryside, explore the Centre's interactive exhibits, then walk down to the West Light Lighthouse, famously built "upside down" into the cliff face.

- > Visit the RSPB Rathlin West Light Seabird Centre
- > Enjoy panoramic Atlantic views and seasonal seabird sightings
- > Discover the unique cliffside West Light Lighthouse

Duration: 3 hours

Details: Motor Coach • Walking • Steep cliffs, rolling farmland, gravel tracks and some hilly sections • Not wheelchair accessible

Jewels of Scotland: Shore Excursions

EIGHT GUIDED EXCURSIONS • FIVE PORTS • 2027 EXCLUSIVE

The Rathlin Island Walking Tour

APR 30 • RATHLIN ISLAND

DIFFICULTY: ●●●○○

A guided walk along Rathlin's quiet roads and tracks, at an easy pace with regular stops. With a local guide, explore the island's history, natural environment, and distinctive way of life, all connected through generations of island heritage, among peaceful landscapes, scenic coastal surroundings, and a welcoming community.

- Learn about the island's history, culture, and close-knit community
- Enjoy peaceful coastal views and authentic island atmosphere
- Easy-paced walk with regular stops throughout the tour

Duration: 1.5 hours

Details: Walking tour • Not wheelchair accessible



Tobermory Traditions: Music, Malts & Flavours

MAY 02 • TOBERMORY

DIFFICULTY: ●●○○○

Brightly painted buildings line the waterfront of Tobermory, Mull's capital. A guided walk through the town covers local life, maritime heritage, and island culture, before a Hebridean welcome at the historic Western Isles Hotel, live traditional Scottish music, a tasting of Tobermory single malt whisky, and Scottish canapés.

- Guided walking tour through the colorful harbor town of Tobermory
- Enjoy live traditional Scottish music and a Tobermory whisky tasting
- Free time to explore Tobermory's charming shops, galleries, and cafés

Duration: 2.5 hours

Details: Motor Coach • Walking • Paths with steep stairs • Not wheelchair accessible • Shopping possibilities



POLAR LATITUDES
EXPEDITIONS

Jewels of Scotland: Shore Excursions

EIGHT GUIDED EXCURSIONS • FIVE PORTS • 2027 EXCLUSIVE

Tobermory Distillery Tour & Whisky Tasting

MAY 02 • TOBERMORY

DIFFICULTY: ●●○○○

A short walk from the pier, Tobermory Distillery has been making whisky for more than 220 years. A guided tour of Scotland's oldest licensed distillery reveals the craftsmanship behind its Tobermory and Ledaig single malts, concluding with a tutored tasting of Tobermory 12-Year-Old and Ledaig 10-Year-Old.

- Go behind the scenes at a working Isle of Mull distillery
- See traditional whisky-making methods still in practice after 220 years
- Enjoy a guided tasting of two distinctive single malts, showcasing the contrast between the smooth, unpeated Tobermory and the bold, smoky character of Ledaig.

Duration: 1.5 hours

Details: Walking Tour • Not wheelchair accessible • Shopping possibilities



Mull Head Hike – Coastal Walk & Viking Heritage

MAY 03 • KIRKWALL

DIFFICULTY: ●●○○○

From Kirkwall to the Mull Head Nature Reserve, for a circular coastal hike of about 7 km. Walk to The Gloop, a striking collapsed sea cave, and the Brough of Deerness, a former Viking settlement, then follow rugged cliff-top paths toward Mull Head, watching for seabirds and seasonal wildflowers.

- Hike through the dramatic coastal scenery of Mull Head and the Brough of Deerness
- Discover Viking history and the striking natural formation of The Gloop
- Enjoy opportunities to spot seabirds, wildflowers, and panoramic cliff views

Duration: 4 hours

Details: Walking Tour • Uneven terrain, steps & exposed cliff paths • Not wheelchair accessible



POLAR LATITUDES
EXPEDITIONS

Neolithic Highlights of Orkney

MAY 03 • KIRKWALL

DIFFICULTY: ●●○○○

Five thousand years of Orkney history sit within Mainland's rolling countryside, in a UNESCO-listed Neolithic Heartland. Visit the Standing Stones of Stenness and the impressive Ring of Brodgar, then tour the remarkably preserved village of Skara Brae. The road back follows the coast of Scapa Flow.

- Visit three sites in Orkney's UNESCO-listed Neolithic Heartland
- Tour historic Skail House after the Neolithic village
- Return along Scapa Flow, famed for its naval history in both World Wars

Duration: 4 hours

Details: Motor Coach • Walking • Soft, uneven ground • Wheelchair accessible



Loch Ness Cruise & Historic Urquhart Castle

MAY 04 • INVERNESS

DIFFICULTY: ●●○○○

Travel through scenic Highland landscapes to Urquhart Castle, once a key stronghold overlooking Loch Ness. Explore the dramatic ruins, then board a boat to cruise the famous waters, home to the enduring legend of the Loch Ness Monster, returning via Dochgarroch Pier.

- Explore the evocative ruins of Urquhart Castle, steeped in centuries of Highland conflict
- Cruise Loch Ness with sweeping Highland views
- Discover the loch's mysterious legends and fascinating natural history

Duration: 4.5 hours

Details: Motor Coach • Boat Tour • Uneven moderately rugged terrain • Not wheelchair accessible

Important: All excursions are subject to weather, sea conditions, and operational requirements, and may be changed or canceled at the operator's discretion, as may the order of ports and excursions. Appropriate fitness, waterproof clothing, and sturdy footwear are required. Where multiple excursions are offered at the same port, guests may select one activity only. Bookings usually open 4–8 months before departure, and you will be notified through your booking agent as soon as selections become available.

Discover the Full Jewels of Scotland Itinerary



Polar Latitudes Expeditions™ Jewels of Scotland 2027 Exclusive Voyage Program