



the National Trust for Scotland  
Urras Nàiseanta na h-Alba  
a place for everyone àite don h-uile duine

**VISITING St KILDA**

Please find attached information about your forthcoming visit to St Kilda. More information on the islands can be found on our website [www.kilda.org.uk](http://www.kilda.org.uk).

If there is anything else that you need, please do not hesitate to contact Susan Bain, Western Isles Manager, at the address below.

the National Trust for Scotland, Balnain House, 40 Huntly Street, Inverness IV3 5HR

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The National Trust for Scotland is Scotland's leading conservation charity. The Trust protects Scotland's most important historic buildings, collections, gardens and wild habitats. In carrying out its work the Trust is dependent upon the support of its members, volunteers and the general public.

The National Trust for Scotland for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty is a charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SC 007410.

Patron - HRH The Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay KG KT GCB OM, President – Earl of Lindsay, DL,  
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## Travel Arrangements

You are responsible for all matters relating to your travel to and from St Kilda.

## Medical Care

There is no doctor or dentist on St Kilda. In an emergency, arrangements can be made to take casualties to hospital.

If you are currently on any medication it is your responsibility to take an adequate supply for your stay.

## Accommodation

The campsite has been booked for you. I have attached a plan showing its location.

On arrival you should make contact with the Ranger as soon as possible. The Ranger will show you the campsite and inform you of the arrangements for water supply, washing and toilets.

The Ranger will give you important information about living and working in a World Heritage Site e.g. When setting up camp, **please do not move stones to weight down your tent or attach guy ropes to walls or other structures.**

St Kilda is home and workplace to a number of people, those working on the radar station, Trust staff and other researchers. Please respect the privacy of those who live and work on the island and do not wander through their homes and workplaces.

## Toilet and Shower Facilities

The 'Toilet and Shower Block' was built opposite the Factor's House in 1957; today all those staying in NTS accommodation as well as any campers use it. Day visitors may use the facilities on occasion also.

On a bright sunny morning it is a pleasant walk, in the rain at night it can seem a long way! It is recommended that you use a torch to help you keep your footing.

There are two toilets and two showers.

Please take your turn to regularly clean the toilets and showers in the block; the Trust does not employ cleaning staff. Please ask the ranger if you need any cleaning materials.

Please note there are no separate facilities for men and women.

## **Laundry Facilities**

There is 1 sink for clothes washing and a spin drier. You must bring your own soap powder for clothes washing.

The drying line is behind Cottage 2; pegs are provided. Please do not set up any other drying lines.

Please take your turn to regularly clean the sinks in the block; the Trust does not employ cleaning staff. Please ask the ranger if you need any cleaning materials.

## **Meals and Food Procurement**

There are no shops on St Kilda; you will have to be self-reliant and bring what you need with you including a cooking stove and all the food that you will need for your stay, plus additional supplies in case your departure is delayed. The Trust provides you with access to a drinking-water supply. You may use a gas stove in the camping area to prepare meals and hot drinks; open fires are not permitted at the campsite.

Barbeques – please speak to Trust staff if you want to use a barbeque, they can advise on the best place and disposal.

You will not have access to an electricity supply.

The indigenous St Kilda mouse will find your food supplies if they are not stored in sealed containers. We strongly recommend you bring such containers with you. The Ranger has some storage containers for food and other goods that you can borrow.

## **Other Information**

### **St Kilda Club Shop**

Located in the Manse is a souvenir shop run by the St Kilda Club; this is staffed by volunteers. You are advised to take spending money in pounds sterling, although we also accept cheques and most credit cards.

### **Smoking**

Smoking is not permitted within any building on St Kilda.

### **St Kilda Mouse**

The St Kildean field mouse is a unique, protected species of mouse. The mice co-exist with visitors and so are often found in living quarters. Please keep all food in mouse-proof containers, including waste food.

## Soay Sheep

St Kilda possesses two breeds of sheep, the Soay, which takes its name from one of the islands and the Blackfaces on Boreray. There are a number of free roaming Soay sheep in Village Bay, which have been on St Kilda since prehistoric times.

## Alien Species

May I stress the importance of checking that you do not bring any non-native species to St Kilda and ask that you check your vessel and/or luggage for signs of rodents and take appropriate measures.

## Communications

Mobile phones do not work on St Kilda. There is no facility for accessing e-mail accounts or the internet.

A -weekly helicopter delivers and collects mail. You can buy postcards from the shop if you want to send postcards. Please bring your own stamps, as they are not always available. The postal address for St Kilda is:

The National Trust for Scotland  
St Kilda  
c/o QinetiQ Hebrides Range  
Balivanich  
Benbecula  
HS7 5LA

Between mid-April and mid-October, the **emergency** telephone number for people to contact you on St Kilda is:

**01870 604641**

## Please Note:

**There is no mobile phone reception or Wi-Fi or other internet access available on St Kilda.**

## Health and Safety

If you are going for a walk you may want to let the Ranger know where you are going or to leave a route card. The Ranger can provide you with up to date safety and access information.

Ensure that you thoroughly cleanse your hands before consuming food. You will come into contact with faeces deposited by animals and birds during your stay on Hirta, you must cleanse your hands before eating.

## **Waste Disposal**

We recycle all rubbish on St Kilda. The Ranger will inform you of the method for disposal of rubbish. Please remember that the islands are a World Heritage Site and dispose of all waste in the recommended way. Please take away batteries and aerosols – these are difficult items for us to deal with.

## **Charges**

We charge £12 per person per night for the facilities and ask that you pay the Ranger directly – cheque or cash only. All proceeds will be spent on the island to further our conservation work. Please note that the weather is unpredictable and may result in you being unable to leave the island as scheduled. In such circumstances, you will be charged for camping at the same nightly rate. Please bring sufficient funds to cover such contingencies.

## **Kit list**

This list is intended to help you pack; however you are responsible for your own safety and comfort.

## **Necessities**

- Waterproof jacket and trousers
- Quick drying trousers
- Layers
- Woolly hat and sun hat
- Socks (and spares)
- Sun tan lotion
- Sun glasses
- Water bottle
- Insect repellent/midge head cover
- Good walking boots (and spare laces)
- Gloves
- Toiletries such as soap and dental hygiene products (in a wash bag)
- Towel(s)
- Personal first-aid kit/medical care items (e.g. blister kit, pain killers, travel sickness remedies, etc.)
- Laundry soap/powder and/or travel laundry liquid
- Tent
- Guy cord/repair tape
- Sleeping mat
- Sleeping bag
- Toilet paper
- Compass and map (in map case)

- Head torch (plus spare batteries/bulb)
- Backpack with rain cover
- Stove and fuel
- Waterproof matches/lighter
- Cook set (pots/pans/utensils/pot handle)
- Plates
- Drinking cup
- Cutlery
- Dish washing kit (washing up liquid/pot scourer/dishcloth)
- Stuff sacks (for organising gear)
- Sealable plastic bags
- Sealable containers for food
- Itinerary (left with family or friend)

### **Useful Items**

- Swimming gear
- Small flask
- Cheque book
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Torch and batteries
- Postage stamps
- Notebook, pen & pencils
- Compass
- Travel games
- Watch with alarm
- Compact radio
- Book

## Map of Village Bay

