

TEXT ONLY VERSION OF LEAFLET (2017)

GO TO ST KILDA - SKYE TO ST KILDA

DAY TRIPS

UK'S ONLY UNESCO DUAL WORLD
HERITAGE SITE & NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE

St Kilda

One of the world's special places. The archipelago of St Kilda, the remotest part of the British Isles, lies in the Atlantic Ocean, 41 miles (66 kilometres) west of Benbecula in Scotland's Outer Hebrides.

Its islands, with their exceptional cliffs and sea stacks, are rich in wildlife and form the most important seabird breeding station in north-west Europe. The evacuation of its native population in 1930 brought to a close an extraordinary story of survival. Today, three organisations, The National Trust for Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and the MoD work in partnership to further a continuing programme of conservation and research on the islands to ensure the care and protection of this World Heritage Site.

Visiting St Kilda is something we've wanted to do for as long as I can remember.....and it totally exceeded expectations. Your skipper and crew were great and taught us lots, the boat trip was superb and the islands themselves perfect. Having a glorious sunny day was the icing on the cake. I can honestly say it was one of my most memorable days ever.

Dual World Heritage Site

St Kilda is one of only 29 global locations, and the only UK location to be awarded World Heritage Status for both natural and cultural significance. The remote Hebridean Islands share this honour with natural and cultural wonders such as the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu in Peru, Mount Athos in Greece and the Ukhahlamba/Drakensberg Park in South Africa.

What to do on St Kilda

On arrival in Village Bay, passengers make the short transfer by Zodiac dinghy to the main St Kilda island of Hirta. Passengers are free to explore the Island. The St Kilda museum, school and Church provide a fascinating insight into the way of life of the St Kildans prior to their evacuation in 1930. The remains of the village, the graves and First World War gun are all open to view. By request at time of booking, we may be able to arrange a guided walk at a cost of £5 per person. The season for puffins is usually from end of April to early August, and for gannets, from April to October.

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Historic connection between Skye and St Kilda

The St Kilda group of islands was for centuries part of the lands of the MacLeod clan seated in Dunvegan Castle, Skye. They were sold in the 1930s after the islanders had been evacuated. Exhibits in Dunvegan Castle illustrate the extraordinary way of life of its people. An example is the horsehair rope. No man was allowed to marry until he had woven one of these, so that he could maintain his wife by being able to hunt for the sea-birds living on the great cliffs.

This rope had to be able to bear his weight in case he fell from the cliffs during the hunt. Other examples are the door lock with its removable wooden key and the post-bag which are recognisable functions of everyday life today. Mail was thrown into the sea to be washed up eventually either on the shores of Norway or of Scotland, depending upon the currents at the time. We recommend a visit to Dunvegan Castle and grounds.

The Boat

The boat you will travel in will be "Integrity" or similar boat. "Integrity" is a fast, comfortable, seaworthy and safe craft for up to 12 passengers and 2 crew. Facilities include a toilet, indoors cabin, open air rear viewing deck, 240v sockets, and ample dry storage for 1 tonne of luggage. 'Integrity' is equipped with a comprehensive suite of state of the art navigational equipment for all weather operation. For your safety, 'Integrity' is safety certified each year to the stringent requirements of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency.

The Skipper

Your skipper and crew for the day will be suitably qualified and experienced. Their primary responsibility is the safety and comfort of all of the passengers.

Timings & Journey Information

☒ *7.00 am: Departure from Uig Pier. Meet 6.50am for briefing. (Postcode: IV51 9XX)

☒ Distance Uig to St Kilda: 85 miles.

☒ Journey time: 4 hours each way (3 hrs 30 mins on good days)

☒ Spend approx 4 hours on the main island of St Kilda - Hirta.

☒ Cruise to Boreray and Sea Stacs.

☒ *8.30pm: Return to Uig.

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Journey plan and arrival times are approximate and can change due to weather. *Prior to April 14th and after Sept 3rd departure and return timings change to suit daylight hours. Note: Risk of cancellation in event of unsuitable wind forecast. Where possible we offer opportunity to travel on day following a cancellation. We operate April to September and other dates by arrangement.

Price, Booking and Payment

Each trip can take up to 12 passengers.

£255* per person.

Booking: If more than 14 days in advance, 30% deposit required. Balance payable by 14 days prior to date of travel.

Booking & Enquiries

For dates, availability and to book online visit: www.gotostkilda.co.uk

For other enquiries contact:

Email: enquiries@gotostkilda.co.uk

Tel: 077899 14144

Requirements

Mobility: Passengers require to be independently mobile with a reasonable degree of agility. Unfortunately the trip is not suitable for wheelchair users.

Age: Children under 16 accompanied by an adult are welcome. Not recommended for children under age of 12.

Dress required: Footwear suitable for walking on the island where ground can be uneven, steep and wet underfoot. Warm waterproof clothing (jacket, trousers and footwear) for use on the island and also to enjoy views from the rear deck during the journey, which may be wet from sea spray.

Food and drink: Passengers require to bring own food and drink as there are no catering facilities on the island.

Pets: Pets are strictly prohibited due to fragile ecosystem on the island.

* Includes £5pp landing fee due to NTS (No discount for NTS Members)

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Camping adventures

We run 2 and 3 day camping adventures to St Kilda. Dates and prices are on our website. Private group bookings to St Kilda We welcome private group bookings. Although our trips normally depart from Uig, we may be able to meet groups at alternative locations on North Skye, e.g. Dunvegan or Stein. Private group bookings to other destinations We offer private day cruises to other destinations including Shiant Islands, Mingulay, Flannan Isles, North Rona, Sula Sgeir, Lewis, Harris, Berneray, Gairloch, Coll, Tiree, Mull, Oban and Ullapool. Photographs are courtesy of, and copyright of: www.marcusmcadam.co.uk

Booking & Enquiries

For dates, availability and to book online visit: www.gotostkilda.co.uk

For other enquiries contact:

Email: enquiries@gotostkilda.co.uk Tel: 077899 14144

Terms and Conditions - In the event of the weather being unsuitable in the interests of comfort and safety, or the minimum number of bookings not being reached, the trip will be cancelled. In such events, passengers will normally be informed no later than the day prior to travel and will be offered an alternative date. If not suitable for the passenger, there will be a full refund of the price paid, subject to deduction of a 2.5% admin charge. In the most unlikely event of the trip reaching St Kilda but being unable to land due to weather, a 30% refund will be made. In event of the passenger cancelling there will be no refund of monies already paid, unless the seat can be re-sold, in which case there will be a commensurate refund. We do not store credit card details, nor do we share customer details with any 3rd parties. Full Terms and Conditions are available on our website www.gotostkilda.co.uk Gotostkilda.co.uk is a trading name of Integrity Voyages LLP

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