## Orkney & the Highlights of the North Coast 500



## Look what's included

- Executive coach travel
- 6 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast
- Tea/Coffee after Dinner
- Pitlochry visit
- Local Guide on Orkney
- Entrance to the Italian Chapel
- Entrance to Skara Brae
- Entrance to Skiall House
- North Coast 500 Highlights







Experience the rugged beauty and long standing heritage of Scotland & Orkney.

Our scenic itinerary includes a day on historic Orkney, lying off Scotland's North Coast, surrounded by crystal-clear waters with a unique blend of Scandinavian and Scottish culture.

Discover Scotland's most magnificent scenery on the northern coastline, which showcases beautiful beaches, glorious seascapes, historical ruins, quaint fishing villages and rugged landscapes.

A truly unforgettable experience awaits you on this holiday.

## Itinerary\*

**Day 1** Departing our local area we travel to Scotland with suitable comfort stops en route, to arrive at the Fisher's Hotel in Pitlochry for two nights with dinner, bed & breakfast provided.

**Day 2** A free day to explore the pretty Victorian town of Pitlochry, known as the Heart of Scotland. Set within beautiful surroundings amid mountains, valleys, rivers & fir tree cladded hills with its many attractions including distilleries, pubs, shops and tea rooms.

**Day 3** After a hearty Scottish breakfast, our journey takes us through the Cairngorms National Park and past Inverness, before we cross the Moray, Beauly, Cromarty and Dornoch Firths, and to Dornoch for lunch & leisure. After stopping in Dornoch we continue north, passing Golspie and Dunrobin Castle, continuing our scenic coastal journey via Brora, Helmsdale, and up to John o' Groats for a break before arriving at the Pentland Hotel, Thurso with two nights dinner, bed & breakfast provided.

Day 4 Departing the hotel after breakfast, we travel via Dunnet and Mey Castle to Gills Bay for our morning ferry to St Margarets Hope and our full day guided tour of Orkney. On arrival, we meet our local guide who will be with us throughout our tour of the island. We visit the Italian Chapel, which was built by Italian Prisoners during WWII. We then travel over the Churchill Barriers, the construction of which was ordered by Winston Churchill after the tragic torpedoing of the battleship Royal Oak in the Scapa Flow during 1939. From here, we continue along the Scapa Flow and to Kirkwall for free time and lunch. After our lunch stop, we visit the mystical ancient settlement of Skara Brae, uncovered by a storm in 1850. This ancient settlement is older than Stonehenge and the amazingly preserved rooms provide us with a unique insight into Neolithic human living. Finally, we visit Skaill House, one of Orkney's top tourist attractions and the finest mansion on the island, before making our way back for our afternoon ferry crossing to the mainland.

**Day 5** Today is truly a Bucket List journey as we travel west along the Northern Coast using many a single track road through some of Scotland's most picturesque scenery with magical views of crystal clear bays and lochs towards Smoo Cave and Durness where we make a break for lunch. Continuing our journey after our lunch stop, we admire some of the finest scenery on the North West side of Scotland as we travel by Scourie, The Kylesku Bridge, Loch Broom and Ullapool, before arriving at the Ben Wyvis Hotel in Strathpeffer where we have one night dinner, bed and breakfast.

**Day 6** After breakfast our scenic journey of Scotland continues as we travel along Loch Ness where we make a break for lunch at Fort Augustus. From here we follow the Caledonian Canal through the Great Glen calling at the Spean Bridge Commando Memorial and Neptunes Staircase before arriving at the Ben Nevis hotel & Leisure Club at Fort William with one night dinner, bed and breakfast.

**Day 7** Departing Fort William this morning, we pass through Glen Coe and the Trossachs as we travel south on our homeward journey, with suitable comfort stops en route arriving home in the early evening.

\*Itineraries can be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.









