

# ISLAY WHISKY ADVENTURE

## ITINERARY

DAY

**1**

### DAY 1: ARRIVAL TO EDINBURGH

When you arrive in Scotland, make your way into Edinburgh city centre where your hotel will be located. Many travellers opt to take public transport, but for a more direct and comfortable journey, we will be happy to organise a private airport transfer for you.

For those arriving early in the day, we recommend spending the afternoon walking around the city, strolling along the Royal Mile and exploring the Old and New Towns, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. There are also plenty of museums and landmarks to visit within the city centre, including the majestic Edinburgh Castle. You could also take in the largest private collection of whisky in the world at the Scotch Whisky Experience or taste some unique drams at the Scotch Malt Whisky Society.

Spend the night at **Nira Caledonia** or similar.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Edinburgh - Edinburgh Castle - Edinburgh New Town - Edinburgh Old Town - Scotch Malt Whisky Society - Scotch Whisky Experience - The Royal Mile & St Giles Cathedral

DAY

**2**

### DAY 2: TRAVEL THROUGH DRAMATIC SCENERY TO ISLAY

Today your driver-guide will pick you up from your accommodation to start our trip toward the west coast. We will pass through Stirlingshire and the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park, to reach the charming seaside town of Oban. Here we will have our first whisky experience at the Oban Distillery. There will be time afterwards to enjoy some lunch and explore the town.

We'll then drive south past sea lochs and inlets to the historic valley of Kilmartin Glen. This area is considered to have one of the most important concentrations of Neolithic and Bronze Age remains in Scotland, with many cairns, standing stones and circles.

We'll make our way down the shores of Loch Fyne, to catch the ferry to the Isle of Islay, during which you'll be able to admire the beautiful views over the isles of Gigha and Jura.

Spend the night at **Bridgend Hotel** or similar.

#### Included

- Guided tour and tasting at Oban Distillery
- Guided walking tour in Kilmartin Glen (weather permitting)
- Ferry from mainland to Islay
- Breakfast at the hotel

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 10-12 hours (including ferry crossing)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Doune Castle - Isle of Islay - Kilmartin Glen - Oban - Oban Distillery - Scottish Whisky

DAY

**3**

### DAY 3: ISLAY KILDALTON DISTILLERIES

Today we will explore the best that the south of Islay has to offer. It is home to three of the smokiest and most complex distilleries on the island. We have included a range of experiences for you to have a day of whisky galore. We will have a tour and whisky tasting at Laphroaig and Ardbeg Distilleries, as well as a warehouse experience at Lagavulin Distillery.

To ensure you get the full Islay experience, we will also visit the island's peat bogs, a vital part to the production of the smoky whiskies, the 8th-century Kildalton Celtic Cross, as well as go on a walk along Port Ellen beach. In the evening, enjoy a gourmet dinner at your hotel with the group.

Spend the night at **Bridgend Hotel** or similar.

**Included:**

- Guided tour and tasting at Laphroaig Distillery
- Guided tour and tasting at Ardbeg Distillery
- Lunch at Ardbeg Distillery
- Warehouse experience at Lagavulin Distillery
- Breakfast at the hotel
- Dinner at the hotel

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9hours*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Ardbeg Distillery - Islay Distilleries - Isle of Islay - Kildalton Celtic Cross - Lagavulin Distillery - Laphroaig Distillery - Peat Bogs - Port Ellen Beach

DAY

4

## DAY 4: THE RHINNS AND NORTH ISLAY

After yesterday's peaty hits, we'll spend today exploring the Rhinns and north Islay distilleries. Not all distilleries produce the smoky peaty whisky that Islay is known for. In fact, many of the Island's distilleries offer a lighter softer smoked whisky which has salty coastal notes. We will cross to the other side of Loch Indaal to Bruichladdich Distillery for a tour and tasting, enjoy tastings at both Kilchoman and Bunnahabhain, and tour the newest distillery on Islay, Ardnahoe.

We will also see and discover more of Islay on the way. Take a walk along the beautiful Machir Beach and learn more about weaving at the Islay Woollen Mill, where they've produced tweed for the Royal Family and for films such as Rob Roy.

Tonight, enjoy a gourmet dinner with the group at the grand venue of Islay House, once home to the lairds of Islay.

Spend the night at **Bridgend Hotel** or similar.

**Included:**

- Guided tour and tasting at Bruichladdich Distillery
- Tasting at Kilchoman Distillery
- Guided tour and tasting at Ardnahoe Distillery
- Lunch at Ardnahoe Distillery
- In-depth tasting at Bunnahabhain Distillery
- Breakfast at the hotel
- Dinner at Islay House Hotel

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9hours*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Ardnahoe Distillery - Bruichladdich Distillery - Bunnahabhain Distillery - Kilchoman Distillery - Loch Indaal - Machir Beach - Rhinns of Islay

DAY

5

## DAY 5: INVERARAY, LOCH LOMOND AND THE TROSSACHS

Today we will catch a ferry back to the mainland and make our way towards Edinburgh. On the way we will stop at the pretty whitewashed village of Inveraray, where you will have the time to grab lunch, visit the local Fyne Whisky Shop or the beautiful Inveraray Castle, home to the Duke of Argyll. We will then continue on our journey down the bonnie banks of Loch Lomond. You have the option to be dropped off in Glasgow to end your tour there if you prefer.

Back in Edinburgh, your driver-guide will drop you off at your accommodation. Tonight you can enjoy dinner at one of Edinburgh's many gourmet restaurants and spend the evening at your leisure.

Spend the night at **Nira Caledonia** or similar.

**Included:**

- Ferry from Islay to mainland
- Breakfast at the hotel

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 10 hours*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Inveraray & Inveraray Castle - Loch Fyne - Loch Lomond - Trossachs National Park

DAY  
6

## DAY 6: DEPARTURE FROM SCOTLAND

On your day of departure, make your way back to the airport. If you would like to add any additional nights to your trip or to arrange a private transfer, you can add the option during the booking steps. If your flight is in the afternoon, you may have time for some last-minute shopping, visit one of Edinburgh's museums, or one last stroll through the charming city centre.

**Included:**

- Breakfast at your hotel

*Whatever your needs, we are here to help. If you have any questions about our packages or services, please do not hesitate to contact us.*

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