

*Let your spirit set sail*



## *Expedition Cruise along the Scottish West Coast*

### **The Outer Hebrides and the legendary Isle of Skye**

**Sat 31 August 2019 ⇒ Sat 07 September 2019**



"Hav bred ey", islands on the edge of the sea, is what the Vikings called the remote Hebrides, which once belonged to their empire. Only around 80 of the more than 500 islands are populated, although rather sparsely. The name of the Isle of Skye comes from "Sküyo", the name of the "cloud island" in Viking times. This cruise on the Eye of the Wind will take you through sailing waters that spark enthusiasm in all Scotland lovers, creating a unique holiday experience. Although our ship's canvas will not have a tartan pattern as in the photomontage pictured left, the regular crew on board is already full of anticipation for this unique voyage.

#### **This is where you will go on board: Stornoway, Outer Hebrides / Scotland**

Our crew will welcome you on board in Stornoway on the east coast of the Isle of Lewis. The centre of the settlement and the administration of the Outer Hebrides also has an airport near the bustling seaport (pictured right), which you can reach from many cities after a stop on the Scottish mainland. We will be happy to assist you with the individual planning of your arrival and departure. If you have any questions, please contact us in good time. Embarkation takes place at 19:00 hours. Afterwards, there will be dinner together in the comfortable lounge, where you will soon feel at home and be able to find your way around the Eye of the Wind's deck – and you will quickly get to know your fellow sailors.



Stornoway offers a large variety of things to see and do: During a stroll along the port's quay you can watch the fishermen landing the catch of the day. The unmistakable smell of peat from the smokehouses is in the air where seafood is made into delicious island specialities.

To learn about the cultural heritage of the Outer Hebrides, you can visit the historic Lewis Castle (pictured right) with its museum and archive. Or you could go hiking through the surrounding forests and visit the Woodland Centre with its restaurants and arts & crafts.



If you want to go shopping in Stornoway, you will find many excellent opportunities at the Harris Tweed Hebrides Outlet and the Lewis Loom Centre. Here, you can learn all about the traditional methods of the regional textile-weaving mills. The selection of traditional clothing is another good reason to go shopping. At the An Lanntair Art Center, you will have the opportunity to discover local art in galleries, framed by a cultural program, café and shops.





### All hands on deck or all laid back – the choice is yours!

After receiving safety instructions and an introduction to sailing from the ship's crew, you will soon be able to take part in the sailing yourself. Being at the helm, keeping a wind-powered tall ship on course, is a unique holiday experience – especially under a starry night sky! Your active assistance on deck and in the rigging is always voluntary, and our regular crew will explain everything you need to know. The reward of climbing to the top of the mast is an unforgettable view of the vast sea. Of course, you may just lean back and enjoy watching the traditional seamanship and sailing manoeuvres in action, too.

### Our sailing waters: The fabulous island world of the Hebrides

The Hebrides look like a natural fortress of rock, water, storms, fog and unusually clear light. Its magic and attraction are based on its cool, rough nature and its breathtaking beauty. Mighty cliffs, rock formations and highland peaks characterise this unspoiled, barren landscape. Apart from the mountains, Skye has many prehistoric sites to visit, which make it popular with outdoor sports enthusiasts and hobby archaeologists alike. Those who immerse themselves in the solitude of the isles will soon fall in love with them ...

In the course of the cruise, several stops with the opportunity to go on shore are planned. The decision on which port or mooring spot to call on in the evening is usually made by the captain on the same day, and depends on the wind and weather conditions and the current. Whenever possible, your wishes will be taken into account, too. An example of a possible destination for a day:

▶ **Portree, capital of the Isle of Skye:** Sheltered in a deep bay, the harbour with its colourful houses (pictured right) is a popular holiday destination. Make the most of your stay by exploring the island's beautiful nature. Leisure activities include hiking, cycling, horse riding and guided tours of the pyramid-shaped Ben Tianavaig mountain. Portree is Skye's cultural hub and the award-winning Aros Center regularly hosts plays, concerts and film screenings. The city is also a popular starting point for exploring other parts of the island.



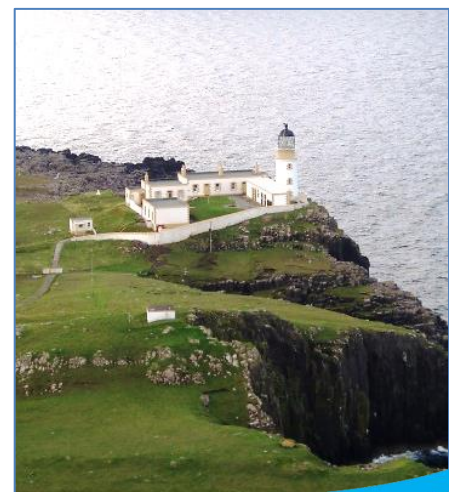
### This is where you will disembark: Kyle of Lochalsh, Scotland

After an eventful week, our cruise comes to an end in Kyle of Lochalsh on the peninsula between the Loch Alsh estuary and Loch Carron in the Scottish Highland district. Around Lochalsh, you can experience the land of clans and castles, and meet the Gaelic-speaking residents who still keep the traditional folklore of their ancestors alive.



The rich history of the country and the former life of the Celts can be experienced in numerous places. Hiking trails lead you to wonderful landscapes and historic finds, for example the ten-metre-high and more than 2000-year-old stone towers from the Iron Age in Glenelg in the southern part of Lochalsh. These hollow-walled buildings can only be found in this part of Scotland.

The ▶ **ScotRail** train company will take you from here to the nearest airport, which is in Inverness. Why not extend your stay by a few days – the famous Loch Ness is not far away!





## Seven good reasons to go

- 100 percent Scotland: sailing trip through the Hebrides archipelago
- Spectacular nature impressions with fresh air guarantee, chance of occasional whale sightings
- Balanced ratio of shore leave, time at sea, daytime and nighttime sailing
- Sailing and manoeuvring on a 100-year-old windjammer – you may participate actively!
- Start and destination ports in the Highland area: Stornoway and Kyle of Lochalsh (Scotland)
- Excellent onboard cuisine, delicious meals from morning to evening
- Our friendly crew will let you participate actively in the onboard routines



## Journey time

Sat 31 August 2019 ⇨ Sat 07 September 2019

## Services included

- 7 nights' accommodation aboard the Tall Ship Eye of the Wind.
- Accommodation in a comfortable double cabin with hot and cold running water, shower, toilet, and air conditioning (single cabin surcharge).
- Full board (including all meals, soft drinks, coffee & tea).
- Lounge with TV/DVD and extensive on-board library.
- The tour price includes VAT.

## Not included

Arrival and departure, shore excursions and alcoholic beverages.

## Please consider the following notes on the itinerary

The indicated ports are optional. The ship's management reserves the right to change the itinerary at short notice depending on wind and weather conditions.

Even in the summer months, passing low pressure areas, changing winds and precipitation must be expected. For this trip it is advisable to be equipped with foul weather gear. We are happy to advise you on the selection of suitable weather clothing.

## Photo credits

courtesy of Hans-Peter Junginger; visitscotland; FTS Archives.

Eye of the Wind

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