

JOSE ARROS AGUILAR/SHUTTERSTOCK ©



Eilean Donan

Discover Scotland's top regional sights, and experience it through an inspiring list of themes

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When to Go

High Season Jul & Aug
Accommodation prices 10% to 20% higher (book ahead if possible). Warmest time of year, but often wet. Midges at their worst in Highlands and islands.

Shoulder Season May, Jun & Sep
Warm sun, clear skies. Wildflowers and rhododendrons bloom in May and June. Statistically, the best chance of dry weather, minus midges. June



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Calgary Bay, Mull

HIGHLAND COAST & THE ISLANDS

Scotland's southwest coastline harbours some of its most inspiring corners, including majestic Mull, the whisky distilleries of Islay and Oban's sustainable seafood. Wildlife experiences are a highlight. Further north is an epic land with a stark beauty, the home of Scotland's vast and melancholy soul.

MULL B 4

With black basalt crags, blinding white sand and emerald waters, Mull has some of Scotland's finest scenery and provides excellent bird- and wildlife-watching.

SKYE B 3

With jagged mountains, velvet moors and towering sea cliffs, Skye's scenery never fails to impress. For those misty days, there are plenty of castles, local museums and cosy pubs to keep you amused.

NORTHWEST HIGHLANDS COAST B 3

Words fail to describe the variety of the splendour that unfolds as you cross this awe-inspiring landscape of desolate moorlands, brooding mountains, fertile coastal meadows and stunning white-sand beaches.

3

A

B

C



SKARA BRAE C 2

Predating Stonehenge and the pyramids of Giza, extraordinary Skara Brae, one of the world's most evocative prehistoric sites, is northern Europe's best-preserved neolithic village. Even the stone furniture – beds, boxes and dressers – has survived the 5000 years since a community lived and breathed here.



SHETLAND ISLANDS D 1

Close enough to Norway geographically and historically to make nationality an ambiguous concept, the Shetland Islands are Britain's most northerly outpost. It feels uniquely Scottish, though, with deep, naked glens flanked by steep hills, twinkling, sky-blue lochs and, of course, sheep on the roads.

One of Scotland's most abundant birdwatching spots to observe

Scotland's Shetland's top spot for well a



Westray & Papa Westray
There's something magical about these adjacent islands at the northern end of the Orkney archipelago.



Stromness Museum
Delightful museum covering the Orkney fishing industry, the world wars and local marine wildlife.



Old Man of Hoy
The spectacular west coast of Orkney's Hoy includes Britain's tallest sea stack.



Thurso
Right up the top of mainland Scotland, this is an unlikely surfing mecca with an excellent right-hand reef break.



Sandwood Bay
A sea stack, a ghost story and 2 miles of wind-blown sand – who could ask for more?



Arnol Blackhouse
Preserved in peat smoke since its last inhabitant left in the 1960s.



Bosta
A beautiful and remote white-sand cove beside a reconstructed Iron Age house.



Quiraing
This jumble of pinnacles and



Falls of Measach
A trembling suspension bridge provides a scary viewpoint for one of Scotland's most



Tain Through Time
Entertaining local museum with a comprehensive display on Scottish history and Tain's silversmithing tradition.



Duff House
This outpost of the Gallery of Scotland

