



Isle of Islay Tour & Whisky Distilleries

4 Nights



Summary

Indulge in natural wonders, charming locales and fine whiskies on a 4-day small-group tour of Isle of Islay. Travel to the Scottish Hebrides, where jagged peaks and white sand beaches set the stage for a centuries-old whisky-making tradition. Spend four days exploring the remote archipelago and visiting up to six distilleries such as Laphroaig and Ardbeg, and enjoy three evenings of relaxation at the 4-star Bowmore Distillery Cottages.

Overview

Interest: couple - group - seniors

Level of Comfort: 5/5

Minimum # of passengers: none

Maximum # of passengers: none

Prices Include

Round trip ticket to Edinburgh (economy class)
Round trip transfer: airport – hotel – airport
4-night accommodation at hotel
Meal: daily breakfast
English speaking local guides
All transfers in air conditioned motor coach
Tours and excursions as per the program
Assistance of our representative in the United Kingdom

Prices Exclude

Airport taxes
Fuel surcharge
DIP surcharge \$5/ticket
Visa fees
Travel insurance
All other expenses

Day 1: Edinburgh

Upon arrival at Edinburgh's international airport, meet greet and transfer to hotel

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Rest of the day leisure

Day 2: Edinburgh – Bowmore, Isle of Islay

Today, leave Edinburgh early and travel west by luxury minibus, passing Glasgow and along the banks of Loch Lomond to the wee village of Inveraray on the banks of Loch Fyne. Stop for lunch to sample some of the local seafood (own expense), and then continue traveling through the region of Argyll, into the ancient Kingdom of Dalriada. Explore the site with your guide on foot, seeing some of its 350 prehistoric monuments, like stone circles and standing stones, and then visit Kilmartin House Museum to learn about area's archeological finds. Continue with a short drive to Kennacraig to board your early-evening ferry to Islay. Watch out for dolphins, whales and seabirds on your 2-hour crossing, and then finish your day with a minibus transfer to your cottage in Bowmore. Overnight: Bowmore Distillery Cottage in Bowmore

Day 3: Western Islay

Leave your cottage by minibus and travel past Saligo Bay to the western corner of Islay for a visit to Kilchoman Distillery – the newest and smallest distillery on the island. Unique for its practice of growing barley for its whisky on site, the distillery is also one of only six in Scotland that carries out traditional floor maltings – where the barley is spread over a floor to germinate naturally. Head inside for a tour, or alternatively, check out western Islay's scenery on a coastal walk to Machair Bay. Break for lunch, and then travel to the harbor village of Portnahaven to go seal spotting. Then, choose to either visit Bruichladdich Distillery (famous for its production of gin as well as whisky) or spend time at leisure in Bowmore. Both groups will meet back at a pre-arranged time for a visit to Bowmore Distillery. Head inside to watch the whisky workers milling the grain and smoking the peat, and then return to your cottage to spend your night at leisure. Overnight: Bowmore Distillery Cottage in Bowmore

Day 4: Southern Islay

Set out with your guide to explore the southern part of Islay, where its most smoky and peaty whiskies are created. Visit Ardbeg Distillery for a tour, and try up to six of its finest smoky whiskies, including rare Ardbeg scotches and samples poured straight from the barrel. The distillery has also gained a name for itself as one of the best places in the area to eat lunch, so... do just that; sit down for a meal and enjoy Ardbeg's top-quality local produce. Continue to Laphroaig Distillery to enjoy another distillery tour, or if you've had 'your fill' of whisky for the day, visit Kildalton Church or the village of Brigend instead. Return to your cottage and then spend your evening in the town independently. Overnight: Bowmore Distillery Cottage in Bowmore

Day 5: Islay – Oban – Edinburgh

Leave your cottage by minibus and then cross over to mainland Scotland by ferry. Continue your journey along the coast by minibus to the town of Oban – a bustling little harbor town. Stretch your legs on a walk around at leisure, and use the time to enjoy lunch. Oban is famous for its seafood, and your guide will happily offer tips for the best restaurants to visit for it!

Alternatively, visit Oban Distillery and get your tour's final taste of Scotch whisky before returning to Edinburgh. Transfer to the airport for your departure flight

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This is a product sheet elaborated in order to give you a quick overview of package suggestions our destination specialists can propose. Make an appointment to order to customize it as per your needs and get a detailed quotation.

CODE: IR-H-2019-ISLE OF ISLAY TOUR AND WHISKY DISTILLERIES

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