Oban is the start and end point of your tour through the Inner Hebrides and the Highlands. With the Flying Dutchman, we visit the island of Mull and the Morvern Peninsula, home to the most spectacular landscapes in Scotland and largely untouched by mass tourism. The isle of Jura, which is known for its rich stock of red deer and its world-famous whiskey distillery, is also part of our program. Enjoy the wild scenery of Scotland, its colour contrasts and great biodiversity.

Treat yourself in the evening to a glass of whiskey in one of the pubs and listen to the ever-present Scottish music. On your crossings with the Flying Dutchman, we keep watch for dolphins and seals, and let the grandiose landscape pass on by. On our cycle tours, we’ll be looking out for eagles, red deer and otters with incredible views down over the sea from the most beautiful lookout points.

Attention: This web page has been updated for the season 2020. Changes in the itinerary as well as the accomplishments may vary in comparison to the season 2019.
ITINERARY

1ST DAY (SUN)

Oban (Embarkation) (D)

Individual flight to Edinburgh or Glasgow followed by either train or bus to Oban. You are welcome to reserve a space on our collective transfer service leaving at 5.30 pm from Edinburgh centre and at 6 pm from the Edinburgh airport (see prices below). Your cabins on the Flying Dutchman are ready for check in at 5 pm. Should you arrive earlier, your luggage can be stored on board until check-in time. A late evening dinner will give you time to get to know your crew and tour guides.

2ND DAY (MON)

Oban - Toberonochy – Crinan (aprx. 22 mi. /36 km) (B, D)

After breakfast we adjust our bicycles and start our first cycle tour. This leads us southwards from Oban through hilly landscapes and along the shores of a small highland lake back to the sea. Here we cross a remote peninsula before embarking on the ferry which takes us to the island of Luing. The island is made up of slate and the mining of the gray glistening rocks played an important economic role in the past. The University of Edinburgh for instance, is largely constructed out of the slate off of this small island. At the Toberonochy dock, the Flying Dutchman awaits us for our cross over to Crinan where we will spend the night.

3RD DAY (TUE)

Crinan – Isle of Jura (aprx. 23 mi. /37 km) (B, L)

Today’s bike tour takes us from Crinan to the fascinating excavation site of Kilmartin. Stone circles, which remind us of the Stonehenge and prehistoric burial mounds, characterize the vast landscape. After visiting the museum grounds and enjoying lunch at the museum Cafe, we return to Crinan. Past the Kintyre Peninsula, famous from the Paul McCartney song ‘Mull of Kintyre’, we continue by boat to the island of Jura.

4TH DAY (WED)

Isle of Jura – Isle of Mull (aprx. 17 mi. /27 km) (B, L, D)

After breakfast we cycle northwards on the isle of Jura. The renowned author, George Orwell, spent the last three years of his life here and described it as the most unattainable place on earth. Enjoy the tranquility of the island, which is only occasionally disturbed by one of the about 5,000 deer that live there. Passing the so-called Paps of Jura we arrive at a small dock where the Flying Dutchman takes us to the island of Mull. On the way we pass the swirling waters of Corryvreckan, one of the largest natural whirlpools in the world – but do not fear, our experienced crew will guide us safely to a quiet bay on the island of Mull for the night.
**5TH DAY (THU)**

Mull Island: Duart Castle – Salen – Tobermory (aprx. 37 mi./60 km) (B)

Today’s cycle tour is dedicated entirely to the spectacular natural beauty of Scotland. The route takes us through hilly terrain and along the island’s coastline. Behind every bend in the road another breathtaking view awaits. After the road divides, and the few cars that we have encountered along the way so far have turned off towards Iona, we share the road virtually only with sheep and shaggy highland cattle grazing peacefully in the bright green meadows. Along an ever-changing coastal road, we cycle past Loch Na’ Keal to Salen where the ship is waiting for us. On a short crossover our ship brings us to Tobermoy bay. In this pretty, little place, with its colorful facades, an evening visit to an original Scottish pub is high on the agenda. This includes trying national dishes such as fish ‘n’ chips or haggis.

**6TH DAY (FRI)**

Mull Island: Tobermory – Salen (aprx. 31 mi./50 km) (B, D)

Today we will encounter an elevation gain on our ride through the northern part of the Island of Mull. As a reward a cozy tearoom offers us a welcomed reprieve before we head for the brilliant white beach of Calgary Bay and its crystal clear water. It is considered one of the most beautiful beaches in Scotland and swimming enthusiasts should not pass up this opportunity to jump in for a refreshing swim. Ship ward bound we cycle through a lush valley until we meet the shoreline, shortly before Salen, offering breathtaking views as well as some interesting ships wrecks. Our ship awaits us again in Salen for a little crossing to Lochaline on the Morvern peninsula, where we throw the anchor for the night. Dinner on board.

**7TH DAY (SAT)**

Peninsula Morvern: Lochaline – Kingairloch (aprx. 16 mi./26 km) (B, D)

After a small crossing through the Sound of Mull to Lochaline a scenic cycling tour awaits us. After the first ascent, we reach an almost traffic-free road leading through the barren highlands. We follow hillsides, wild mountain streams and moorlands before we reach the Flying Dutchman, to ferry us back to Oban. Before dinner we have the opportunity to take a stroll through Oban. The Mc Caig’s Tower, an incomplete replica of the Coliseum in Rome, is a worthwhile visit.

**8TH DAY (SUN)**

Oban (Disembarkation) and return home (B)

After breakfast, individual return trip home from Oban or group transfer to the Edinburgh airport.
Flying Dutchman (Tallship)

**Year of construction:** 1903 | **Year of complete rebuilding:** 2004

**Size of boat:** 39 x 6,5 m | **Number of cabins:** 10 guest cabins

**Bathroom features:** Tiled, all-in-one showers, wash-basins and toilet

**Cabin equipment:** Air conditioning, mirror | **Service:** Fresh towels at mid-week

**Special on board features:** 2 masts with sails, quiet generator

**Embarkation harbour:** Oban/Scotland
Base tour price per person (in a twin cabin below deck)

1,340 euro (tall ship Flying Dutchman)

Included services

• 8-day cruise on a tallship with crew
• 7 nights in a twin cabin below deck with shower/toilet
• 7 x half board
• Guided cycling tours as described in itinerary
• Overview-maps for the daily tours on board
• Bed linen and towels
• English speaking tour guide

Additional optional services (on request)

• Single cabin, surcharge: 300 euro (limited)
• Shared twin cabin
• Rental bike: hybrid bicycle with pannier: 80 euro/week or E-Bike with pannier: 180 euro/week (limited)
• Insurance against theft and damage of the rental hybrid bicycle: 10 euro/week or of the E-Bike: 20 euro/week (not insured: grossly negligent damages)
• Collective transfer (day of embarkation only) Edinburgh centre (5.30 pm) /Edinburgh Airport (6.00 pm) – Ship in Oban: 30 euro/person
• Collective transfer (day of disembarkation only) Oban – Edinburgh Airport (07.00 am to reach flights starting from 12.00 pm/noon on): 30 euro/person (booking incl. the complete transmission of flight details)
• Other customized transfers
Not included in the base tour price

- Journey to Scotland
- Drinks on board – flat rate for beverages (incl. drinking water for bicycle tours): 50 GBP
- Meals ashore
- Please bring a beach towel, if needed
- Entrance fees to museums and sights
- Tips for crew and tour guides

Price reductions

- Children up to age 16 receive a discount of 25 % on the basic tour price (not combinable with any other discount).
- The third and forth person in the quadruple cabin receive a reduction of 50 % on the basic tour price (not combinable with any other discount).
- Early-Bird discount: receive a 5% discount on the tour base price if your booking reaches us before the 31.01.2020 (combinable with the SEA-YOU-AGAIN discount).
- SEA-YOU-AGAIN discount: all guests booking the third or more tour directly over Islandhopping will receive a 5% discount on the tour base price (combinable with the Early-Bird discount).
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How to get to Scotland by plane

London (Gatwick, Heathrow and Stansted), Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Paris have the best international flight connections to Edinburgh. There are also regularly scheduled flights directly to Edinburgh from the USA and Canada. Most UK airports have regular connections to Edinburgh. In particular there are regular flights from Birmingham and Manchester. Other domestic connections can be found from smaller regional airports such as Cardiff, Bristol and Belfast.

To search and book a suitable flight you can use the website www.opodo.com.

Transfers between Edinburgh and boat and retour

We organize fee-based collective transfer between Edinburgh Airport (as long as it takes place on embarkation and disembarkation day).

- Collective transfer from Edinburgh to Oban (5.30 pm from Edinburgh centre/6 pm from Edinburgh Airport: 30 euro/person)
- Collective transfer Oban – Edinburgh Airport (07.00 am to reach flights starting from 12.00 pm/noon on): 30 euro/person

At 5.30 pm the transfer bus can pick you up at the centre of Edinburgh (for further information please see guest information booklet sent to you in due time before your tour). Otherwise you can get picked up at the airport (arrival area) at 6 pm. The transfer to Oban takes 3 hours.

Customized transfers are available too on request.

For the organization please indicate your exact flight details (as well requested pick up point: centre or airport).

- arrival & departure date
- flight route
- airline
- flight number
- estimated arrival or departure time

If there are belated changes of your flight times you are kindly requested to inform our office immediately:

For all transfers please contact our office team:

Tel.: +49-(0)7531-36186-0

Email: info@islandhopping.com

Individual arrival from the Edinburgh or Glasgow airport

Scotland has a very well developed and inexpensive bus network. Therefore there is also the possibility of getting to the ship on your own.

To plan your trip, you can use the following website in order to help you: www.citylink.co.uk

In the middle of the screen you will find a box that states “Book your tickets online here”. This will give you the possibility, to either do exactly that, or to inform yourself of the various connection possibilities. In both cases please fill out the form (don’t forget to specify a price).
Afterwards press on the yellow button “search for coach times and fares”.

Now you will get more connection options, which you can view in more details by clicking on it, and afterwards it is also possible to print the information. When you have chosen a certain connection, click on “Select”, the price can also be seen. To book the ticket, click “Continue”.
It is also possible to travel by car to Oban.

If you plan to travel by car you may use the following link to get an impression of the current traffic on the roads in the UK: www.frixo.com

Please note, as well as whilst cycling, that in Scotland as well as on the whole island, traffic flow is on the left hand side.

**The following speed limits should be noted:**

Freeway 75.8 mi/h (122 km/h)
Highway 60.9 mi/h (98 km/h)
Urban areas 29.8 mi/h (48 km/h)

**Parking in Oban**

Oban is well served with car parks, however, there are no FREE car parks (nor free long term car parks).

But the council do allow overpayment at Longsdale Rd. and Lochavullin Rd. For both possibilities, we recommend to drop off your luggage at the ship and to park your car afterwards. The parking spaces are in a aprx. distance of 0.93 mi (1.5 km) to the ship.

Another possibility is to make alternative arrangements like parking away from the town centre or to use a private parking service such as Stoddarts or MacQueens who both offer secure long term car parking.

Please call directly at (see below) to make private arrangements:
+44 (0)1631 564176 (Stoddarts)
+44-(0)1631 56484 (MacQueens)
[www.justpark.com/uk/parking/oban-station/](http://www.justpark.com/uk/parking/oban-station/)