



Orkney and Shetland Mini Cruise

Why not join us on this tour to the very north of Britain, both Orkney and Shetland are unique and unlike any other part of Great Britain. They have managed to retain many of their original, unique customs and traditions resulting from their long and eventful history. Our tour combines a visit to these islands with a mini cruise aboard Northlink Ferries.

To many people on the UK mainland and beyond, the Shetland and Orkney Islands are 'somewhere up at the top' of the map of Great Britain. In fact the Shetland Isles are located in the North Atlantic, as close to Norway as to Aberdeen. The Norsemen left their mark on the islands and some of the Norse legends and customs are still kept alive through festivals held through the year on the islands.

THE ALEXANDRA HOTEL, FORT WILLIAM ★★★★ 01397 702 241

The Alexandra provides great traditional Scottish Hospitality at its best, and is in a great location, as everything is close by. It is superbly positioned in the town parade, close to the main shopping centre. The Alexandra has a choice of two restaurants, the Hotel also has a relaxing cocktail bar and lounge area. The Hotel Has a Lift.

THE PENTLAND HOTEL, THURSO ★★★★ 01847 893202

The Pentland Hotel is a family run establishment set in the heart of Thurso, Caithness. The Hotel has two lounges and the restaurant uses only the freshest local Caithness seafood and produce. The reception foyer is an attractive area where guests can relax after their meal in comfort or alternatively, there is the cosy, welcoming atmosphere of the lounge bar. The Hotel does not have a Lift.

THE GREтна HALL HOTEL ★★★★★ 01461 338257

Originally built in 1710 as a manor house for the Johnstone family, Gretna Hall Hotel is an ideal setting for your leisure break thanks to its great location, charm and character. Dining is provided in the Hotel's Anvil Restaurant which serves freshly prepared dishes complemented by the finest selection of wines and the lounge bar also serves drinks and a range of hot and cold snacks. The Hotel Has a Lift and some Ground Floor Rooms Are Available.

All Bedrooms in our Overnight Hotels have as a Minimum Private Facilities, Colour Television, Telephone and Tea/Coffee Making Facilities.

Look What's Included!

- 3 Nights Bed, Breakfast and Evening Meal in Overnight Hotels.
- Mini Cruise Package with Northlink Ferries Ltd
- Includes 2 Nights On Board in 2
- Berth cabin with Meals as Detailed.
- Guided Tours of Orkney and Shetland.
- Entrances to Places of interest on Orkney and Shetland.
- Included Excursions as Per Itinerary.

6 DAYS

Tour No 3014 24th - 29th June £ 589

Single Room Supplement £115.00

Insurance £17.00

ITINERARY

Thursday Today we head north on the first day of our Scottish tour travelling up to the West Highlands up the Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond, through the dramatic valley of Glencoe and onto our first night in the town of Fort William, dominated by Britain's highest mountain, Ben Nevis.

Friday After breakfast we continue our journey north up the banks of Loch Ness as far as Inverness with free time for lunch. We travel now up the scenic coast road, glimpsing magnificent Dunrobin Castle along the way. We reach the very topmost coast of Scotland where we spend the night in Thurso in preparation for our Northern Isles mini-cruise which starts the next day.

Saturday After breakfast at the Hotel, we head to the very north of Scotland and Scrabster, where we board our ship MV Hamnavoe at after midday for our short crossing to Orkney. We spend the next two nights on board Northlink Ferries on a Dinner Bed & Breakfast basis in ensuite cabins. Maybe enjoy an optional lunch whilst sailing past Britain's highest vertical cliffs - don't miss the Old Man of Hoy. Upon arrival in Stromness on Orkney we will meet our local guide to visit World Heritage sites of Skara Brae, Stone of Stenness, Ring of Brodgar, Skiafl House, Churchill Barriers, Italian Chapel plus Scapa Flow.

This evening we will visit one of Orkney's most popular attractions. Later we have our evening meal on the island at a local restaurant before boarding our ship again at Kirkwall for the overnight sailing to Shetland.

Sunday We arrive in Lerwick on the island of Shetland at early morning and have breakfast on board. After breakfast we depart the ship to meet up with our local guide for a day tour of the Island, visiting Jarlshof, Scalloway Castle and Museum and seeing Shetland's famous ponies. We can have lunch at leisure in Lerwick before re-boarding the ship for our departure and overnight sailing to Aberdeen, dinner will be on board tonight.

Monday We arrive in Aberdeen at 7.00 and have breakfast onboard before disembarking and rejoining our coach. After a short visit to the Granite City, we take the picturesque coastal route past some lovely towns and villages such as Stonehaven, then onto Dundee before heading south into Borders Country to reach the final Hotel of our tour in Gretna.

Tuesday After a hearty breakfast, there is time perhaps to visit the excellent Gretna shopping outlets and Blacksmith's Forge before hitting the road for home after a truly memorable visit to the Scotland and the Northern Isles, a true world apart!

NorthLink Ferries ship, MV Hamnavoe, offers the highest standards of safety and comfort.

Whether you are in a public area or a cabin, as you set to sea in one of their ships, you'll feel like you're on a cruise. Our price Includes Accommodation in a 2 Berth Cabin and Meals as Detailed. All have Private Facilities, Hairdryers, Shaver Points and Air Conditioning. Facilities on board include, comfortable lounges, restaurant, northern isles shop selling snacks, gift items and practical travel products, Brinkie's Bar and sun deck.

