# Scotland's Orkney Islands and Wild North Coast

VIKING HERITAGE, ANCIENT CLANS, AND RUGGED GLENS



## TRIP DATES

2024 May 26-June 3, 2024 August 5-13, 2024 September 8-16, 2024 2025 May 25-June 2, 2025 August 3-11, 2025\* September 14-22, 2025

\*Note date change since publication of catalog



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Experience Scotland's exquisitely remote locations on a journey filled with dramatic coastal scenery, Neolithic standing-stone monuments, echoes of Viking settlers...and elegant malt whiskies. We steep in a heady mix of prehistoric sites and rich Viking influence on the Orkney Islands, whose inhabitants identify with their Scandinavian heritage as much as their Scottish citizenship. It's a fascinating cultural blend.

We hike right into the standing stone circle at the Ring of Brodgar, a ceremonial circle older than Egypt's pyramids, and discover Neolithic Skara Brae, an astonishingly intact ancient settlement. In Scotland's far north, we'll be off the tourist trail, on moorland and coastal hikes across rugged landscapes dotted with fishing villages. We visit a 16th-century castle, view intricately carved Pictish stones, and learn about the infamous Clearances that led many Highlanders to emigrate to the U.S. and Canada. We bring you into the local culture as well, with an evening of tales from a local storyteller.



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# **Itinerary**

#### DAY 1

### WELCOME TO ORKNEY / THE GLOUP / WHISKY TASTING

Our Orkadian adventure begins in ancient Kirkwall—a town dating back at least to 1046. Kirkwall was first mentioned in tales of bloodthirsty Viking intrigue, the Orkneyinga Saga, a semi-historical Icelandic narrative of the Viking history of the Orkney Islands, full of personal rivalries, 13th-century politics, and the military exploits of King Magnus Barefoot. (Genetic studies indicate that these Northern Isles are home to some of Britain's most concentrated Viking heritage.) Hiking along the wild and dramatic coast from the Gloup—an 80-foot-deep, partially collapsed sea cave—we witness striking cliffs, heathered moorlands, and seabird colonies on our way to Mull Head and the Covenanter Memorial. This afternoon we visit a working distillery, then sample four selected whiskies from Highland Park, including the 18-yearold Viking Pride, which was named Best Spirit in the World in the Spirit Journal. Our hotel for the next four days will be the Lynnfield, a relaxing accommodation known for its peat fire, comfy sofas, and extensive range of malt whiskies—more than 350 at last count. We're treated to a Welcome Dinner at the Lynnfield this evening...LD

Hiking details: 6 miles, approximately 4 hours, elevation gain of 500 feet, easy-moderate

#### DAY 2

#### RING OF BRODGAR / YESNABY HIKE / ANCIENT SKARA BRAE

This morning we visit the Ring of Brodgar—the iconic representation of Orkney's ancient heritage. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, this Neolithic great circle is 340 feet in diameter, with more than 25 of its stones still standing; Scottish geologist Hugh Miller wrote that they "look like an assemblage of ancient druids, mysteriously stern and invincibly silent and shaggy." We'll actually be able to walk right among these magnificent stones—something that is not possible at many other sites—touching their surfaces and imagining the power of ancient ceremonies that took place here.

We'll swing by the Orkney Brewery for lunch and a tasting, then hike above Orkney's most dramatic coastline, with amazing views of red and yellow sandstone sea stacks and cliffs. Formed 400 million years ago, they've eroded into a rocky shoreline that bites into the Atlantic. We'll keep our eyes peeled for the rare and beautiful Primula scotia (Scottish Primrose), which is found in very few locations but has its stronghold in Orkney.

Our adventure brings us to the 5,000-year-old village of Skara Brae—one of Europe's most remarkable monuments. Buried in sand until it was rediscovered after a severe storm in 1850, the settlement survives as eight surprisingly well-preserved Neolithic dwellings set into a hillside near the sea. This is an active archaeological site, known for its distinctive grooved pottery and enigmatic carved stone balls, and it gives us an extraordinary window into a culture that



## TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

**Length:** 9 days

Arrive: Kirkwall, Scotland
Depart: Inverness, Scotland
Lodging: 8 nights hotels
Meals: All meals included

(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch,

D=Dinner)

Activity: Hiking / Trekking Trip Level: 1 2 3 4 5 6

8 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 2-4 hours a day, van support (for luggage or if you wish to

skip a day's hike)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike the dramatic coastal landscapes of the Orkneys and stunning North Coast
- Explore the breathtaking Ring of Brodgar and Skara Brae, two of Europe's Neolithic treasures
- Visit the Queen Mother's Castle of Mey
- Meet an Orkadian boat builder, a falconer, a storyteller, and an earl
- Enjoy local pub nights, fresh-caught seafood, and private tastings of fine single-malt whiskies

# Itinerary (cont'd)

predates the building of the great pyramids of Egypt. We return to Kirkwall for dinner, and overnight at the Lynnfield...BLD

Hiking details: Walk from the Stones of Stenness to the Ring of Brodgar: 1.25 miles, easy. Yesnaby Hike: approximately 2 miles, 1.5 hours, elevation gain of 100 feet, easy but exposed on the cliffs tops.

## DAY 3 ROUSAY ISLAND / MIDHOWE HERITAGE WALK

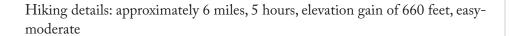
This morning we ferry to the island of Rousay. An easy Faraclett Head walk takes us along coastal heath and grassland above high cliffs with spectacular views. The rich variety of birds here includes arctic tern, skua and possibly peregrine falcon. We'll pass Yetnasteen, a massive standing stone said to walk down to a nearby loch for a drink each New Year! From the shore we'll see the island of Egilsay and the ruins of St Magnus Church, where Earl Magnus was martyred in 1116. After a picnic by the sweeping Saviskaill Bay we return via the Midhowe Heritage Walk with its striking coastal views. On the trail we'll see the remains of a 4,000-year-old tomb at Midhowe Cairn, a large and well-preserved collective burial place; Midhowe Broch, an Iron Age fortification; the remains of a 13th century ceremonial hall known as the Wirk; and a 16th century church. We'll enjoy dinner at a traditional pub and return to the Lynnfield for an evening of tales with Fran Flett Hollinrake, a historian and professional storyteller with a passion for Orkney's culture. Overnight at the Lynnfield...BLD



Hiking Details: Faraclett Head walk: 2.25-mile loop, 1-1.5 hours, elevation gain and loss of 285 feet, easy. Midhowe Heritage Walk: 1.5-mile loop, 2 hours, elevation gain and loss of 300 feet, easy

## DAY 4 THE OLD MAN OF HOY / DRAMATIC SEA CLIFFS

A short drive along the edge of Scapa Flow, where many historic shipwrecks lay to rest, takes us to Stromness, a picturesque seaport with a winding main street lined by houses and shops built of local stone. We catch the ferry to the island of Hoy and walk to the famous Old Man of Hoy, a magnificent 450foot sea-stack that resembles a gigantic human figure. Created only a few hundred years ago as the ocean eroded soft red sandstone, the freestanding tower perches on a plinth of basalt rock, but may soon collapse into the ocean—crashing waves have already washed away one of the old man's "legs." A good level of fitness is required for our hike today, and we're rewarded with a view of some of Britain's most spectacular sea cliffs, nesting puffins, and marine wildlife. We return to Rackwick Bay, often described as the most beautiful spot in the Orkneys, with its blushing pink-and-cream beach bounded by towering cliffs and heather-scented hills. A traditional croft house here has been restored and converted into the Cra'as (Crow's) Nest Museum, its stone hearth and simple wooden furniture evoking the lives of early 18th-century inhabitants. Overnight at the Lynnfield...BLD



#### DAY 5

## ITALIAN CHAPEL / TO THE MAINLAND / CASTLE OF MEY / THE HIGHLAND CLEARANCES

This morning we visit the Italian Chapel, built during WWII by Italian prisoners of war. This inventive place of worship was constructed from materials the prisoners could scavenge, yet it includes fine craftsmanship, including walls and ceilings that are beautifully hand-painted.

Then we ferry from Orkney to the mainland, where the culture changes as we enter the land of the clans and learn about its history. Throughout the highlands we enjoy breathtaking scenery on our hikes, from rugged, seaweed-strewn shorelines and rolling fields of barley to pine forests and lofty mountains. Our first visit is the Castle of Mey, a striking 16th-century fortress once owned by the late Queen Mother that displays many of her treasured possessions. Some of the staff had a personal connection with the Queen Mother, which adds a special touch to our visit.

After lunch we get a history lesson: During the Highland Clearances of the 18th and 19th centuries, Highlanders were removed, often forcibly, destroying much of the local Gaelic culture. The introduction of sheep-raising by aristocratic landowners forced tenants from the fertile inland glens they had





# Itinerary (cont'd)

farmed out to the coastal fringes, where they had to rely on the sea as their main source of food and income. At the 330 steep Whaligoe Steps near one of the resettlement locations we see just how tricky this transition would have been, as we witness the nearly vertical cliffs, almost-inaccessible harbor, and treacherous sea the new fishermen would have faced in a daily battle to sustain their families. We'll walk the Whaligoe Steps ourselves, hear about the history of the herring fishing along the Scottish coastline, and take tea and cakes at a nearby café. We stop at the village of Helmsdale to see the Emigrants Statue—a monument commemorating the people who were forced to move during the Clearances and emigrated to far-flung lands including America, Canada, and Australia. We arrive this evening at Glenmorangie House, set amongst barley fields and the ruins of an old castle, where we'll stay for the next three nights... BLD

Hiking details: Whaligoe Steps loop: 1 mile, approximately 1 hour, elevation gain and loss of 260 feet, easy but steep with exposed steps and vertical drops at the cliffside.

## DAY 6 HIKING TARBAT / PICTISH STONES

This morning we hike from the hamlet of Rockfield along a trail following the rugged cliff coastline; watch for the dolphins that live in the Moray Firth year-round. At Tarbet Ness we encounter a distinctive red-and-white-striped lighthouse that was built in 1830. Scotland's third-tallest lighthouse, it was engineered by Robert Stevenson (grandfather of the novelist Robert Louis Stevenson) and erected in response to frequent shipwrecks in the area. Local legends suggest that the soaring tower is built on the ruins of a Roman fort that was later the site of witches' covens. Next we visit Tarbat Discovery Centre to learn about the mysterious Picts who lived in this area during the Iron Age. Little is known about the Picts, but their name is a reference by outsiders to the tribes' painted or tattooed warriors. The Picts are famous for their beautiful and enigmatic carved stones and cross-slabs, some of which we'll see here. Dinner this evening is in Portmahomack at an intimate seafood and game restaurant; try the lobster, stalkers' stew, or anything with whisky gravy. Overnight at Glenmoragie House...BLD

Hiking details: 6.2 miles, 4-4.5 hours, elevation gain and loss of 400 feet, easy to moderate

## DAY 7 CROICK CHURCH / ESTATE STALKING / GLENMORANGIE WHISKY TASTING

We make our way inland today to visit Croick Church, a tiny place of worship with an important story to tell. Situated in a remote glen, it provided muchneeded refuge for some of the 90 people who were evicted from Glen Calvie



by their landlords in 1845. Many were forced to live in temporary shelters that were erected in the church graveyard; the church windows still show messages etched in the glass by those families. Croick Church is a place to remember the families who were affected by such a harrowing time in the history of the Highlands. Our loop walk starts at the church Manse and climbs over the low shoulder of the hill behind it. The path is narrow and can be wet and muddy in places. The views give this journey real poignancy: rugged mountains tower over remote, heather-clad glens sheltering ruined houses, many abandoned at the time of the Highland Clearances. In the neighboring glen we'll walk alongside the dramatic Alladale river gorge, where 500-year-old Scots pine trees still stand. At the Croick Estate we may meet the estate stalker, who will describe what life is like in a Highland glen today, surviving on livestock rearing, fishing, and deer stalking. We're treated to a warm cup of tea and home-baked cakes in one of the estate buildings. Back at Glenmorangie House we enjoy a private tutored whisky tasting of three Glenmorangie expressions. Dinner and overnight are at Glenmorangie House...BLD

Hiking Details: 6-mile loop, 4-4.5 hours, elevation gain and loss of 500 feet, moderate

# DAY 8 PICTISH STONE CARVINGS / FYRISH HIKE

A short drive along through seaside village—with photo stops at the bronze Mermaid and Shandwick Pictish Stone—brings us to Nigg Old Church, a fine example of a Scottish parish church that stands on what has likely been a place of Christian worship for at least 1,200 years. It retains an atmosphere of peace and tranquility, and houses a magnificent 8th-century Pictish monument that is one of Scotland's most important artistic treasures. Carved with both Pictish symbols and Christian imagery, the ornamental cross is reminiscent of

illuminations in the Book of Kells. Look closely to see the intricately carved knot of snakes, with their tails and tongues intertwining.

Next we'll hike up Fyrish Hill, where the views over Cromarty Firth are stunning. An impressive monument at the top has three central arches and four flanking towers. It was built in 1783 by Sir Hector Munro—the area's laird—who hired the local population in order to give them work so he could legally provide them with famine relief during the Clearances. Later we have a private tour of a historic castle, home to an ancient clan from the local area.







Tonight we receive a warm welcome at the beautiful Ness Walk Hotel where we enjoy a lovely Farewell Dinner...BLD

Hiking Details: 3.75-mile loop, 2.5-3 hours, elevation gain and loss of 958 feet, easy to moderate

## DAY 9 DEPART

Transfer to Inverness this morning to make onward connections...B

# Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

#### TRIP COST

Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$7395 (10-14 members) \$7695 (4-9 members) Single supplement: \$1345

2025 Trip Cost: Please call for details

To offer the lowest possible cost, our trips are priced according to the number of participants on the trip. All costs are per person, based on double occupancy. If you wish to have a single room, you must pay the single supplement fee. Please note that Wilderness Travel staff, or guests of Wilderness Travel such as travel writers, photographers, or leaders-in-training, are not included in the tier pricing count.

#### **CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE**

Because the prices published for our program are set so far in advance of the trip dates, we are occasionally faced with exceptional cost increases and/or currency fluctuations that affect the actual cost of running the trip. In most years, no price changes are necessary. However, we do reserve the right to raise or lower the trip price if there is a significant change in costs or exchange rates. If this is the case, your final invoice will reflect the difference in trip cost.

#### TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader and local guides
- Accommodations in hotels
- All meals included as indicated in the Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- A glass of wine or beer with dinner
- Land transportation as noted
- Entrance fees to several museums, castles, distilleries, and historic sites as per the itinerary

## TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, arrival airport transfer, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, airport departure taxes, optional tipping or gratuities to leaders or staff, additional hotel nights that may be necessitated by airline schedule changes or other factors; pre-trip expenses of medical immunizations (if any), travel insurance, or passports and visas; and other expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.).

#### PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation: \$600 90 days prior to departure: Balance

#### CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Up to 91 days prior to departure: No charge! 61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost 46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost

45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

#### TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details: <a href="https://www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance">www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance</a>

# **Arrival & Departure**

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

If you have booked extra services before or after the trip, an Extra Services Confirmation will be sent with your Final Documents.

#### ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Kirkwall, Scotland

Suggested Airport: Kirkwall Airport (KOI)
Suggested Date & Time: Anytime prior to Day 1

Meeting Place: You will meet your Trip Leader in the lobby of Lynnfield Hotel in Kirkwall at 9:00 am on Day 1. Please be dressed for hiking, as we'll be heading out this morning for our first adventure.

Most flights to Kirkwall are routed through Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Inverness, or Glasgow.

#### **DEPARTURE**

Inverness, Scotland

**Suggested Airport:** Inverness Airport (INV) **Suggested Date & Time:** Day 9, after 1:00 pm

On Day 9 there will be a complimentary transfer to the Inverness Airport with arrival of 10:30 am, or if travelers want to continue their journey they can also be dropped off at the Inverness Train Station at 10:00 am.

Train tickets can be easily purchased in advanced at <a href="www.scotrail.co.uk">www.scotrail.co.uk</a> and collected on the day of travel at the railway station. To collect your pre-purchased tickets, all you need is the booking reference number and the credit card you purchased the tickets with.

#### INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

Trip members are responsible for making their own arrangements for air transportation.

There are many online consolidator websites for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most farflung places. More information can be found on Exito's website at www.exitotravel.com.

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the US one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip. Once tickets are purchased, please forward a copy of your email flight confirmation from the airline. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly; otherwise you may be denied boarding. Please remember this when reserving your flights. In addition, your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US (in most cases).

# Trip Leader

Wilderness Travel Trip Leaders have a passion and a joy for creating an unforgettable journey. We are extremely proud of them and the incredible travel experiences they make possible. For more information, including client comments about them and which specific trips they will be leading, please visit our webpage and click on "Trip Leaders": <a href="https://www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/scotland-orkney-islands-skara-brae-hiking-tour/">https://www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/scotland-orkney-islands-skara-brae-hiking-tour/</a>



#### SKYE MCDONALD

Skye McDonald was born and raised in Scotland in a small village called Scone, the ancient crowning place of the kings and queens of Scotland, and is now based in the Highland capital of Inverness. She has worked as a Trip Leader in 27 countries since the millennium and lived in France. As a walking guide she has explored many areas, including the Pindos in northern Greece, the wadis of Jordan, the volcanoes of Cape Verde, the sentiers of the Dordogne and Pyrenees, the Sahara in Mauritania and Mali, the mountains of Cyprus and Lebanon, and most recently the levadas of Madeira and the slate villages and cultural sites of Portugal. "Bringing understanding between peoples of very different cultures and backgrounds is one of the joys of being a Trip Leader, and of course, the chance to make friends around the world." Closer to home, she delights in sharing the glories of her native Scotland, and says that a good day scaling some of the beautiful Scottish mountains is hard to beat. Skye also loves revealing the glories and stories of the Principality of Wales and walking the famous Coast to Coast trail across northern England. "I adore all the trips I lead for WT. When asked which is my favourite, my response is, all of them!" Skye speaks German, French, and unusually, a smattering of Swahili from earlier years as a volunteer agricultural officer in Tanzania.

## Accommodations



#### LYNNFIELD HOTEL

Kirkwall, Scotland Days 1 to 4 (4 nights)

This traditional country house offers ten unique rooms and suites with antique furnishings, heated bathroom floors, and fine views of Kirkwall and the bay beyond. Relax by the peat fire in the comfortable lounge, and enjoy a dram of malt whisky—over 360 varieties are on offer. Highland Park distillery, founded in 1798 and the most northerly distillery in Britain, is just around the corner.



#### **GLENMORANGIE HOUSE**

Tain, Scotland

Days 5 to 7 (3 nights)

Nestled on a hillside amid barley fields by the ruins of a castle sits the 17th century Glenmorangie House, with classically appointed rooms, modern conveniences, and views out to the walled gardens and the surrounding grounds. Guests enjoy genuine Scottish hospitality and award-winning cuisine served in a convivial dining room; of course, the selection of legendary single malt Glenmorangie whiskies is superb.



#### **NESS WALK HOTEL**

Inverness, Scotland

Day 8 (1 night)

Set on the banks of the River Ness, this 5-star hotel was originally a 19th century house that has been transformed into a modern retreat. Guest rooms and suites are individually designed and have air conditioning and private bathrooms. The restaurant is set in the original drawing room where you can savor Scottish and international cuisine made with ingredients picked fresh from the gardens. Afternoon tea and fresh-baked pastries are served on the terrace, and in the evening you can head to the sophisticated bar for a glass of wine or whisky, all the while enjoying exceptional service.

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *Scotland's Orkney Islands and Viking Heritage* webpage and click on "Accommodations."

# Trip Details

#### WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is rated Level 3, Moderate. We have daily hikes of 2-6 miles, mostly on level coastal trails, and one more strenuous hill hike to Fyrish Hill with 958 feet of elevation gain. You can expect to be hiking for 2-4 hours per day for 7 of the 8 days. Conditions and the group's level of fitness affect travel and hiking times, which can vary, sometimes dramatically, from the anticipated times. Paths and trails in Scotland can be very rough in places, with rocky uneven terrain, and many of the hikes may be wet underfoot. As is common in Scotland, we may even hike off-trail where the terrain allows. Hiking boots with ankle support are necessary and hiking poles are highly recommended. We'll always include time to explore historic and cultural sites and for wildlife spotting. The ferry crossing from Orkney to the mainland takes just over an hour; participants should bring medication if they suffer from motion- or sea-sickness. In Scotland, "sunshine and showers" are a common forecast. These conditions give the mountains great atmosphere and can add to the overall experience. They also mean that good raingear is a must. Bring a fully waterproof jacket and waterproof overpants as well as waterproofed hiking boots with lug soles for traction. Waterproof ponchos are NOT recommended for hiking in Scotland due to the wind.

#### **WEATHER**

Summer or not, Scotland is famous for changeable weather. Count on everything from cold rain, persistent fog, and mist, to brilliant warm, sunny weather. The rule here is to be prepared for any eventuality by creating a layering system that takes you from shorts and skirts to warm Gore-Tex raingear.

#### CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the EuropeManager or email us at europe@wildernesstravel.com.

#### REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

#### TOUCAN CLUB

We're proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business! The Wilderness Travel Toucan Club was established to reward our travelers for their loyalty. For details, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at <a href="https://www.wildernesstravel.com/resources/toucan-club/">www.wildernesstravel.com/resources/toucan-club/</a>

#### VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At <a href="https://www.wildernesstravel.com">www.wildernesstravel.com</a>, you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.

MEN'S T-SHIRT



WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST PLUS INSULATED CAMELBAK WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER

## **Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts**

We are very proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business, and have established the Wilderness Travel Toucan Club to reward you for your loyalty. For more information, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at <a href="https://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan">www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan</a>.

Here's how it works:

#### YOUR FIRST TRIP

As a first-time traveler, you receive a lightweight Wilderness Travel T-shirt and set of durable WT Luggage Tags. On subsequent trips, we're happy to send you a new WT T-shirt and set of Luggage Tags by request.

#### YOUR SECOND TRIP

A top quality Wilderness Travel insulated stainless steel water bottle by CamelBak and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$130 value).

#### YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$140 value).

#### YOUR FOURTH TRIP

Discounts on the cost of your trip begin! You receive a 4% discount on the tour cost.

## FIVE AND MORE TRIPS

You receive a 5% discount on the base trip cost. On your sixth trip, you receive a 6% discount, and so on up to your 10th trip. The maximum discount is 10%, with a ceiling of \$500.

Note: Due to special pricing considerations, Toucan Club discounts do not apply to our Private Journeys or Special Events. However, your participation on these trips does count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular adventures.

#### TERMS & CONDITIONS

Toucan Club travel discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount, unless otherwise specified. Discounts are deducted from the base trip cost and shown on the final invoice. The base trip cost is the main land/tier cost and does not include single supplement fees, extensions, internal airfare, or other additional charges. Bonus gifts (T-shirts, luggage tags, vests, water bottles, and pullovers) will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to trip departure. Terms and conditions of Toucan Club bonuses are subject to change or cancellation at the discretion of Wilderness Travel, Inc.

# **Travel Notes**















## WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

World's Best Tour Operators: Travel + Leisure, 2022, 11-time winner
Best Travel Specialists in the World: Conde Nast Traveller, 2022, 3 years in a row
Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: AFAR Magazine, 3 years in a row
Best Adventure Travel Companies: USA Today

Trip of the Year: Outside Magazine, 9-time winner
50 Tours of a Lifetime: National Geographic Traveler, 9 years in a row
Best Adventure Travel Companies: National Geographic Adventure, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

December 18, 2023 1:45 PM