



SCOTTISH HIGHLANDER RIVER CRUISE

Scottish Highlander has the atmosphere of a comfortable Country House with subtle use of tartan furnishings and landscape paintings, a reminder of the spectacular surroundings to be seen on your voyage through the Great Glen.

European Canal Barge Cruises, Cruises



Europe, Scotland



7 days from AU\$8,510 pp



Private

Journey Overview

Scottish Highlander has the atmosphere of a comfortable Country House with subtle use of tartan furnishings and landscape paintings, a reminder of the spectacular surroundings to be seen on your voyage through the Great Glen.

At 117 feet long, she is spacious and has every comfort needed for enjoying the magnificence of the Highlands during Spring, Summer and Autumn.

The warm and welcoming saloon features rich-coloured wooden panelling, large picture windows and comfortable leather Chesterfield sofas to relax in, perhaps with a mellow single malt whisky from the very well-stocked bar.

Accommodation for eight guests is in three twin/double staterooms and one larger twin/double junior suite, each one centrally heated and with en suite facilities.

There is a cosy observation area behind the wheelhouse where you can admire the passing scenery and chat to the Captain about life on the Caledonian Canal and its interconnecting lochs. On the forward deck area, there is more seating where you can take in the far-reaching views and take photographs as Scottish Highlander plots her course past landmarks such as Urquhart Castle perched alongside Loch Ness.

A cruise on mystical waterways aboard Scottish Highlander as you marvel at some of Scotland's finest scenery will be one that stays in the memory for a long time.

Cuisine is traditional Scottish fare – salmon, game and seafood, prepared by your own Master Chef, and the hotel barge's experienced crew of four will take care of your every need.

Cruise Highlights

- Visit Glencoe, scene of treachery between the Campbell and MacDonald clans
- Tour of the Glen Ord whisky distillery with a private tasting
- Visit The Prestigious and Private Highland Club
- Falconry Demonstration on the banks of Loch Ness
- Cruise Lochs Dochfour, Ness, Oich and Lochy
- See Eilean Donan and Urquhart castles
- Visit Culloden Moor, scene of the last battle on British soil in 1746
- Tour Cawdor Castle and gardens, home of Shakespeare's Scottish Play

- Spectacular scenery, wildlife and folklore
- Visit Clava Cairns, a prehistoric burial site
- Extraordinary river, canal and loch cruising
- Excellent walking opportunities



Itinerary

Day 1: Muirtown

Guests are met at the Glenmoriston Townhouse Hotel in Inverness** and transferred by private chauffeured minibus to Scottish Highlander.

Champagne Welcome and perhaps an early evening stroll to the sea lock with wonderful views over the Moray and Beaulie Firths. Dinner on board

Scottish Highlander | Meals: D

Day 2: Muirtown to Dochgarroch

Our first cruise will take us up the Muirtown lock flight and through Tomnahurich swing bridge, with an option to walk alongside River Ness to the hamlet of Dochgarroch. After lunch on board, we visit Culloden Moor, scene of the last major battle on British soil in 1746, next it's on to the Muir of Ord distillery, founded in 1838 by licence holders Robert Johnstone and Donald MacLennan. We are given a fascinating description of the maturing and ageing process of their whiskies, each with its distinctive characteristics, followed by our special tasting of several single malts.

Dinner on board.

Scottish Highlander | Meals: BLD

Day 3: Dochgarroch to Fort Augustus

This morning we enjoy Cawdor Castle*, forever immortalised in Shakespeare's "Scottish Play", Macbeth. The picturesque gardens have been listed as being amongst the top 100 in the UK. The castle contains a superb collection of tapestries, pictures and furnishings and the Dowager Countess of Cawdor still lives there for part of the year. Then we take a tour through the Clava Cairns, a pre-historic clan chieftain burial site dating back to 2,000 B.C. Later, we cruise through Loch Dochfour and down Loch Ness, where en route we pass Urquhart Castle, navigating closely beneath its spectacular 13th century ruins, before continuing our cruise to Fort Augustus. Dinner on board.

Scottish Highlander | Meals: BLD

Day 4: Fort Augustus to Kytra

After breakfast, there is time to explore the pretty village of Fort Augustus before our cruise takes us up the “flight” and then on to our pretty mooring at Kytra. After lunch on board, we visit the private, Highland Club, a spectacular exclusive set of residences and a former 19th century Benedictine Monastery with a fascinating history. It is here we are treated to a falconry and birds of prey demonstration*** on the banks of Loch Ness, the majesty of the swooping birds against the backdrop of the sweeping Scottish Highlands is not easily forgotten. This evening we dine ashore at a local restaurant.

Scottish Highlander | Meals: BLD

Day 5: Kytra to Laggan

This morning, we take in some of the finest scenery Scotland has to offer as we drive to one of its best known and most photographed castles, Eilean Donan, which has featured in movies such as “Highlander” and James Bond’s “The World Is Not Enough” and overlooks three sea lochs. The afternoon cruise today can be partially walked as we cross the very scenic Loch Oich, perhaps stopping en route for a spot of fishing, and onto the pretty Laggan Avenue. As we approach Laggan, our Highland Piper may greet us with a stirring rendition of traditional Scottish music. Dinner on board.

Scottish Highlander | Meals: BLD

Day 6: Laggan to Banavie

Our final cruise today will see us cross Loch Lochy, passing Gairloch, where there is the option to visit the Clan Cameron Museum. We continue on to Moy Bridge, the last fully hand-operated bridge on the canal to moor at Banavie beneath Ben Nevis and a stroll from Neptune’s Staircase leading down to Loch Eil. After lunch on board, our tour today takes us to the mystical battlefield of Glencoe, famed for one of the darkest days in Scottish history. Alternatively, we can enjoy some breath-taking panoramic views on a cable car ride to the summit of Aonach Mor mountain. If time permits, we can also visit the ruins of Old Inverloch Castle. Captain’s Farewell Dinner on board.

Scottish Highlander | Meals: BLD

Day 7: Banavie

After breakfast, guests are transferred by private chauffeured minibus to their choice of location in Inverness**.

Meals: B

** Please note, the excursion to Cawdor Castle is only possible between early May and the end of September. A visit to Fort George will replace it either side of these dates.*

This is a sample itinerary and is subject to change. On alternate weeks the cruise will be in the reverse direction.

*** other locations available for Private Charter bookings*

**** Weather Permitting*

Map



Accommodation

Scottish Highlander



The 8 passenger Scottish Highlander has the atmosphere of a Scottish Country House with subtle use of tartan furnishings and landscape paintings. At 117 feet she is spacious and has every comfort needed for year round cruising.

On board you will find four en-suite cabins each with a choice of twin or double beds. One of the cabins is a larger suite which has been designed for those who want extra space during their cruise. Cuisine is traditional Scottish fare – salmon, game and seafood, prepared by your own Master Chef, and the hotel barge’s experienced crew of four will take care of your every need.

A cruise aboard Scottish Highlander along the Great Glen as you admire some of Scotland’s finest scenery will be unforgettable.

Category: First Class

Cruise region: Scotland

Cruise Route: Caledonian Canal & Lochs

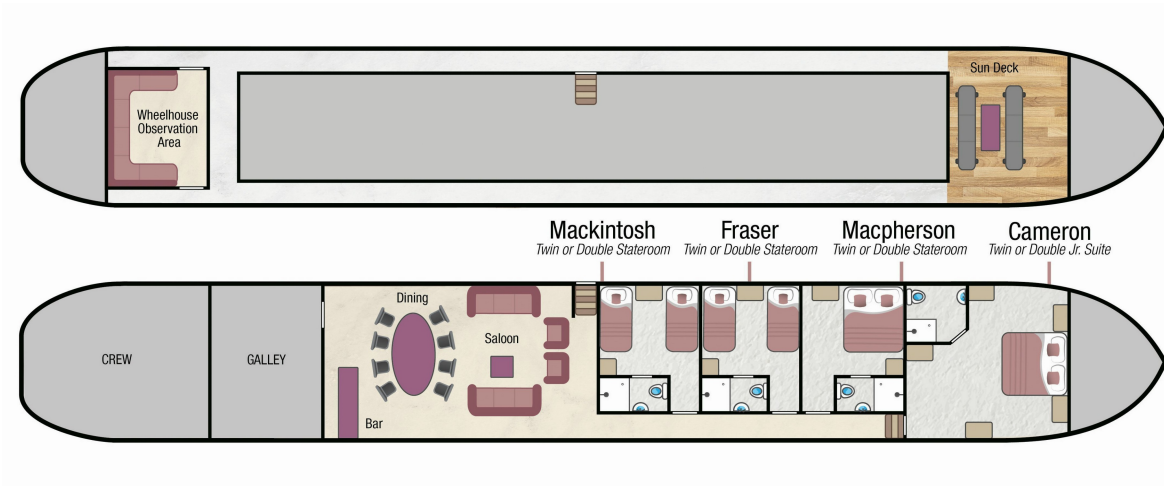
Pickup location: Inverness

Departures: April - October

Length of vessel: 117 ft

Crew: 5

- Max Passenger Capacity:** 8
- Approx Cabin Size:** Jr. Suite 148 Staterooms 115
- Interior Decks:** 1
- TV/DVD Play in Cabin Saloon:** -
- Demo Gallery:** No
- Spa Pool:** No
- Air Conditioned & Centrally Heated:** Yes
- Themed Cruises:** Family, Golf, Honeymoon, Whisky Trail
- Bikes:** Yes



Dates & Pricing

Scottish Highlander is also available for whole barge charter for 6-8 passengers, from \$60,736.

Please call A&K on 1300 851 800, send us a **booking enquiry** to book this journey or contact your travel advisor.

Abercrombie & Kent

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