

PORTREE, SCOTLAND

Portree, Dunvegan Castle & The Cullins

ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE

Depart the charming port of Portree via motor coach and drive across the lovely **Isle of Skye** to its west coast to the castle of **Dunvegan**, seat of the Clan MacLeod chiefs since the 13th century. One of the greatest and most renowned among the Hebridean strongholds, Dunvegan Castle is the only one to have been continuously owned and occupied by the same family over a period now spanning 8 centuries. Within the castle are priceless heirlooms, some of which have come down through the hands of the Chiefs of MacLeod since medieval times, including such treasures as the Dunvegan Cup, the mysterious Fairy Flag and Rory Mor's Horn. You will explore the **lovely gardens** that surround the waterfall known as Rory Mor's Cascade and enjoy the varied landscape including views of the dramatically beautiful **Cuillin Mountains** as you return to Portree.

Please note: Unfortunately the castle is not wheelchair accessible. There are two steps into the castle and 18 steps to the first floor plus uneven surfaces in the garden.

PRICE\$135

Portree, Northern Skye Scenic Drive, August

ACTIVITY LEVEL: EASY

Head north via motor coach from Portree to the **Trotternish Peninsula**. During your scenic tour you will learn much of the fascinating history of the Isle of Skye and its geography and social history – in particular its crofting history. Passing the curious rock outcrop known as the **Old Man of Storr**, journey north to **Kilt Rock** – a dramatic 200-foot-high cliff marked in an almost tartan-like pattern by the rock strata with a waterfall tumbling sheer to the pebbled shore below. Enjoy some time here to absorb the scenery and take photographs. Continuing your journey north, you will pass the crofting township of **Staffin** which overlooks the sandy Staffin Bay and drive around the northern tip of the island, hearing more of the myths and legends of Skye. On arrival at the settlement of **Kilmuir** you will visit the fascinating **Skye Museum of Island Life** to learn more of the traditional **crofting life**. Continue through Uig and back to Portree.

Please note: The Skye Museum of Island Life is not completely wheelchair accessible, involving steps over thresholds with firm ground-packed paths.

PRICE\$109

Portree, The Fairy Pools of Portree

ACTIVITY LEVEL: STRENUOUS

Skye, the largest and most northerly island in the Inner Hebrides of Scotland has a romantic, colorful and poignant history and stunning scenery. You will have the opportunity to enjoy this **varied landscape**, the **spectacular views**, and discover the mesmerizing **Fairy Pools**. Departing from the charming port of Portree you will drive across the Isle of Skye and down towards **Glen Brittle**, a large glen overlooked by the dramatically beautiful **Cuillin Mountains**. Here, you will continue on foot with your guide to the Fairy Pools, a series of crystal clear, aqua-blue pools and waterfalls created by the **Allt Coir a' Mhadaidh** which flows down from the Cuillin. The location of the pools is magnificent. The waterfalls and the beauty of the rock formations carved by the falling water give the Fairy Pools a magical feel and will entice you to take a swim but beware, the water is very cold! Following your visit to the Fairy Pools, walk back to meet your coach and enjoy a scenic return drive to Portree, once again admiring the **stunning scenery** (photo stops will be made if time permits).

Please note: This tour is not suitable for wheelchair users or guests with limited mobility. The walk includes a 45 degree slope along an earth path. There are occasional loose stones and gravel and guests will also need to cross three rivers with stepping stones. If there has been a lot of rain it may not be possible to cross the rivers and the Fairy Pools will be inaccessible. Walking shoes are required and waterproof clothes are recommended as is bringing along water and a snack as there is no place to buy refreshments along the route.

PRICE\$139

Portree, Walking Tour of Portree

ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE

Portree is a bustling fishing town with pretty painted buildings huddled round a charming harbor. Meet your local guide for your **walking tour** of this lovely historic town. Your guide will explain some of the history behind the buildings and street names of Portree. The most impressive buildings are mostly to be found in Portree's central square, with lovely frontages and histories to match. You will discover some of the secrets of Portree and pass the '**old jail**' and 'the **gathering hall**' built for the annual Skye Ball. You will skirt the main streets on your way up to the natural amphitheater, known locally as "the lump," which provides the site for the Highland games, held here since 1877. The apothecary's tower provides glorious 360 degree

views which include the **Cuillin Mountains** to the south and the rock formation known as the **Old Man of Storr** to the north. Your walk will continue through the original Portree graveyard, passing old fishermen's cottages, where nets are still put out to dry. You will end your walk in **Somerled Square**, the center of Portree. After your tour there will be plenty of time to explore some of the charming shops selling Scottish goods, crafts, and tartans before returning to your ship at your leisure.

Please note: As this is a walking tour it is not recommended for guests using wheelchairs or those with limited mobility. There is approximately 1 mile of gentle walking over some uneven surfaces and a short but very steep path up from the harbor. There will be plenty of pauses and occasional places to sit and rest. Wear comfortable walking shoes.

PRICE\$49