



Sample Itinerary_Outer Hebrides & St Kilda (10 days)

Suggested Itinerary

- Day 1 Meet in Oban – Sail from Oban to Lochaline
- Day 2 Sail from Lochaline to the Isle of Canna
- Day 3 Sail from Canna to the Isle of Vatersay
- Day 4 Sail from Vatersay to Village Bay on St Kilda
- Day 5 Sail around St Kilda, visit the islands and sea stacks of Hirta, Boreray, Dun, Stac Lee, Stac An Armin and return to Village Bay for a 2nd night
- Day 6 Sail from St Kilda to Lochmaddy, North Uist
- Day 7 Sail from North Uist to the Isle of Rum
- Day 8 Sail from Rum to Tobermory on the Isle of Mull
- Day 9 Sail from Tobermory to the Isle of Kerrera
- Day 10 Sail from Kerrera to Oban, arrive at approx. 12 noon for onward travel

Trip Description

This trip starts in Oban, a picturesque and busy harbour town with good transport links via the West Highland Line railway, plenty of accommodation options and facilities. Though a Mallaig departure can be arranged for private charters.

This is a 10-day trip to allow us a longer window of opportunity to visit St Kilda, which is a good few hours sail and weather dependent. It isn't unusual that we rearrange the itinerary to make the long journey out to St Kilda on the most favourable days.

The long island chain of the Outer Hebrides is an absolute treat to explore, from hidden anchorages to expanses of white sandy beaches and stretching from Mingulay in the south to the Butt of Lewis in the north.

After an introduction to the boat and crew, and a safety brief we will have a short sail to our first night's anchorage to get our sea legs and let you get to know your home for the next week.

Sailing from Oban, west up the Sound of Mull and stopping in at the sheltered sea loch at Lochaline, we begin our journey and settle into this fantastic voyage. With Ardtornish Castle at the head and the little village at its entrance, this secluded spot is the perfect precursor for the wonders to come.

Continuing on west the next day we head out across the Minch to Canna, one of the Small Isles famous for its sea bird life and picturesque Canna House with the island cattle grazing on its fields.

From here, we sail further west to Vatersay in the Outer Hebrides. This small island is blessed with white sandy beaches and wind-swept dunes offering up a palate of colours rarely found elsewhere. A chance for a beach walk or simply sitting out on deck enjoying the first of hopefully many stunning sunsets.

Now we really get off the beaten track and take the chance to take a full days sail to St Kilda, a UNESCO double world heritage site. Visiting here transports you to the set of a "Blue Planet" documentary, sailing under some of the tallest cliffs in the UK amongst some of the largest sea-bird colonies in Europe including Gannets, Puffins, Great Skua and Fulmar. Sailing around St Kilda is a hairs-on-the-back-of-neck experience.

We will share with you the fascinating history of this island archipelago and weather permitting, we always try to spend 2 nights at anchor in Village Bay to give ourselves the best chance to enjoy this truly unique place.

Once we depart St Kilda we sail east and back to the Outer Hebrides stopping at North Uist and enjoy a visit to the local pub or perhaps obtain some fresh seafood just landed at the harbour.

Venturing farther east we stop off at the Isle of Rum and enjoy a fascinating visit ashore with options to explore Kinloch Castle, otter hides, new rum distillery, SNH visitor centre or simply enjoy a coastal walk along Kinloch Bay with the imposing Rum Cuillin dominating the skyline above.

Returning to the Sound of Mull, we pop into Tobermory on the Isle of Mull. This world famous, colourful harbour town with a fine distillery and many pubs and shops, never fails to please.

Our final island on this trip is Kerrera, Oban's barrier island. With around 30 inhabitants, it has a varied coastline featuring the imposing ruins of Gylen Castle, craggy coves, seal colonies and its own marina in the north.

A final night here allows time to be up ready in the morning to head over to Oban in good time to catch trains, busses or check in to accommodation.

What's included in the price

9 nights / 10 days on board Stravaigin

All on-board meals and snacks

Accompanied by a qualified and experienced skipper/guide.

All bedding (sheets, duvets and pillows), towels

All safety equipment

All harbour and marina fees

Fuel

Gas

No hidden extras!