



THE ISLE OF MULL WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE - Autumn Extravaganza 2024

Guides: Theo de Clermont, Ewan Miles & Klay Blake

Sun 27th- Thur 31st October 2024

Our Nature Scotland Autumn tour will have more of a focus on Mull's mammals - Otters, Red Deer, Seals, Mainland Red Squirrels and hopefully a morning of Whales and Dolphins!

Of course Mull's birdlife can't be ignored and we'll be actively searching for Eagles and Harriers as we travel around, and Divers, sea ducks and waders on the sea lochs.

DAY ONE – Welcome and Afternoon Excursion

We will meet at Oakfield House at **2pm** (no packed lunch included on this day)

We'll head straight out to the island's west coast to a couple of White-tailed Eagle territories and a Golden Eagle territory whilst keeping an eye out on the coastlines in case any Otters or Seals do decide to make an appearance. As the light draws in, the waders may be gathering and the growing numbers of Great-northern Divers that winter here returning to roost in the sea lochs.

DAY TWO –

Heading straight for the Ardnamurchan peninsula via the Tobermory ferry, we'll be keeping an eye for any fins on the crossing. Onto the peninsula we'll head east along the coastal road scanning the bays for Otters on Loch Sunart and Eagles overhead whilst admiring the autumn colours around us.

Onto Loch Shiel - a freshwater loch, to search for any ducks before a woodland wander looking for Red Squirrels stashing food and feeding up for winter. Afterwards we hope to explore sites in the Moidart area at Kentra and Castle Tioram, then a snack at Garbh Eilean wildlife hide with the Seals before heading back to Kilchoan for the ferry.

DAY THREE –

We will spend day three in the south-east of Mull. Starting off looking for Otters around the shorelines of one of Mull's larger sea lochs, before a coastal walk keeping an eye for eagles above, and then a picnic lunch back at the van! The afternoon will be spent on grassland habitat looking and listening for Red Deer and their bellowing that signals the Rut. We'll also be keeping an eye for any hunting Hen Harriers searching for prey and Buzzards hovering on the skylines.

DAY FOUR –

After breakfast, heading out aboard the Sea Life Mull boat searching for any Cetaceans. Minke Whales, Common Dolphins and Harbour Porpoises in particular but you never know what else might surface when at sea!

This part of the trip is very much subject to the Autumnal weather and recent sightings so it'll be a nearer the time decision to see whether it goes ahead and on which day.

Lunch in the harbour after our trip at sea, then out to check moorland areas in the north of the island looking for Red Deer, Golden Eagle and Hen Harrier in particular. As light fades and hopefully a Hebridean sunset brews, we'll check the fields for any Irish Hares and if we're very lucky an owl sighting.

DAY FIVE - Final Day

We will spend the day covering a couple of Mull's sea lochs searching the shorelines for Otters and Seals and any waterfowl, whilst revealing some of the uncovered sites of the week and hopefully ticking off anything we've missed so far, before heading on a wander to one of Mull's freshwater lochs checking the peaks and ridges for circling raptors and listening for Red and Fallow Deer.

After lunch we'll end the tour early in the afternoon.

The tour is of course very much subject to our west coast weather, the itinerary order and some of the activities will be switched around to which day suits best.

After lunch together we will say our goodbyes at **2pm**

£1295 per person

- Single supplement is £150
- All rooms are ensuite
- The itinerary is subject to change due to weather and local wildlife sightings
- On booking please advise of any special requirements medical or dietary
- Leisurely walks of 1-5km will be undertaken

WHAT TO BRING?

- Warm clothes and waterproofs
- Outdoor footwear (outdoor trainers / walking boots)
- A reusable bottle (we will not be providing any bottled water, to try and reduce single use plastic)
- Binoculars (we have plenty of spare pairs if you do not have)
- Camera (although not a photo experience, we will try and accommodate any photography interests during the experience)

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

- Travel insurance for the duration of the holiday in respect of cancellation and curtailment, injury, death, lost baggage and money, liability, medical expenses and repatriation.
- Ferry tickets to the island

Notes on the accommodation (Oakfield House)...

What3Words - <https://what3words.com/tens.nightlife.removes>

Google Maps - <https://maps.app.goo.gl/1Kvfd7LHWzkGUo3U6>

- You will be okay to arrive and get settled in from 10am on the first day of the package.
- There are towels provided and hairdryers available.

- If you are keen to stay an extra day(s) before and/or after the tour, we will be able to offer you your room (no meals) at the house for an extra fee, get in touch to arrange this.