

# The Walkhighlands Guide To The Islands Of Scotland

Scotland, with its stunning landscapes and rich cultural heritage, is a land of many wonders. Among its greatest treasures are the numerous islands scattered along its coast. From the Orkney and Shetland Islands in the north to the Inner and Outer Hebrides in the west, each island offers a unique experience for adventurous travelers.

## Exploring the Islands

If you are planning a trip to Scotland, exploring the islands should be on top of your list. The Walkhighlands Guide will take you on an unforgettable journey through some of the most enchanting and picturesque places in the country. Strap on your walking boots and let's embark on an adventure!

## The Orkney Islands

Situated just a short ferry ride north of mainland Scotland, the Orkney Islands are a treasure trove of ancient history and stunning landscapes. The UNESCO World Heritage site of Skara Brae, a prehistoric village older than the pyramids of Egypt, is a must-visit. Explore the famous Ring of Brodgar or marvel at the towering cliffs of Yesnaby. With its rich birdlife and stunning beaches, the Orkney Islands will leave you in awe.

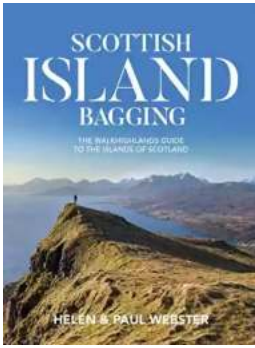
### Scottish Island Bagging: The Walkhighlands Guide to the Islands of Scotland

by Helen Webster(Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 58880 KB



Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 485 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported



## The Shetland Islands

Located even further north, the rugged and remote Shetland Islands provide a true wilderness experience. With over 1,600 miles of coastline, dramatic cliffs, and picturesque lighthouses, the islands are a paradise for nature lovers. Don't miss the chance to visit the Shetland Pony breed, known for its resilience and unique characteristics. Enjoy the vibrant music and culture of the annual Up Helly Aa festival, a celebration of Shetland's Viking heritage.

## The Inner Hebrides

The Inner Hebrides, consisting of islands like Skye, Mull, Islay, and Jura, offer a diverse range of landscapes and activities. Explore the majestic mountains and dramatic waterfalls of the Isle of Skye or visit the famous whisky distilleries on the Isle of Islay. The tranquil island of Iona, known for its spiritual significance, is a place of serenity and natural beauty. With options for hiking, wildlife spotting, and island hopping, the Inner Hebrides are a true adventure playground.

## The Outer Hebrides

Stretching along the western coast of Scotland, the Outer Hebrides are known for their pristine white sandy beaches and turquoise waters. The Isle of Lewis, with

its standing stones at Callanish, offers a glimpse into ancient history, while the picturesque Isle of Harris boasts some of the most breathtaking scenery in the country. Take a walk along the spectacular coastal trails, visit traditional thatched cottages, and immerse yourself in the Gaelic culture that thrives on these remote islands.

## Planning Your Trip

Before setting off on your island adventure, make sure to gather the necessary information to ensure a smooth and enjoyable trip. Check the ferry schedules, book accommodation in advance, and pack appropriate clothing and equipment for hiking and outdoor activities. The Walkhighlands Guide provides detailed information on each island, including recommended routes, accommodation options, and points of interest.

The islands of Scotland are a true paradise for nature enthusiasts and those seeking an escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. With their rugged landscapes, rich history, and warm hospitality, these islands offer a unique experience that will leave a lasting impression. So, pack your bags, put on your walking boots, and let the Walkhighlands Guide be your companion on this unforgettable journey through the islands of Scotland.



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Scottish Island Bagging by Helen and Paul Webster, founders of Walkhighlands, is a guide to the magical islands of Scotland.

Focusing on the ninety-nine islands that have regular trips or means of access for visitors, plus fifty-five other islands which have no regular transport but are still of significant size or interest, the authors have described the best ways to experience each one. Of the islands featured, many are household names – Skye, Lewis, Bute – while some, such as the isolated St Kilda archipelago and the remote Sula Sgeir, will be unknown to all but a hardcore few.

When it comes to things to see and do, the islands of Scotland have it all. Wildlife enthusiasts can watch out for otters, orcas and basking sharks, while birdwatchers in particular are spoilt: look out for the rare corncrake on Islay, sea eagles on Mull, or sight puffins, gannets, storm petrels and many other seabirds on any number of islands – although beware the divebombing bonxies.

Foodies can sample Arran or Westray cheese, the many islands' world-renowned seafood or learn about the whisky making process and sample a wee dram on a distillery tour. While the human history may not stretch back in time as far as the geology of these ancient lands, it is rich and varied: visit the 5,000-year-old Neolithic village of Skara Brae on Orkney, or Mackinnon's Cave on Mull, following in the footsteps of Samuel Johnson and James Boswell. You can even stay in the house on Jura where George Orwell wrote *Nineteen Eighty-Four*. Hillwalkers can bag a Munro, walk the wild clifftops or take in the sights, or you could just escape from it all on one of the dozens of beautiful and deserted beaches – before joining the locals for a ceilidh into the wee hours. Well served by ferries and other transport links, getting around is easy. You could even take the world's shortest

scheduled flight. In Scottish Island Bagging, let Helen and Paul Webster be your guides to these enchanting isles.



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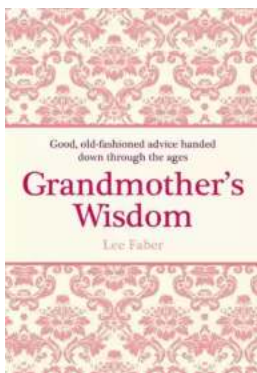
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