



***9 Night Best of Shetland Islands and Scotland
Knitting Tour***

Tour Dates:

05th May 2022

16th September 2022

30th September 2022

Real Knitting Tours.

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Tour Overview

Shetland Island has a long association with knitting, a tradition that is steeped in its history over the centuries. This tour offers you the opportunity to enjoy some time on the island with many well-known instructors and crafts people who will share their expertise and knowledge with you.

Your tour begins in Edinburgh with a visit to Dovecot Studio and Kathy's Knits, both located right in the heart of Edinburgh. Your first night includes a welcome dinner where you will be introduced to your group before embarking on your tour towards Aberdeen. In Aberdeen, we catch an overnight ferry to Shetland where you will spend the next 4 nights. We will travel much of the island during your stay here from Jamieson & Smith in Sandness on the west coast to the most southerly tip and the heritage site – Jarlshof.

While on Shetland, you will have knitting workshops with Hazel Tindall, Janette Budge and Elizabeth Johnston. This tour also includes visits to Jamieson Wool Brokers, The Shetland Textile Museum and Shetland Museum and Archives. No tour to Shetland would be complete without a visit to a sheep farm! This tour is packed with interesting attraction visits and stunning scenery.

Included in This Tour-

- Transfers on arrival and departure by private coach (for arrivals prior to 10:30 am on tour start date and departures on tour end date)
- Sightseeing as per itinerary in a luxury coach with an experienced driver and accredited guide, entrance fees included if applicable.
- Accommodation in rooms with private facilities for 9 nights
- Scottish breakfast daily
- 7 Dinners
- 1 Farewell Dinner in Edinburgh
- 5 lunches
- Entrance to the following attractions: V & A Dundee, RRS Discovery and Discovery Point Museum, Shetland Textile Museum, Shetland Museum and Archives, Jamieson & Smith Wool Brokers, Glamis Castle and Andrew Carnegie Birthplace Museum

- Visit to Burra Bears
- Visit Neilanell Studio
- Askival of Strathearn Kilt Making Demonstration

Workshops/ Knitting Activities Included:

- Fair Isle Yoke Construction Workshop with Hazel Tindall
- Shetland Lace Class with Elizabeth Johnston
- Shetland Knitting Belt Workshop with Janette Budge (includes Shetland Knitting Belt worth £50).
- Urdale Sheep Farm Tour
- Jamieson's of Shetland Woollen Mill Tour

(Wool and patterns are included in all workshops, you need to bring your own needles, sizes will be advised)

Overnights for this Tour

- Radisson Blu Hotel (or similar), Edinburgh, 1 night
- Aberdeen to Lerwick, Northlink Ferries, 1 night
- Shetland Hotel, Lerwick, 4 nights
- Lerwick to Aberdeen, Northlink Ferries, 1 night
- Fishers Hotel (or similar), Pitlochry, 1 night
- Radisson Blu Hotel (or similar), Edinburgh, 1 night

Optional Pre Night Package

Optional pre-night packages available should you wish to spend a night or two extra in Edinburgh before the tour starts, please see pricing section for details.

Itinerary

Important Note: *Attractions, workshops and demonstrations may change according to availability and scheduling.*

Day 1: Edinburgh, Dovecot Studio and Kathy's Knits

Your tour begins with a transfer to your hotel (for arrivals prior to 10.30 am), where you meet up with your group. We visit Dovecot Studio which is a centre dedicated to contemporary art, craft and design and has a long association with beautiful handwoven tapestries and rugs. After lunch (included), we travel to Kathy's Knits where we meet with Lucy Hague. Lucy is a well-known pattern designer and author of Celtic Cable Shawls and Illuminated Knits. Take some time to browse through an array of yarns, patterns and accessories in stock at Kathy's Knits. There will be time for you to refresh and relax before your welcome dinner at your Edinburgh hotel.

Overnight Edinburgh, Lunch, Dinner and Bed & Breakfast.

Day 2: Dundee and Overnight Ferry to Shetland

Today, we leave Edinburgh and travel towards Aberdeen to catch an overnight ferry to Shetland. En route, we stop at Dundee to visit The V&A Dundee and the RRS Discovery. The V&A Museum first opened in 2018 and is the first ever dedicated design museum in Scotland. Situated overlooking Dundee's waterfront, you can learn all about design from the past, present and future through the stunning displays on exhibit. After lunch (included), we visit the RRS Discovery and Discovery Point Museum. This museum explores one of the most heroic voyages of exploration, that of Captain Scott and Ernest Shackleton. After this visit, we continue our journey to Aberdeen where we board the overnight ferry to Shetland. This journey takes over 12 hours and on board, you will find comfortable cabin accommodation as well as a bar, lounge, restaurant and gift shop. Breakfast will be served the following morning before disembarking.

Overnight Northlink Ferries, Lunch, Dinner and Bed & Breakfast included.

Day 3: Shetland – Shetland Textile Museum & Shetland Museum and Archive

On arrival in Shetland, we disembark the ferry at Lerwick and set off to explore the island. Our first stop is at the Shetland Textile Museum, dedicated to the fostering of heritage skills of Shetland textiles. It conserves and cares for the Collection for future generations and here you will find Shetland lace, Fair Isle Knitting, Shetland Taatit rugs and woven tweeds on display. Staff

will only be too happy to offer information and demonstrations. Our next stop will be at Shetland Museum and Archives which tells the story of Shetland's heritage and culture. Its galleries contain wonderful examples of delicate Shetland lace and your guided tour will pay special attention to knitting related history and its importance in history. The remainder of the day will be free for you to explore town of Lerwick or relax at your hotel.

Overnight Shetland, Dinner and Bed & Breakfast.

Day 4: Fair Isle Knitting Workshop with Hazel Tindall and Jamieson and Smith Wool Brokers

Today, we meet with Hazel Tindall who is an expert on Fair Isle knitting. Her half day workshop is on the topic of Fair Isle Yoke Construction. Hazel will instruct on knitting Fair Isle Yokes, study some examples and knit a section of yoke while experimenting with colour and shaping. Hazel will issue information on how to design your own Yoked sweater. After your class and lunch (not included), we visit Jamieson & Smith Wool Brokers who have been in existence since the 1930s. Jamieson & Smith Shetland Wool Brokers purchase Shetland wool from over 700 of Shetland's crofters and famers before transforming it to the finest high-quality Shetland wool products such as yarns, knitwear, blankets and carpets. You will be treated to an informative talk on the fleeces, how they are sorted and graded before being transformed to various garments and products. There will also be time to visit their shop to view some fantastic Shetland yarns and accessories.

Overnight Shetland, Dinner and Bed & Breakfast.

Day 5: Knitting Belt Workshop with Janette Budge Uradale Sheep Farm Visit L& Burra Bears

Your workshop this morning is hosted by Janette Budge who will teach a class using a Shetland Knitting Belt. This class teaches you how to work with a knitting belt – an essential tool for generations of knitters who had the task of hand knitting for their families down through the years. Learn how to add a raepin string at the bottom of your knitting and see how this alters your tension, speed and ease of knitting. Janette will also demonstrate different techniques for holding your yarns while knitting Fair Isle. After this class we will board our bus and drive out to Burra where we pay a visit to Uradale Farm. Here you will meet some of the sheep and hear about Uradale Organic Knitting Yarns which reflect the colours of the flock. Our final stop of the day will be at Burra Bears, a fabulous local business where beautiful handmade teddy bears are made mostly out of old Fair Isle sweaters and waste panels from local knitwear factories.

Overnight Shetland, Dinner and Bed & Breakfast

Day 6: Shetland Lace with Elizabeth Johnson, Nielanell & Jarlshof

After breakfast, we travel out to meet Elizabeth Johnston for a class on Shetland Lace. Elizabeth will teach you the skills required to plan your own Shetland-inspired lace design. Our next stop will be at Nielanell for a quick visit where you will meet with Niela Kalra, a textile designer who specializes in contemporary knitwear, homeware and accessories. Finally, after some lunch (included), we journey to the very southern tip of the island to see some stunning views at Jarlshof which is a prehistoric archaeological site on Shetland. Here discoveries include oval-shaped Bronze Age houses, an Iron Age brooch, wheelhouses, Norse long houses, a medieval farmstead and a laird's house dating from the 1500s.

Overnight Shetland, Lunch, Dinner and Bed & Breakfast included.

Day 7: Jamieson's of Shetland Mill and Ferry to Aberdeen

After check-out, we board our coach and drive to the west coast to Sandness where the scenery is beautiful with views looking out towards the island of Papa Stour. Jamieson's of Shetland Mill, located in Sandness is a family-owned business which specializes in wool sourced from native Shetland sheep for over five generations. Here you will see woven fabric using these unique colourful yarns in their products of Shetland tweeds and blankets. We return to Lerwick where there will be time to shop before boarding your overnight ferry this evening to return to Aberdeen.

Overnight Northlink Ferries, Lunch, Dinner and Bed & Breakfast.

Day 8: Glamis Castle, Kilt Making Demonstration in Perth

Enjoy breakfast on the ferry before disembarking at Aberdeen. Our first stop of the day will be at Glamis Castle which is the ancestral seat of the Earls of Strathmore and Kinghorne. This castle was the inspiration for Shakespeare's Macbeth and was also the childhood home of H.M. Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. The gardens surrounding Glamis Castle are beautiful all year round where you have the opportunity to see a wide variety of flora and fauna. We continue on towards Perth to Askival of Strathearn for a Kilt Making Demonstration. Here you can look at, touch and see the process of the traditional tailored kilt making in action, hear all about the history of the kilt and the Highland attire, the tartans and the construction of the kilt. Discover the difference between good and bad kilts, how to tell a well-made tailored kilt and how it should fit!

Overnight Pitlochry, Dinner and Bed & Breakfast.

Day 9: Dunfermline and Edinburgh

Check out of our hotel and begin our journey back to Edinburgh. First we stop at Dunfermline, once the capital of Scotland. Steeped in history, Dunfermline is also famous for being the birthplace of Andrew Carnegie, the world-famous philanthropist and industrialist. We visit the Andrew Carnegie Birthplace Museum where we hear how the weaver's son, born in Dunfermline emigrated to America and became the richest man in the world and one of the best known philanthropists of all time. We continue on to Edinburgh there the rest of the afternoon is free for you to do some personal sightseeing or shopping. This evening we visit a local restaurant to enjoy a farewell dinner.

Overnight Edinburgh, Bed & Breakfast included.

Day 10: End of Tour

After breakfast, transfer to Edinburgh airport on time to check in and some last minute duty-free shopping.

Prices

05th May 2022: £3,650 per person sharing/£869 supplement if single room required

16th September 2022: £3,740 per person sharing/£879 supplement if single room required

30th September 2022: £3,740 per person sharing/£879 supplement if single room required

Please note we charge in Sterling

Friends or family that want to come but they don't knit? We can offer a special **non knitter discount of £200** per non knitter!

Pre Tour Arrangements (Optional/Additional)

Package A

2 x Pre-Nights at Edinburgh City centre hotel

Arrival Transfer

Hop-On Hop-Off Sightseeing Ticket

05th May 2022:

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|-----------------------------|------|---------------------------------------|------|
| Per person sharing one room | £390 | Supplement if single room is required | £250 |
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16th September 2022:

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| Per person sharing one room | £391 | Supplement if single room is required | £249 |
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30th September 2022:

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| Per person sharing one room | £391 | Supplement if single room is required | £249 |
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Package B

1 x Pre-Night at Edinburgh City centre hotel

Arrival Transfer

Hop-On Hop-Off Sightseeing Ticket

05th May 2022:

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| Per person sharing one room | £240 | Supplement if single room is required | £126 |
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16th September 2022:

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| Per person sharing one room | £241 | Supplement if single room is required | £125 |
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30th September 2022:

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| Per person sharing one room | £241 | Supplement if single room is required | £125 |
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Booking Requirements & Cancellation Information

A deposit of 20% of the total tour price is required to hold your booking. The balance of the tour is due 60 days before arrival and can be made in instalment payments on request.

Cancellation Penalties:

- Cancellation 60 days or more prior to itinerary start date – Full deposit is forfeit.
- Cancellation 59 days – 31 days prior to itinerary start date – 50% of total paid is forfeit
- Cancellation 30 days – 15 days prior to itinerary start date – 75% of total paid is forfeit
- Cancellation 14 days or less – 100% of total paid is forfeit

Postponements:

Should you wish to change your tour to one of our other available tours or to a different date, you can do so subject to tour availability. An amendment fee of GBP250 per person will apply.

Within 60 days of the tour commencement date, cancellation penalties will apply.

Terms & Conditions:

Our full terms & conditions for booking are set out on our website at

<https://www.knittingtours.com/terms-conditions/> - We recommend that you print these for your own information.

A Note on Covid:

Any 2020/2021 tour participants that were affected by a tour change related to COVID-19 were offered the opportunity to transfer 100% of any money paid to another tour or given a gift voucher for use on any future tour with no time limit. We will continue to honour this policy should we find that any of our future tours are unable to run as a result of Covid19.