

8-day walking holiday - Scotland

#### Walking Orkney Islands

#### Day 1: Arrival

Flight to Aberdeen. Onward journey by ferry to Kirkwall. A fantastic journey you will not forget so quickly. Cosy evening of preparation and tour briefing on the ferry to Kirkwall

# Day 2: The Ring of Brodgar - Maes Howe

The Ring of Brodgar is the heart of a huge prehistoric ceremonial complex located at a key location known as the Ness of Brodgar. At over 100 meters in diameter, this is the largest stone circle in Scotland and is believed to have originally consisted of 60 stones. The 27 remaining stones have a height of 2.1 m to 4.7 m. Here begins our hike to the "Stones of Stenness". Through "Loch of Harray" and "Loch of Stenness" we reach "Maes Howe". A successful start into a great hiking week.

Walking time: 2h30, easy

#### Day 3: Bay of Skaill - Birsay

It does not take long and we have a great view of the "Brough of Birsay" and its lighthouse. This is followed by groups of picturesque fishermen's huts that blend into the landscape. Along dramatic cliffs the path leads us to the "Kitchener Memorial". A monument dedicated to a dramatic shipwreck. A sandy beach leads us to the "Point of Snusan" and, with a bit of luck, to Seerobben. The ruins of "Earl's Palace" follow. Walking time: 3h30, medium

#### Day 4: Mull Head, Deerness

This circular walk takes us to the east of Mainland Orkney. We start in the nature reserve "Mull Head". The path leads us to cliffs and offers a view of an almost freestanding promontory - the "Brough of Deerness". A former Viking settlement. Followed by a great cliff landscape. Continue to the "Chip of the Mull", from where the view extends to the northern Orkney Islands. Then it goes uphill to "Mull Head". Walking time: 2h30, easy

### Day 5: Highland Park and Scapa Distillery

The day for the Scotch Whisky friends. A leisurely walk will take you to one of Scotland's most famous distilleries: the Highland Park Distillery, with a guided tour and tasting of these delicious smoky whiskeys. Another half hour later we reached the meanwhile reproducing, small but very fine Scapa Distillery. Located directly on a natural harbor by the sea. Here, after the second tasting, we will relish the rest of the day before returning to Kirkwall. Sláinte mhath! Walking time: 2h, easy

# Day 6: Stromness - Bay of Skaill

Our longest hike takes us along a breathtaking coastline. In the harbor town of "Stromness" we start with an excellent view over the "Sound" to the twin peaks of "Cuilags" and "Ward

# p.P. incl. Flight € 1.640,

Hill". At an old vantage point, we have a great view to the summit of "Black Craig". The next stretch of coast is a geologist's paradise. Followed by "Yesnaby Castle", the "Noust of Bigging" bay and "Broch of Borwick". The impressive, already visible Skaill House is now open to visitors. And this opportunity is of course used.

Walking time: 4h30, medium

# Day 7: Wideford Hill and Chambered Cairn

Our trek begins at "Muddisdale Road" on the west side of Kirkwall. The slight ascent to the "Wideford Hill", there are great views back to Kirkwall, with the red stone of the St. Magnus Cathedral dominates. Once at the top we see many of the smaller islands of the Orkneys.

We come to a neolithic cairn from around 3000 BC. Before it goes downhill again. Walking time: 3h, easy

Day 8: Return journey

Ferry Kirkwall to Aberdeen. Return flight.

#### Included

- Assistance at the airports in Vienna and Aberdeen
- 6 nights including breakfast at selected B&Bs and 3-star hotels
- Entrance fees to Highland Park and Scapa Distillery
- All transfers incl. ferry
- Flight from Vienna to Aberdeen or from Germany/Switzerland to Aberdeen

Minimum number of participants: 4 / Max. 12 Surcharge for 4-6 persons: € 280,-Flat rate p.p. excl. flight: € 1.290,-Surcharge for single occupancy: € 350,-Registration deadline: One month before departure

**Highlights:** The Ring of Brodgar - Stromness - Bay of Skaill - Wideford Hill - Kirkwall - Mullhead - Highland Park and Scapa Distillery