

WEST COAST TOUR: 7 DAYS

DAY 1. Glasgow to **Loch Lomond** and the picturesque village of **Luss** where the residents keep colourful and well-maintained gardens.

Best known for the traditional ballad ‘Yon bonnie banks, and yon bonnie braes’ .The Loch is indeed bonnie and ranks as one of the most beautiful stretches of inland water in Britain extending for some 27 miles all overlooked by the famous Ben Lomond. (3195 feet). There are opportunities for loch cruising, walking and golf. The churchyard at Luss contains some 1000 yr old ‘hogback graves’ of Viking origin. A great introduction to Scottish scenery and heritage.

DAY 2. To **Glencoe** via scenic inland route and **Rannoch Moor**.

Glencoe is a dramatic location and was the setting for the notorious massacre of the MacDonalds by government soldiers in 1692. The eco-friendly Visitor Centre provides information on the Glen’s remarkable history, landscape and wildlife. In the village is a fascinating folk museum set in a traditional thatched cottage and well worth a visit.

DAY 3. To **Isle of Skye** via ferry from Mallaig

A leisurely drive taking in the spectacular Highland scenery and **Glenfinnan** where Charles Edward Stuart raised his standard in 1745 in an ultimately doomed attempt to usurp the thrones of England and Scotland. This location has a ‘Harry Potter’ connection.

DAY 4. Full day tour of **Skye**.

Experience 500 million years of history encompassing the jagged Cuillin ridge, inlets, bays, tiny villages and waterfalls. Also **Dunvegan Castle**, stronghold of the Macleod Clan and a 2000 year old **Broch** (circular fort or dwelling). Great for photographs!

DAY 5.To **Fort William** and **Ben Nevis** via Fort Augustus on **Loch Ness**

Fort William & Lochaber area forms a large part of the West Highlands which offers a mix of rugged scenic beauty and an out-of-doors experience.

Visit Glen Nevis, which sits at the foot of Britain’s highest mountain and whose stunning scenery provided the location for the films Rob Roy and Braveheart.

DAY 6 Return south via the busy port of **Oban** and the scenic Coastal Route reaching the ancient site at **Kilmartin Glen**; a unique site comprising some 350 ancient monuments of which 150 are prehistoric including stone circles and stunning examples of ancient rock carvings. Also, the hill fort of **Dunadd** (AD 500), capital of ancient kingdom of Dalriada, one of the most important Celtic sites in Scotland which offers superb views.

DAY 7. Return to Glasgow via **Helensburgh** visiting the Charles Rennie Mackintosh designed **Hill House**, a fine creation and a must for those interested in stylish design and architecture. The gardens reflect many of Mackintosh’s timeless designs and feature contemporary art works.

