

Lewis & Harris Guided Walking with Sightseeing

Trip style: Walking with sightseeing

Destination: 📍 Scotland

Trip code: XHL07-LDW11

Grades: 1, 2, 3

Carbon Footprint: 🌳 240kg CO2



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Located off the west coast of Scotland, the Isle of Lewis and Isle of Harris form the main island in the Outer Hebrides. Technically one landmass divided into two islands, there's plenty here to impress: lunar-like landscapes, wild mountains, white beaches, turquoise waters, and a unique Gaelic culture. This holiday highlights some of the sightseeing greats such as the mystical Callanish Standing Stones, the dramatic Butt of Lewis, and the stunning Luskentyre Beach.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Admiring the Neolithic standing stones at Callanish
- Visiting the beautiful island of Great Bernera
- Walking the wild and remote Harris Walkway to Tarbert
- Relaxing on sparkling white sands at Luskentyre Beach
- Marvelling at the 18th century Eilean Glas Lighthouse
- Soaking up views down to lochs and coastal inlets
- A more personalised experience thanks to small group sizes (maximum 15 people)

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Comfortable en-suite rooms in our partner accommodation(s)
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Guided walks with an experienced HF Holidays Leader
- All transport to and from walks where necessary
- Luggage transfers
- Return flights including hold baggage and airport transfers

TRIP SUITABILITY

Harris and Lewis is graded 3, with most walks/hikes on paths, although these can be faint, rough, boggy and rocky at times. Ascents and descents are generally fairly gradual with only a few steep sections. Weather can be unpredictable. Good walking boots, waterproof jacket and trousers and warm layers including hat and gloves are essential. Walking poles are useful on rough ground. You will require a good level of fitness as you will be walking every day. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the relevant fitness and equipment required to join this holiday. A sustained effort is required to complete each walk and provision cannot be made for anyone who opts out. Some sections of the walk are across remote country and the terrain can be rough underfoot in places. Please be sure you can manage the mileage and ascent detailed in the daily itineraries. Each walking day on this holiday will vary between approximately 6 and 7 hours and it is important for your own enjoyment, and that of your fellow guests that you can maintain the pace. It makes a lot of sense to spend time getting some additional exercise before your holiday. We suggest that you try to fit in a number of longer walks, including some on hilly terrain. Other exercises such as cycling, jogging and swimming are also excellent for developing increased stamina.

Your fitness

Having a solid base of fitness before your holiday will ensure you've the best chance of completing the holiday and enjoying it to boot. Here's a few simple tips to help you get fit and ready for your challenge:

- Get out walking - whether the weather, get out there, and start building your fitness months before your holiday

- Build your distance gradually and get a number of 6-8hr hill days in
- Ideally, try and do two consecutive days training if possible
- Take the stairs every time
- Train on different terrain
- Train with your day pack and your walking boots too, to ensure they're well worn in before your holiday
- Other sports help improve your walking fitness too. The best ones are jogging, cycling, swimming, which will build your stamina, and yoga which will help strengthen your core and improve balance
- Time training will help ensure you enjoy your holiday to the max.

ITINERARY

The Dunan Hotel , Carloway, Lewis - Days 1-3

The Dunan Hotel in Carloway, just over 30 minutes drive from Stornoway, offers comfortable accommodation in a spectacular setting. Formerly Doune Braes Hotel, the Dunan Hotel was taken over in late 2025 by Douglas and Gregor, who have lovingly renovated the rooms in preparation for the 2026 summer season. Accommodation choice is limited in this area, and we feel this is the best option for our groups, thanks to the fantastic hospitality that HF guests receive here. All rooms have TV, hairdryer, and tea/coffee making facilities. Rooms are tight on space, but the superb location of the hotel more than makes up for this. Drying facilities and Wi-Fi are available at the hotel too. This hotel is dog-friendly so you may meet four legged friends in some of the communal areas.

Harris Hotel, Tarbert - Harris - Days 4-7

A warm welcome awaits you at the Harris Hotel, which has been family owned and run for over 100 years. It offers traditional island hospitality and a relaxing atmosphere. The 22 en-suite bedrooms are a mix of modern style and a more traditional feel. All rooms have flat-screen televisions, hair dryers and hot drinks tray. There are two lounges over-looking the front garden, a television lounge and a small library for guests to use. The cosy residents bar has the largest selection of malts in the Outer Hebrides, stocking over 100 varieties! Free WiFi connection is available throughout the hotel.