

Scotland - Trossachs, Pitlochry and Stirling - SPACES AVAILABLE

Friday 21st May 2021 to Tuesday 1st June

With a convenient start and end point in Glasgow, we cycle out to our base in Callander from where we explore the beautiful lochs and stunning landscapes of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. We then move on to the picturesque town of Pitlochry from where we have a choice of rides around rural Perthshire, before our final stop in the historic city of Stirling. This tour uses a mix of roads and cycle paths.



Itinerary

Fri 21st May - Welcome to Scotland

Book into hotel, and meet the group for dinner.

- No cycling
- Accommodation: Hotel

- Meals: (B)

Sat 22nd May - Glasgow's Parks

Orientation and leisurely ride around Glasgow, mainly on cycle paths and through parks. Especially for anyone who has not spent any time in Glasgow.

- Route distance: 35 km
- Route altitude gain: 374 m
- Accommodation: Hotel
- Meals: (B)

Sun 23rd May - Glasgow to Callander

Leaving Glasgow via Milngavie into the countryside and up the Crow Road with fantastic views from the top. Then on to Fintry for a coffee, before continuing to Callander.

- Route distance: 70 km
- Route altitude gain: 932 m
- Accommodation: Hotel
- Meals: (B)

Mon 24th May - Callander to Loch Voil

This is intended as a day to relax and enjoy the scenery. Optional afternoon open water swim at Loch Lubnaig.

- Route distance: 59 km
- Route altitude gain: 767 m
- Accommodation: Hotel
- Meals: (B)

Tues 25th May - 7 Lochs including Loch Ard and Loch Katrine

We cycle alongside 7 lochs. The route is quite varied starting with hopefully quiet main roads in the morning, then minor roads, single track roads, private roads along Loch Katrine, then forest trails along the south shore of Loch Venachar. Most importantly there are several options for cafe stops.

- Route distance: 80 km
- Route altitude gain: 1081 m
- Accommodation: Hotel
- Meals: (B)

Wed 26th May - Callander to Pitlochry via Loch Tay

We start on cycle paths up to Killin and then use minor roads for most of the rest of the day. It is a big day of cycling, so we will leave early and just take our time.

- Route distance: 112 km

- Route altitude gain: 1279 m
- Accommodation: Hotel
- Meals: (B)

Thur 27th May - Pitlochry to Blair Castle

There is the option of cutting this day a bit short and omitting the hilly route via Trinafour. Anyone who visits the distillery in Blair Athol might want to take this option. If you do you may round the day off by visiting the Moulin Brewery too.

- Route distance: 67 km
- Route altitude gain: 903 m
- Accommodation: Hotel
- Meals: (B)

Fri 28th May - Pitlochry to Blairgowrie

The alternative tourist option today is ride to Dunkeld as an out and back ride.

- Route distance: 83 km
- Route altitude gain: 1078 m
- Accommodation: Hotel
- Meals: (B)

Sat 29th May - Pitlochry to Glen Lyon

A shorter version of the ride is to omit the ride out to Glen Lyon and return via Aberfeldy. Consider that the next day is a moving on one to Stirling, where the choices are cycle to whole way or take a train.

- Route distance: 115 km
- Route altitude gain: 1 m
- Accommodation: Hotel
- Meals: (B)

Sun 30th May - Pitlochry to Stirling

This is a lovely day of cycling through some very quiet countryside. You will see from the map that the ride to Comrie adds a bit on to the day. If you have the energy then I would recommend that you make the extra effort, because Comrie is very pretty.

- Route distance: 110 km
- Route altitude gain: 1 m
- Accommodation: Hotel
- Meals: (B)

Mon 31st May - Stirling to the Kelpies

This is a recovery and tourist attraction day. The route around Stirling is exceptionally flat, and both the Kelpies and the Falkirk Wheel are well worth a visit.

We will visit Stirling Castle on our return later in the afternoon.

- Route distance: 52 km
- Route altitude gain: 330 m
- Accommodation: Hotel
- Meals: (B)

Tues 1st June - Stirling to Glasgow

Once we leave Stirling we quickly get into some pretty countryside and quiet roads. On a clear day you can see for miles across the central belt of Scotland. Finishing with a relaxed easy cycle along the canal into Glasgow.

- Route distance: 53 km
- Route altitude gain: 761 m
- Meals: (B)



Dates and Prices

Cost

- Price including flight: £0.0
- Land only price: £1100.0

Payment Schedule

Deposit £100 on booking, and final payment of £1,000 by 30th April.

Price includes:

- 11 nights accomodation, breakfast and dinner
- Luggage Transfers
- Stirling Castle entrance fee

Price does not include:

- Lunch or café stops
- Blair Athol Distillery
- drinks
- travel insurance
- Any other personal expenses

Cancellations

This tour is planned for May, subject to covid restrictions. The deposit is refundable if cancelled by either Bikexplore or the customer, and the date set for the finalpayment is 30th April. Please to not purchase travel to and from Glasgow until after the final payment date (in case of the tour being cancelled).

Written Notice Received: Cancellation Charge:

- before final payment due date: nil - deposit will be refunded.
- after final payment: £1,100 (full amount)



Holiday Information

The Trossachs

- This National Park of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs is just north of Glasgow. Lomond more to the west and the Trossachs to the east. This is more of a two centre tour based in Callander and Pitlochry with shorter visits to Glasgow and Stirling. The moving on days are quite strenuous, but there is plenty of time in between them. We have run many day rides in these areas and also a club weekend, so we would like to share them with you,

Accommodation

- Modest Hotel accomodation with breakfast included.

Rooms

- Accomodation is single occupancy except for people from same household.

The nature of the holiday

- We will explore the beautiful remote rural central Scotland, staying in both Callander, Pitlochry and Stirling.

Rest Day

- There will be longer moving on days followed by a shorter day. Some days will include visits to a tourist attraction e.g. a Distillery, Stirling Castle and the Kelpies. There is always the option of having a rest day, or doing a shorter cycle (except for the moving on days).

Roads used

- Almost exclusively tarmac roads, and cycle paths. Almost all minor roads, including some single track roads on most of the days.

Route Sheets

- I will provide a GPX file for each day.

Group information

- Most of my tours have had mainly individual bookings to share a twin room, and a few couples.

Weather and Clothing

- We have often been very lucky with dry sunny weather, but please do pack waterproofs and sunscreen, as you could end up using both in the same day.

Cycles / Equipment

- Cycles can be road bikes, touring bikes / cyclocross, or hybrids. Mountain bikes might be a bit slow on longer days. Please pack sufficient spares and tools to deal with minor repairs. We will provide a track pump for use in the hotel.

Maps

- I will provide GPX files, but if you don't use these then, I recommend that you download google maps to your phone, in case of poor phone signal, or if you prefer bring the relevant pages from your road atlas.