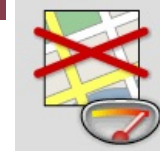


Coast to Coast Bike Ride



Highlights

Get to grips with the wild terrain of the spectacular Scottish Highlands, backdrop for the UK's ultimate mountain bike trail! This eight-day coast to coast bike ride takes you for an adventure like no other.

When the mile-thick ice sheets finally retreated from the north of Britain at the end of the Pleistocene epoch, they left in their wake a topography gnarled, fissured and pockmarked by violent glaciation. The result is some of the wildest country in Europe; mountain massifs, rift valleys, riven volcanoes and crinkle-cut islands are just some of the extraordinary features of the Scottish landscape. Unsurprising, then, that the country has become something of a mecca for adventure travel enthusiasts, with every imaginable pursuit on offer. So whether you surf or ski, sail or kayak, hike or bike, Scotland is bound to have something special for you. (There's also 12,000 years of history, some of Europe's finest architecture and the prized national drink (no, not Irn-Bru!), in case you're interested!)

Covering 400km and 4,000m of ascent and descent, this eight-day coast to coast bike ride serves up some truly epic mountain biking. Meeting in Edinburgh, you'll be transported to your starting point in Aberdeen from where you'll head westwards through landscapes of breathtaking beauty and extraordinary variety, from lochs and beaches to moors and mountains. The trail is equally diverse, with tranquil stretches of forest fire-road, exhilarating singletrack and some rocky and challenging mountain passes to negotiate. Add to this fantastic loch-side sections, twisting forest trails and hillside tracks with magical coastal views and you have some seriously special mountain biking. Your final destination is the tip of the Ardnamurchan Peninsula, the westernmost point of mainland Britain, where the tour ends with a celebratory dinner and a well-earned drink or two!

Is it for me?

This is an awesome adventure without rival in the UK, a week-long, coast-to-coast odyssey! In an ideal world everyone would get to experience this trip, but in the meantime we suggest you only take this on if you're an experienced mountain biker in good physical condition. After all, you'll be tackling some testing terrain – rocky slopes, tangle-root tracks and so on – and making several sharp ascents, including one of the steepest road climbs in Britain (400m in just 3km!). As such, endurance is another must - you'll be riding for around eight hours per day, covering an average of 60km. If all this sounds ok with you (and you're not exhausted just reading this!) then we'd seriously recommend this trip, undoubtedly the best of its kind in Britain.

Accommodation

You'll be staying at a selection of hotels and guesthouses along the route, all 3-star quality or higher. This means comfortable en suite rooms and stylish décor as standard, and most places have pretty decent restaurants too. All meals are included on this tour, so no need to bring supplies. Breakfasts are served at the hotel and there are hearty packed lunches to be enjoyed en route, while evening meals are taken either at your guesthouse or in nearby restaurants. Make sure to try some of the fantastic seafood available at either end of this coast-to-coast route, and maybe some venison or Aberdeen Angus beef in the middle. And then there's the whisky...

Itinerary

Day One: Meet in Edinburgh and be transported to Aberdeen where you begin your mountain bike journey west across Scotland. You ride through Royal Deeside, following the route of the old railway line built for Queen

Prices from

945 GBP (8 days) per person

Why book with Tourdust?

- ✓ **The Best Local Operators**
We handpick the best local operators
- ✓ **Local Price Guarantee**
Pay what you would locally with our Best Price Guarantee
- ✓ **Secure Online Payments**
Safe and easy online booking



- ✓ **ABTA Bonding for your protection**
We even throw in complimentary Supplier Failure Cover


ABTA No. L7477

Victoria. After lunch you begin a steady climb into the hills before descending some of Scotland's finest singletrack to Glen Tanar and the village of Dinnet.

Day Two: Dinnet to Tomintoul via Glen Builg

A classic day of riding takes you into the heart of the Cairngorms and through Glens Gairn and Avon. This is wild country and a real mountain experience. Overnight in Tomintoul, the highest village in the Scottish Highlands.

Day Three: Through the Cairngorms

A long and unforgettable day through the mighty Cairngorms massif. Some big mountain climbs, twisting forest trails and magical singletrack lead you to Glen Feshie, where you cross Inshriach Forest to Kingussie.

Day Four: To Fort Augustus over the Corriearick Pass

Following the River Spey towards its source, you climb into the remote Monadhliath Mountains via the Corriearick Pass. This is the route's highest point at 775m. An hour long rock-strewn descent leads into Fort Augustus located on the shores of Loch Ness.

Day Five: Fort Augustus to Fort William

An easier day - off road cruising down the Great Glen passing Loch Oich and Loch Lochy. Your destination is Fort William - outdoor capital of the UK.

Day Six: Fort William to Strontian

The morning begins with a short journey across Loch Linnhe to Camusnagaul. Following the shorelines of Loch Eil and Shiel your lunchtime destination is the beautiful River Polloch. From here the route takes one of the steepest road climbs in Britain - 400m of ascent in 3km! The downhill cruise into Strontian is adequate reward with great views over the Western Seaboard.

Day Seven: Strontian to Ardnamurchan Point

A great final day. From Strontian you head west, soon joining a beautiful coastline trail and then heading into the hills. This is one of the best singletrack sections of the route and the views of the Islands are simply amazing on a clear day. After lunch you cruise the final short section of road to our final destination Ardnamurchan Point! Celebratory dinner and drinks in Strontian.

Day Eight: Return to Edinburgh

Following breakfast we load the vehicle and bikes and enjoy a leisurely 4 hour journey back to Edinburgh, arriving around lunchtime.

Following breakfast we load the vehicle and bikes and enjoy a leisurely 3 hour journey back to Inverness, arriving around lunchtime.

Details

Getting there

Air: Edinburgh Airport; Rail: Direct from Glasgow, & London; Road: A90 to Edinburgh

Price includes

Accommodation, meals, guide, bike, support vehicle. Insurance not included.

Comfort level

Refined (boutique or luxury accommodation and food)

Experience required

Experts / Enthusiasts only