



We uncover, you discover

# Rail Touring in Scotland



Jacobite Steam Train crossing Glenfinnan Viaduct



Our bespoke guide built on two decades of experience

# Main Train Lines



## Far North Line

Discover a more remote, uninhabited Scotland. Some of the country's finest rivers, bog land and daunting mountains are nestled here. The locale is a little wilder than you may be used to – peer out the window and you might catch a glimpse of a scampering deer or a soaring eagle.



## Kyle Line

Travel coast to coast across the Highlands. Spanning a wide arc from Inverness to the shores of Loch Alsh, take in fantastic scenery and look out for the distinctive Torridon Peaks mountain range which looms out of the north.



## West Highland Line

Renowned as one of the most scenic rail lines in the world, the West Highland Line acts as a gateway for the Isles of Skye and Mull. Running between Fort William and Mallaig, the most memorable part of your trip will be crossing the Glenfinnan Viaduct – renowned for its cinematic beauty and made famous by the 'Harry Potter' franchise.



# Rail Touring Top Tips

- ✓ Pack lightly - space is limited aboard trains for storage of baggage and few stations offer portorage so make sure you can carry your own luggage on and off the trains and for short distances
- ✓ Bring some supplies aboard for the longer journeys – catering is not always reliably provided by the rail companies
- ✓ Don't worry too much about which side of the train you are sitting on – longer journeys will feature much of interest on either side
- ✓ Do engage with other passengers – this can be a rewarding way to learn more about local life and add some fresh perspective to your trip
- ✓ Stay two or three nights at each destination – space your travel days with the chance to explore the local area. We provide plenty of tips for walks or local excursions that don't need you to drive



Tobermory Lighthouse, Isle of Mull



Dalmally train station



Glasgow

## Why choose a McKinlay Kidd rail holiday?

- No need to drive on Scotland's narrow and twisty roads
- Everyone in the party has the chance to relax and enjoy the passing scenery
- A great opportunity to meet and chat with fellow travellers and locals
- We take care of the timetables and connections so you don't have to
- Lots included – you only need to budget for meals and occasional expenses – your travel and accommodation is all covered
- We'll take you beyond the end of the train line – over the sea to Skye or Orkney or Mull or all of them on a Grand Tour!
- Benefit from the freedom of your own unique trip on a self-guided, tailor-made tour – knowing that it is all pre-planned for you by local experts
- Or choose to join an escorted small group tour, with everything organised by your McKinlay Kidd tour leader
- Mix the highlights and famous sites with off-the-beaten track hidden gems by including time with a local guide
- Stay in comfortable, characterful accommodation – small hotels and guest houses carefully selected by McKinlay Kidd
- Or splash out on a luxury experience with a night or two in a five star castle or make it top-end all the way with private tours and transfers on a premier trip



Italian Chapel, Orkney



West Highland Line

# Jacobite Express Steam Train

Enjoy one of Scotland's most iconic rail journeys with a trip on the Jacobite Steam Train



Jacobite Express Steam Train crossing Glenfinnan Viaduct

This 82-mile train journey spans striking terrain as it follows the West Highland Line tracks from Fort William to Mallaig. You will feel as though you have stepped back in time into the height of the Victorian steam age – be ready for the chugging sounds and sooty smells which contrast with your well-appointed carriage – we strive to ensure you are in first-class for premium comfort, whenever available.

Once the journey commences, all of your concentration will be on the breath-taking extremes of scenery you pass. Keep your camera at the ready for Britain's highest mountain (Ben Nevis), Europe's deepest loch (Loch Nevis) and the iconic Glenfinnan Viaduct, made famous from the 'Harry Potter' film series.

[Learn More](#)



First-class carriage onboard the Jacobite Express



Glenfinnan Monument

## Don't just take our word for it...

We've secured a 100% rating from over 900 independent reviews from happy customers. Here's a few examples:

"We were nearly a month on the rail trip and it all worked like clockwork. We would recommend McKinlay Kidd to anyone interested in having such a holiday. It would be well nigh impossible to do it yourselves."

Malcolm & Geraldine, NSW, Australia

"Excellent worry free holiday, well organised and with great information. Communication was really good and everything was handled in a friendly, professional manner and it was very personal."

Sheila & David, Penrith, UK

"The unexpected locations and experiences you included ended up being the most delightful."

Rebecca & Christopher, Florida, USA

"We had a brilliant holiday in all respects. The travel and accommodation arrangements were all excellent, as I had come to expect from McKinlay Kidd! Special mention to our guide who did a splendid job."

Neal & Diana, Middlesex, UK

# Discover some of the places you can reach, sights to see & unique experiences on a Scottish train tour...

Isle of Skye



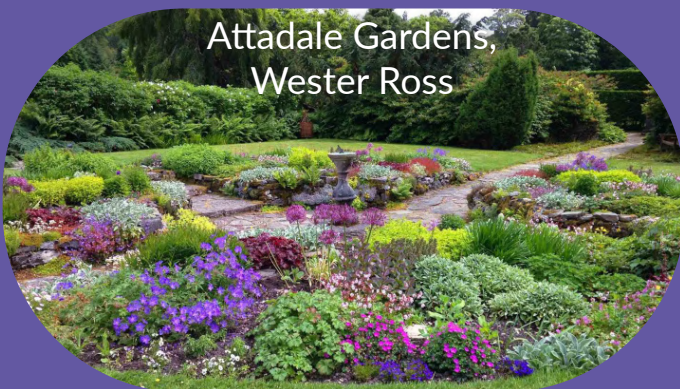
Inverness



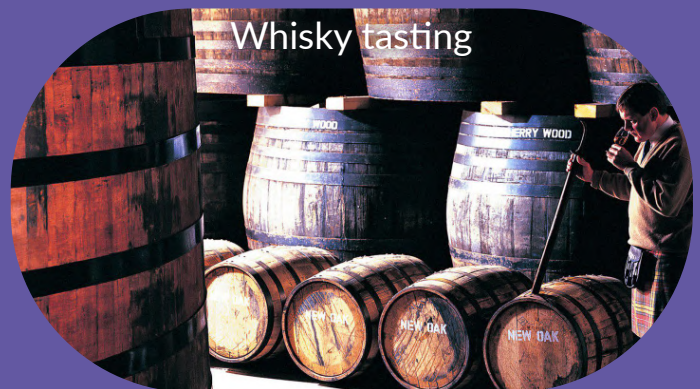
Flow Country, Caithness



Attadale Gardens,  
Wester Ross



Whisky tasting



Edinburgh



Urquhart Castle,  
Loch Ness



Isle of Mull



Wildlife watching



Glenfinnan Viaduct



Ring of Brodgar, Orkney





# Discover our popular self-guided holidays



## Grand Tour of Scotland by Train

One of our most beloved holidays. Enjoy a relaxing car-free fortnight on the tracks, taking in stunning locations like Inverness, Skye and the Cairngorms. Includes a trip on the Jacobite Express Steam Train.

[Learn More](#)

## Highlands, Castles & Whisky by Train

Experience the best of Scotland by train, including two privately-guided day tours on this six-night trip. Visit historic Stirling, the Highland Capital of Inverness and the Granite City of Aberdeen.

[Learn More](#)



## Slowly Along the West Highland Line

Leave the hustle and bustle behind on this nine-night trip. Travel one of Europe's finest rail routes, with leisurely stops in Oban, Kinloch, Rannoch, Arisaig and Spean Bridge, and some island-hopping along the way.

[Learn More](#)



## Car-free Scottish Island Hopping

Discover a different pace of life on this seven-night holiday to the Isles of Mull, Iona and Skye. Includes journeys on the West Highland Line, often acclaimed as the most scenic rail journey in the world.

[Learn More](#)



## Premier Round Scotland by Train

Savour fabulous lochs, hills and isles at your own pace, while experiencing memorable rail trips on the renowned West Highland and Kyle lines during this seven-night holiday.

[Learn More](#)



# Discover our popular escorted holidays



## West Highlands, Iona & The Jacobite Guided Rail Tour

With a local guide, take the path of the first pilgrims, visit the resting place of 60 monarchs and uncover a Scottish Kingdom founded by pirates. This week-long small group tour will stay with you for a lifetime.

[Learn More](#)

## Castles, Gardens, Skye & Glencoe Guided Rail Tour

An exploration of Scotland's glens, islands and history. Discover the rise and fall of the Jacobites, visit locations made famous by Queen Victoria and experience a warm highland welcome on this week-long tour.

[Learn More](#)



## North Highlands & Orkney Guided Rail Tour

This week-long small group tour features spectacular yet relaxing rail trips paired with short ferry crossings and guided tours to help you reach far-flung corners and uncover fascinating history and culture.

[Learn More](#)



## First Class Jacobite Express Short Break

This two-night break features a single first-class trip on the much sought-after Jacobite Express Steam. Perfect for celebrations and special occasions.

[Learn More](#)



## Loch Ness, The Jacobite & Skye Guided Rail Tour

This seven-day small group tour takes you through contrasting lochs, mountains, moors and castles as you travel on the world-renowned West Highland and Kyle Lines. Includes a trip on the Jacobite Express.

[Learn More](#)



# Why McKinlay Kidd?

## Local Knowledge

- ✓ Everything we recommend has been tried and tested by us
- ✓ Itineraries designed to help you explore beyond the tourist spots
- ✓ Hand-picked guides, for stories and insights that only locals would know
- ✓ Stay in carefully-selected, family-owned accommodation
- ✓ Meet and engage with local people

## Personal Service

- ✓ Your trip planned exactly how you want it
- ✓ Personal - human - point of contact from start to finish
- ✓ Specialists on hand to help plan the finer details
- ✓ Ask us anything you want to, any time you want to
- ✓ We're contactable 24/7 throughout your trip

## Flexible / Tailor-made

- ✓ Create your perfect trip, individually designed and booked for you
- ✓ It's fully flexible - want to add extra nights, activities or tours? No problem
- ✓ Let us know about any specific requirements and we'll do our utmost to accommodate
- ✓ Personalised recommendations, created for you and your trip



# How to Book

1.

Visit the McKinlay Kidd website for inspiration. We have a handy holiday search to help you find your preferred trip.

2.

Once you've found a trip, fill in the form on the holiday page to enquire. We'll check availability and get back to you.



3.

Let us know any tweaks - stay longer, add in an extra destination, any special requirements - we plan and book all self-guided trips individually so will tailor and personalise for you.

4.

Once you are happy with our proposal, pay your deposit to secure the trip. Alternatively, you can call or email our team. As our small group guided tours have a maximum of 14 to 18 places, availability is limited - reserve your place by filling in the form and we'll get back to you quickly, answer any questions you may have, then your deposit secures the trip.

To start your journey, call us on:

UK: 0141 260 9260

USA & Canada (toll-free): 1 866 922 8538

Australia (toll-free): 1 800 760 824

All other countries: +44 141 260 9260

or email [hello@mckinlaykidd.com](mailto:hello@mckinlaykidd.com)