Scotland 2024 Travel Tips to and from Legs 0, 1, 2, 3 & 4, 2024

For joining any 2024 expedition, I recommend avoiding London-Heathrow (LHR) and flying directly to Glasgow (GLA) if possible. This avoids the congestion of Heathrow and frequently flights to Glasgow are less expensive because of lower landing fees.

Previous experience has shown that Lufthansa, United, Delta, American and Icelandic Air are the most dependable and British Air and Aer Lingus are the least dependable carriers. Icelandic Air accepts Alaska Air mileage points.

If your flight arrives in Glasgow after the last <u>Loganair</u> flight to your joining port has departed, Glasgow has several excellent and affordable airport hotels just a five-minute walk from the terminal. I can recommend Travelodge, Holiday Inn Express, Holiday Inn and Courtyard by Marriott.

Leg 0 – 2024: May 1 – 10: Oban to Outer Hebrides to Oban

Glasgow is the nearest airport to Oban. The Glasgow-Oban train is a very scenic 3.5-hour journey. Safest plan (in terms of delays) is to arrive in Glasgow April 29, spending the night at the <u>Carlton George Hotel</u> next to the main Glasgow train station and catch the morning train to Oban. Spend the night of April 30th ashore in Oban, then come aboard Cloud 9 which will be moored at the Charter Boat Marina adjacent to the <u>Columba Hotel</u> at 4pm on the 12th.

Oban hotel options: Columba Hotel, Ranald Hotel

Leg 1 – 2024 May 12: Oban to May 21: Stornoway

Glasgow is the nearest airport to Oban. The Glasgow-Oban train is a very scenic 3.5-hour journey. Safest plan (in terms of delays) is to arrive in Glasgow May 10, spending the night at the <u>Carlton George Hotel</u> next to the main Glasgow train station and catch the morning train to Oban. Spend the night of May 11 ashore in Oban, then come aboard Cloud 9 which will be moored at the Charter Boat Marina adjacent to the <u>Columba Hotel</u> at 4pm on the 12th.

Oban hotel options: Columba Hotel, Ranald Hotel

Following your expedition, Loganair has direct Stornoway-Glasgow flights.

Leg 2 – 2024 May 23: Stornoway to June 1: Kirkwall

If possible, fly directly to Glasgow, then Glasgow-Stornoway on Loganair. It's a short distance from Stornoway airport to town with a bus and taxis meeting each flight.

Stornoway hotel options: Hebridean Guest House, Lews Castle, Royal Hotel

Following your expedition, Loganair has direct Kirkwall-Glasgow flights.

Leg 3 – 2024 June 3: Kirkwall to May 12: Stornoway

If possible, fly directly to Glasgow, then Glasgow-Kirkwall on Loganair. It's a short distance from Kirkwall airport to town with a bus and taxis meeting each flight.

Kirkwall hotel options: <u>St. Ola</u>, <u>Kirkwall Hotel</u>, <u>The Albert Hotel</u>

Following your expedition, Loganair has direct Stornoway-Glasgow flights.

Leg 4 – 2024 June 13: Stornoway to June 22: Oban

If possible, fly directly to Glasgow, then Glasgow-Stornoway on Loganair. It's a short distance from Stornoway airport to town with a bus and taxis meeting each flight.

Stornoway hotel options: Hebridean Guest House, Lews Castle, Royal Hotel

Following your expedition, we'll all take the scenic coastal train ride from Oban to Glasgow, the reverse of Leg 1.

Please email me if you have any questions: <u>sailing@mahina.com</u>. V.3.24