

Scotland excels in world-class walks, but none are more thrilling than the brand new Stevenson Way, which is being aptly described as 'Scotland's Wilderness Walk'. This new 230 mile epic is intriguingly based around Scottish author Robert Louis Stevenson's novel 'Kidnapped' and it offers a swathe of adventures and spectacular scenery every bit as dramatic as anything one of Scotland's most romantic writers could ever have dreamt up as it ventures from the Isle of Mull all the way to Edinburgh on the opposite coast.

This guided trip sets out in Stevenson's footsteps across the Isle of Mull starting at the very beginning of the Stevenson Way, where the novel's protagonist David Balfour is shipwrecked, and spends a week wrapped in this Hebridean isle's mystical charms.

You will enjoy the rugged mountain and coastal scenery as your leader guides you across an ever changing wildscape of heather moor, peat bog and rocky beaches. En route the island's rich and flora and fauna add an extra dimension with deer and eagles to look out for on land and in the air and otters, seals and dolphins to spot in the water. As you go you can scan your imagination for glimpses of the hunted Balfour eking his way across the same landscape.



Day 1 Sat 26th July – Afternoon arrival on Mull

We kick off the trip by really delving below the surface of Stevenson's novel, as well as giving the background to the Stevenson Way and what the week will involve. There is plenty of opportunity to ask any questions that you may have as well as to meet the rest of the group.



Day 2 Island of Erraid and Balfour's Bay

The day starts off travelling by boat to Erraid, landing on Balfour's Bay imagining David Balfour scrambling ashore on Erraid, an island separated from Mull by 100m of sand. We then push east along the Ross of Mull to explore the old villages of Breac Achadh and Tir Fhearagain.

There is evidence of even earlier human inhabitation in the form of an Iron Age fort too. The evening is spent

being regaled with local history and colourful anecdotes from a local guide.



Day 3 Uisken to Shiaba

Today we push on from Uisken and leave its sandy bay and crofting community behind. We keep a keen eye out for eagles as we go as they are known to nest in the area. There is an iron-age fort to explore as we continue on towards Shiaba. Perhaps the day's highlight is Kilvickeon Chapel, a ruin that dates back to medieval times, pre-dating Kidnapped of course, but only adding to the drama of the Way.



Day 4 Assapol to Loch Scridain

The walk continues heading east along the south of Mull with the Atlantic Ocean never far away. Highlights today include the stunning cliffs of Malcolm's Point. It is a breathtaking experience being humbled by the size of these mighty cliffs. We continue north through the forest to Loch Scridain. Deer abound in these forests.

Day 5 Wednesday – Optional Excursion to Iona or to the Sea Eagles, or just relax - A day of choice.

And what a choice! Iona is a world famous place of pilgrimage for many reasons, not just to its stunning abbey. It is swathed in history and romance. You could spend a whole day exploring the abbey and its grounds and the island is also home to white sand beaches and moorland, with sweeping views back across to Mull. The other option takes in a sea eagle hide, where we have the privilege of seeing these majestic birds up close. Alternatively you could just relax, stroll along the beach, or explore more of the Ross of Mull (perhaps a visit to the Nun's Cave?).

Day 6 Thursday – From Carsaig to Lochbuie and up Glen More



This is a wonderful coastal walk starting at the remote hamlet of Carsaig, where the narrow road plunges right down to the sea. The path hugs the coastline as it passes beneath towering cliffs, enclosed caves where people used to live, waterfalls, old "run-rigs", and the Blacksmith's Cave before we reach postcard pretty Lochbuie where we turn our back on the water and head north inland up Glen More.



Day 7 Glen Forsa from Pennygowan Our last day is certainly no anticlimax as we scythe right into the centre of the island, cutting into Glen Forsa from Pennygowan, by the Sound of Mull, which rather surprisingly boasts its own airport, well at least a perfectly passable landing strip for small aircraft. This is a gentle walk along estate tracks.

That is not the end of the trip though. Far from it as an evening of gaelic music or local entertainment awaits a walking group who

by this time have been welded together both by the works of Robert Louis Stevenson, but also an appreciation of the spectacular landscapes that so fired his imagination.



Day 8 Sat 2nd August – Morning departure from Craignure

What we include:

- All guided walks (Day 5's optional trips extra).
- All meals.
- All transport and transfers within Mull.
- Services of a qualified Mountain Leader.
- Evening sessions with local historians, wildlife experts, story tellers and Rangers.
- Seven nights hotel accommodation in the Ross of Mull. Option of staying in a Mongolian Yurt.

What we do NOT include:

- Alcoholic drinks, these are extra.
- Travel to and from the island of Mull (however we can assist in travel if you wish us to)
- Insurance (we can assist with this as well if you wish)

The cost for the week is £595. Please ask us for a booking form.

Please note that some of walking will be over some rough terrain. You need to be physically fit and have suitable boots and clothing for the environment.

Circumstances can change beyond our control and so we reserve the right to alter the programme accordingly.

For further details please contact Ian Logan at ian@stevensonway.org.uk or visit the website at: www.stevensonway.org.uk