The Hebridean Way offers keen hikers a unique opportunity to walk the length of this spectacular archipelago. Over the course of 156 miles (252km) the route crosses 10 islands and includes two stunning ferry journeys. It is a route of astonishing variety – one day you may be walking on an exquisite deserted beach, with silver shell sand stretching far into the distance. The next, you may find yourself amongst wild mountains, wandering past remote freshwater lochs as golden eagles soar overhead.

Starting on Vatersay and ending in Stornoway, this is at times a challenging route. Some terrain is as rugged as anywhere else in Scotland and the weather here in the Outer Hebrides is famously changeable – very often, you will experience all four seasons in one day. The reward for the intrepid however, will be a lifetime of memories from one of Scotland’s finest long distance paths.

The Route

The Hebridean Way is a long-distance walking route through the Outer Hebrides. It links some of the best places in Scotland to explore and admire the spectacular natural environment. You can also cycle the Hebridean Way following the National Cycling Route (NCN 780). Find out more on the website below.

## The Hebridean Way

- **Start Point:** Vatersay
- **Distance:** 156 miles (252km)
- **Duration:** 19 days
- **Ferries:** 2
- **Causeways:** 6
- **Islands:** 10

### Suggested schedules

To enable you to easily plan your walk, we’ve split the path into 12 sections as listed A - L below. Each of these sections cover a typical day’s work. (Note: Distances are approximate and do not include additional distances to the accommodation):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Ferry Crossing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Vatersay to Northbay (Barra)</td>
<td>11 (18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Northbay to Daliburgh (South Uist)</td>
<td>14 (22.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Daliburgh to Howmore (South Uist)</td>
<td>11.5 (18.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Howmore to Lionaide (Benbecula)</td>
<td>16 (26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Lionaide to Grimsay (South Uist)</td>
<td>13.5 (22)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Grimsay to Lochmaddy (North Uist)</td>
<td>13 (21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Lochmaddy to Berneray or Leverburgh (North Uist)</td>
<td>10 (16.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Berneray to Leverburgh</td>
<td>13 (21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Sileboist to Tarbert (Harris)</td>
<td>14.5 (23)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Tarbert to Scaladale (Lewis)</td>
<td>9 (14.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Scaladale to Balatann (Lewis)</td>
<td>13 (21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Balatann to Stornoway (Lewis)</td>
<td>17.5 (28)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outdoor Safety

- **Staying safe:** While walking is mostly a matter of common sense:
  - Check the weather forecast before you set out.
  - Take appropriate clothing – this walk covers some rough, wet ground, so wear your boots. Walking shoes are not suitable for this walk. A good quality waterproof jacket and overtrousers are essential!
  - Good quality waterproof jackets and trousers are essential! On very wet or windy days consider walking along the road or using public transport rather than heading out onto the wild moorland parts of the route.
  - Carry water and food with you – shops and cafés can be few and far between in certain areas. Keep to the waymarked route at all times as some stretches are boggy.
  - Always tell your accommodation owners what time you expect to arrive.
  - Always bring a map and compass with you – and know how to use them. A guidebook and GPS are a recommended essential too.
  - Take bus timetables and phone numbers for local taxis in case you have problems on the walk or return.

### Scottish Outdoor Access Code

Scotland has some of the best access laws in the world - you have the right to walk on most land, provided you behave responsibly and respect the rights of others. Full information on access rights and responsibilities can be found at: www.outdooraccess-scotland.com

### Useful Numbers

- **Emergency:** 999
- **Non-emergency:** 101
- **Caledonian MacBrayne:** 0800 066 5000
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If you keep to the following guidelines you won’t go far wrong:

- Do not disturb livestock or wildlife.
- Keep dogs under control, especially at lambing time.
- Leave gates as you found them.
- Take all your litter home.

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**In brief**

**Total Distance:** 156 miles (252km)

**Distance by Islands:**

1. **Vatersay and Barra:** 15 miles (24km)  
   **Category:** Moderate
   **Sound of Barra Ferry Journey Time:** 40 mins

2. **Eriskay and South Uist:** 35 miles (57km)  
   **Category:** Easy / Moderate

3. **Benbecula and Grimsay:** 16 miles (26km)  
   **Category:** Moderate

4. **North Uist and Berneray:** 22 miles (36km)  
   **Category:** Moderate
   **Sound of Harris Ferry Journey Time:** 1 hour

5. **Harris:** 38 miles (61km)  
   **Category:** Difficult

6. **Lewis:** 30 miles (48km)  
   **Category:** Moderate / Difficult

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**The Hebridean Way offers one of the finest long distance paths.**

In brief

- **Total Distance:** 156 miles (252km)
- **In brief:**
  - The finest long distance paths.
  - A lifetime of memories from one of Scotland’s.
  - The reward for the intrepid however, will be a lifetime of memories from one of Scotland’s finest long distance paths.

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The Hebridean Way Walking Route was funded by

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