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Gateway Travel

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EXPEDITION CRUISES

Exploring the Wild Coasts of the British Isles

11 12 148
DAYS CITIES GUESTS (MAX)

While you may have visited the British Isles before, we doubt you've ever experienced them quite like this. Voyage beyond the familiar sights to explore the historic isles of Guernsey and Saint Mary's, birdwatch off the coast of Wales, hike the wild Scottish Hebrides and sample whisky in the Orkney archipelago.

- ✦ Cruise for 11 days aboard an exclusive charter of Le Champlain
✦ Make your expedition your own with a host of included excursion options in every port of call
- ✦ Turn back the clock at the mysterious Ring of Brodgar, the ancient seaside settlement of Hirta and the Isle of May, a former haunt of Vikings and smugglers
✦ Explore Fingal's sea cave, hike the tranquil shores of Loch Trool and scope out the seabird habitats of coastal Wales
- ✦ Taste the region's finest with a sampling of ciders and cheeses in Guernsey and a guided whisky tasting in the Orkney Islands

Exploring the Wild Coasts of the British Isles

11 DAYS | MAY 26
FROM - | 148 GUESTS



Day 1 | Arrive London, England

Rendezvous with your fellow guests and Expedition Team at Heathrow and head to Portsmouth, where your small explorer ship awaits. Renowned for its longstanding maritime heritage and historic dockyard, Portsmouth makes a fitting jumping-off point for your British Isles expedition.

🍷 LE CHAMPLAIN

🍴 DINNER

Day 2 | Guernsey, Channel Islands - Former German Stronghold

Set some 30 miles off the Normandy coast, Guernsey has been coveted for its prime location since neolithic times. Today, Guernsey's idyllic beach resorts and lively capital of St. Peter Port stand juxtaposed against former Victorian and German fortifications. Delve into the island's history as you browse the German Occupation Museum, explore a vast underground wartime hospital complex and pass by the former home of French writer Victor Hugo. Alternatively, walk a scenic clifftop path, sample the ciders and cheeses of a local farm, or visit St. Peter Portland Castle Cornet.

🍷 LE CHAMPLAIN

🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 3 | Saint Mary's and Treco, Isles of Scilly - Royal Island Hideaway

With their peaceful beaches and timeless seaside ports, it's no wonder the Isles of Scilly have been a favorite staycation haunt of the British Royal Family for generations. Make landfall in Saint Mary's, the largest and most populated of the Scilly archipelago to tour a coastal path, explore the island's fort and lighthouse, or hike to uncover Iron and Bronze Age burial chambers. Then, make the short trip to the neighboring Isle of Treco to stroll the exotic horticultural specimens of Treco Abbey Gardens.

🍷 LE CHAMPLAIN

🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 4 | Skomer Island, Wales - Cruising a Birders' Paradise

Your vessel sets a course along the Welsh coast, bringing the sandy shores of Skomer Island into view. Board a Zodiac for a closer look offshore as you keep your binoculars and telephoto lenses at the ready. This stunning National Nature Reserve harbors Atlantic puffins, guillemots and razorbills — a true birders' paradise.

🍷 LE CHAMPLAIN

🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 5 | Girvan, Scotland – The Halls of Culzean Castle

The picture postcard fishing port of Girvan serves as your gateway to Ayr, a lively coastal town famous for its beautiful beaches and rich history. From here, explore Culzean Castle's towering cliff-top battlements, lavish 18th-century interiors, secret follies and landscaped gardens. Or, hike along the tranquil shores of Loch Trool in historic Galloway Forest Park.

🏠 LE CHAMPLAIN

🕒 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 6 | Isle of Mull, Inner Hebrides – Duart Castle and a Taste Of Tobermory

The Inner Hebrides lie just offshore from the Scottish Highlands, intersected by a myriad of scenic lochs and sounds. Your introduction to this achingly beautiful archipelago is Mull, an isle of grand mountains, seaside villages, sandy beaches and some of the wildest coastal scenery in Europe. Here, visit Duart Castle, tour the charming coastal burgh of Tobermory, sample fine whiskies at a local distillery or sample cheeses produced at a local farm.

🏠 LE CHAMPLAIN

🕒 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 7 | Staffa and Iona, Inner Hebrides – Sea Caves and Lost Abbeys

The approach to Staffa by sea is breathtaking, with great basalt columns flanking the deep caves of the island. Head ashore to explore Fingal, a sea cave formed by hexagonally jointed basalt. Next, the tiny Isle of Iona welcomes you ashore to discover Iona Abbey, explore the isle's remote southern end or hike to a scenic lookout atop the peak of Dun í.

🏠 LE CHAMPLAIN

🕒 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 8 | St. Kilda Isles, Outer Hebrides – Seaside Settlement of Hirta

Stretching out further into the sea, the Outer Hebrides amplify their sister islands' coastal beauty with shores that could easily be mistaken for those of the Caribbean. Here, set amid the Isles of St. Kilda, the seaside settlement of Hirta harbored an isolated, hardscrabble agricultural community for over 2,000 years. Pass the island's staggering sea stacks and come ashore to explore the deserted stonework settlement, the highest cliffs in all of Britain, and a vital seabird habitat.

🏠 LE CHAMPLAIN

🕒 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 9 | Orkney Islands – Kirkwall & the Ring of Brodgar

Rich in Viking heritage, the landscapes of the Orkneys span rolling hills, dramatic cliffs and wave-swept sea caves. Here, explore historic Kirkwall or the spine-tingling Ring of Brodgar, a mysterious circle of standing stones dating to 2700 BC. Alternatively, hike the coastal trail from Rackwick to the Old Man of Hoy or head to a local distillery to taste a few drams of the Orkneys' finest.

🏠 LE CHAMPLAIN

🕒 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 10 | Isle of May – Smuggler's Hideaway

The Isle of May rises from the Firth of Forth five miles off the Scottish mainland, its remote shores guarded by a phalanx of 150-foot basalt cliffs. This windswept isle was once the domain of Vikings and smugglers. Today, the island's puffins rule the roost with prolific colonies rivaling any in Britain. Come ashore for a closer look at the seabirds and seals that call this island home as you walk the scenic cliff-top paths and uncover the island's iconic lighthouse sordid maritime history.

🏠 LE CHAMPLAIN

🕒 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 11 | Depart Edinburgh – The Journey Ends

Disembark in Edinburgh and head to the airport for your flight home or continue on an extension touring this historic city.

🏠 LE CHAMPLAIN

🕒 BREAKFAST

Extensions

+4 DAYS

England's Cotswolds Pre-Tour Extension

Explore the rolling landscapes of the Cotswolds, visiting Oxford, Shakespeare's birthplace at Stratford-upon-Avon and the picturesque Arlington Row.



+4 DAYS

Edinburgh Post-Tour Extension

Discover Edinburgh, experiencing the city and castle grounds and historic Scottish Borders.



DATES & PRICES

Plan Your Trip for 2026

24/7 A&K On-Call Support

English-speaking staff, including a doctor

Complimentary Wi-Fi on board and in hotels

All gratuities, port charges and taxes

Traveller's Valet® Laundry Service

Private balcony with every stateroom and butler service with every suite

Airport meet and greet with transfers

Food and drink with a la carte menus and unlimited house drinks, including Champagne

Your choice of expertly guided shore excursions

Engaging onboard lectures and workshops from our acclaimed Expedition Team

Prices are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy.

Classic Stateroom	From \$19,495
Deluxe Stateroom	From \$21,995
Prestige Stateroom	From \$22,995
Deluxe suite	From \$34,495
Privilege Suite	From \$37,495
Prestige Two-Room Suite	From \$43,495
Grand Deluxe suite	From \$49,995
Owner's suite	From \$52,995



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Le Champlain

Chartered exclusively for A&K, your luxury expedition cruiser is specially configured to limit capacity to 148 total travellers (from a maximum of 184). The all-English-speaking ship staff is complemented by A&K's expert Expedition Team. All staterooms and suites feature a private balcony, and every suite offers complimentary butler service. The vessel also features multiple observation, lounge and dining areas, as well as a library, theater, outside heated pool, fitness center, spa, 24-hour medical facility with a certified doctor and a fleet of Zodiac boats for shore expeditions. A&K also includes complimentary wireless Internet and Traveller's Valet laundry service.

