



I'M FREE  
PLEASE KEEP ME

# THERE'S SO MUCH TO DO

Tips, timetables, activities and ideas to help  
you make the most of every minute on Scilly

## GET ACTIVE

Tips on swim-running,  
walking, kayaking and golf

## DAY TRIP ITINERARIES

Wine tasting, exploring by  
boat – even snorkeling with seals

## WHY THE WHALES REALLY CAME

Author Michael Morpurgo  
shares his love of Bryher



CELEBRATING  
40YRS OF  
SCILLONIAN III

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THE ON-BOARD MAGAZINE FOR SKYBUS AND SCILLONIAN PASSENGERS – ISSUE 03

Isles of Scilly  
**Travel**





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**Travel**  




# WELCOME ABOARD

And welcome to S – your exclusive on-board magazine for Skybus and Scillonian passengers. Thanks for travelling with us.

Please feel free to take this magazine with you; we've packed it with tips and suggestions to try while you're on Scilly – from recipes and walking routes to kayaking advice and itineraries for the perfect day trip (you'll be amazed how much you can fit into a few hours). Don't miss our article from author Michael Morpurgo, who reveals the heart warming tale behind his family's 70-year love affair with Scilly – and why he's set no fewer than five books on Bryher.

It's a story many of our passengers will recognise; there's something about the islands that keeps people coming back, for generations. And while we're thinking about long relationships with the Isles of Scilly, we've two anniversaries of our own: 40 years of Scillonian III, and 80 years of aviation at Land's End Airport. We're proud to play our part in the islands' long history, and to serve the community here.

Unbelievably, the islands' first runway was on St. Mary's golf course – but if you'd like a more conventional guide to playing the UK's most south-westerly course, you'll find one on page 42. Whether it's your first trip with us, or your hundredth, we hope you'll enjoy your journey today – and that you'll find this magazine interesting and useful throughout your time on Scilly.

Thanks, once again, for travelling with us.  
If our team can help you in any way, please do ask.



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CELEBRATING  
40YRS OF  
SCILLONIAN III

## Contents Issue 03

### 06-07 A stream of Scilly memories

Why author, Michael Morpurgo keeps on returning to the Isles of Scilly

### 08-09 Day trip ideas

Itineraries for the perfect day out

### 10-11 80 years since the 1st flight to Scilly

A timeline of the fixed wing service to the Isles of Scilly

### 12 Sights from Skybus

Our own in-flight entertainment

### 13 Fly to Scilly from UK, Ireland and Europe

Connections from further afield

### 14-15 Keep on running (and swimming... and running)

The World Championship qualifier returns for the second year

### 16 Cooking on Scilly, tips from the chef's table

Making the most of the fresh, local produce available

### 18-19 Getting around by boat

The best way to travel between the islands

### 20-23 Celebrating 40 years of Scillonian III

We look back over the 40 years of service from our iconic flagship

### 24-25 Scilly under canvas

Camping holidays for all the family

### 27 Get your Scilly break off to a great start with GWR's new sleeper service

The Night Riviera Service from London Paddington to Penzance

### 28 An island adventure for you and your pet

Dog friendly holidays

### 30 What's on Scilly 2017

A jam packed schedule of island events

### 31 #MyScilly

Island regulars Roger and Patsy have been visiting the islands for over 40 years and share their My Scilly story

### 32-33 Paddle Power

Blogger Erin Bastain shares her experience of outdoor adventure and exploring the islands on the water

### 33 Penzance more than a quick stop

Take a little time in your journey to explore Penzance

### 34-35 Keep Scilly wild and beautiful

A look at the work carried out by the Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust

### 36 Rockpooling guide

Fun for all ages

### 39 A little slice of Scilly

Take a piece of your treasured holiday home with you

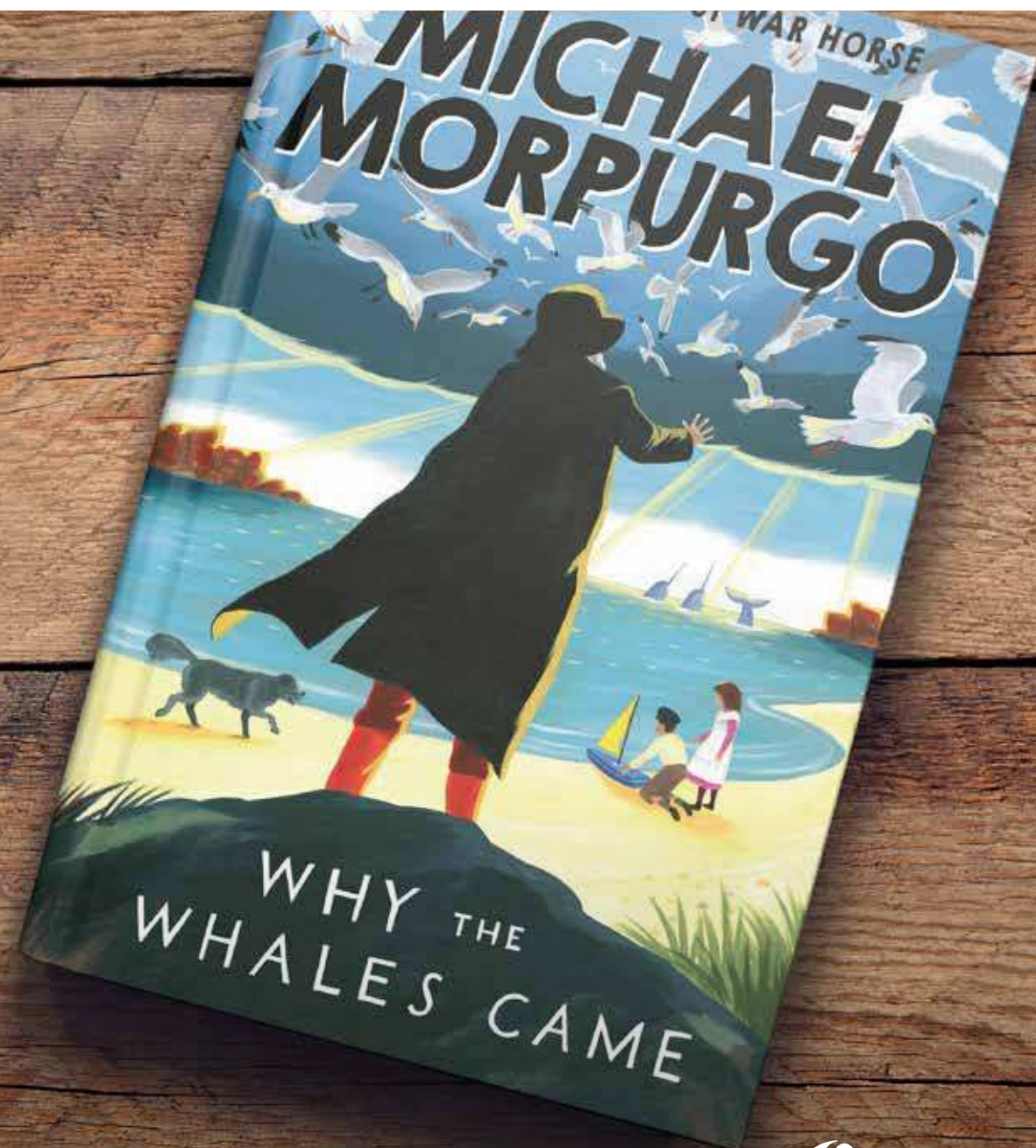
### 40 Get your walking shoes on

Walking routes and tips, on St. Mary's and St. Agnes

### 42-43 Tee off on Scilly

The UK's most scenic golf course





# A stream of Scilly Memories

by Michael Morpurgo

Picture this. A two year old girl, August 1944, sits in her birthday suit on Pentle Bay on Tresco, smiling in the sunshine, little fists full of sand. First time on Scilly.

Every summer on and off for ten years after that she is there again with her family. The family stay in the Tower House of the Abbey on Tresco, the luggage brought there from the quay by pony and trap. Then the endless walks along Pentle Beach, in sun and wind and rain, it doesn't matter, oyster catchers piping, looking for favourite golden shells, and cowries, and limpets; gathering flowers to press: heather, trefoils, thrift, speedwell, bindweed, knapweed.

For lunch, fried mackerel her father catches rolled in oats, and picnics of crab sandwiches. Off again down to the beach swimming with the little silver fish in the turquoise water, sometimes aquamarine, or amethyst even.

In and out of the water all the time, rolling down the dunes, building sandcastles, leaving them for the moats to be flooded by the tide. Reading in bed, *The Yellow Poppy* by DK Broster, *National Velvet* by Enid Bagnold, the *Scarlet Pimpernel* by Baroness Orcski, the moon riding through the clouds outside the tower window.

Twenty or more years without Scilly, but the dreams stay, in the heart, in the mind, never for a moment forgotten by this little girl growing up, the colours of the islands vivid, the smell of the sea, of seaweed, of eucalyptus, the sound of the waves coming in, of the foghorn on Bishops's Rock. And the longing to return lingers, the determination to do so grows.

So, she thinks, talk about it to the children, to your husband, enthuse them. Best place in the country for bird watching, easy to get to, sun and sand and boats, and oystercatchers, turnstones and terns, and fried mackerel in oats, and crab sandwiches.

Great place for stories, Michael, shipwrecks and pirates and gigs, ancient kings buried thousands of years before on hilltops everywhere,

whales and turtles washed up on the beaches, abandoned cottages, abandoned islands.

So, come the 1980s she takes us over to Scilly, to Bryher, to one of Keith and Marion Bennett's cottages, Firmans. The Scillonian churns and rolls, then we see the islands floating there in the blue of the sea, waiting for us, and our stomachs settle as our hearts rise.

The welcome is warm, the cream tea on arrival exquisite. So our days and weeks of discovery begin, and have gone on for nearly 40 years. I cannot

rollers come crashing in, go boating out to the Eastern Isles, over to Tresco, eat fried mackerel and crab sandwiches, have picnics on uninhabited islands, on Samson and St. Helen's, on Little Arthur.

We go to the museum on St. Mary's, do our clothes shopping in the Foredeck, have lunch at Dibble & Grub, dinner sometimes with old friends at Hell Bay Hotel on Bryher, have our crab and lobster from the Jenkins family on Bryher too. We sit on Green Bay of an evening sipping a white Bordeaux wine. What times we have had!



And Bryher remains the place where we feel we belong, our home on Scilly. For me it has become my Narnia. I have set story after story on Bryher: *Why the Whales Came*, *The Wreck of the Zanzibar*, *Arthur High King of Britain*, *The Sleeping Sword*, and *Listen to the Moon*.

These stories of Scilly are now read all over the world in dozens of languages. They have been made into films and plays. The movie of *Why the Whales Came* was filmed on Bryher in 1988 with a wonderful cast of islanders, as well as Helen Mirren and Paul Scofield and David Suchet.



In one school I once visited in New Zealand a girl put her hand up and asked me: 'How did you manage to invent all those islands, and all those names, like Bryher, and Popplestones,

and Hell Bay and Droppynose Point? You must have the most amazing imagination'. I was so tempted to agree with her!

No, I told her instead. These are real islands. I was taken there, and my children and grandchildren were, by a 2 year old girl, now a great grandmother, who fell in love with the place 70 years ago. Now we all love the place. We go back and back each year. And each year we make more memories and eat more crab sandwiches and fried mackerel rolled in oats.

count the visits. We have come in all seasons, all weathers, with children and grandchildren, with only the best friends. Bryher is our island. Visitors as well as islanders are fiercely loyal. Some people prefer Tresco or St. Agnes or St. Martin's or St. Mary's. They are all wrong! Bryher is best. We go walking the beaches, paddling and swimming, on Rushy Bay, Stinking Porth, Popplestones, Droppynose Point.

We walk the cliff path and heathland out towards Hell Bay, watch the great



DAY TRIP IDEAS

It may be your first visit to the islands or you may be a returning regular, either way there's plenty to see and do on a Scillonian or Skybus day trip.

SKYBUS

St. Agnes + Gugh

All of the islands on Scilly are unique but the landscape of St. Agnes is unlike anywhere else in the UK. It's the most south westerly point in England, as you look west all you will see is Bishop Rock lighthouse and three thousand miles of ocean. The island itself is small in size but ample in variety. At low tide, you can walk across to the sandbar to the neighbouring island of Gugh, it's only half a mile long and home to just three people.

If history is your thing, head up to Obadiah's Barrow and you'll find a nine-foot granite menhir called the Old Man of Gugh. He's been standing there since the stone age! Stroll back to St. Agnes and if you're feeling hungry we recommend the Turks Head pub. It is arguably one of the most scenic pubs in the world and has a wonderful lunch menu to match. If you are still keen to discover more of the islands history, head to Beady Pool beach on the southern shores of the island, 400 years ago, a ship was wrecked on the rocks here sending its cargo

of Venetian glass and ceramic beads to the bottom of the sea.



Ever since, these tiny treasures have been known to wash up on the beach and are on every islanders and visitors treasure trove list. Walk further around the southern coast and you'll find Troytown Maze. The maze is made up of a spiral of beach stones arranged on a grassy mound it is said to of been there since 1729. As you make your way further west of the island, you can admire views of the Western Rocks and Bishop Rock lighthouse. The iconic lighthouse was built in 1858 and is the second tallest lighthouse in Britain.

SCILLONIAN

St. Mary's

Looking across from St. Mary's harbour you'll see the golf club, it's a fair walk if you're feeling energetic but it's a wonderful introduction to St. Mary's.

If you'd rather save your energy for the golf, there are plenty of taxi's available to take you up to the course or pop into the Scilly Cart Company on Porthmellon industrial estate - 5 minutes walk from

Hugh Town, to hire a golf buggy and you can make light of all the islands sights.

Take a spin around St. Mary's exploring the sights, head just past the centre of the island to Holyvale Vineyard. You can book a tour or lunch by calling them.

Maps and guides are available to pick up from the Tourist Information Centre in Hugh Town, overlooking Porthcressa beach. There's Juliet's Garden restaurant 5 minutes' walk from the golf course with a fine menu of lunch options and a large

The circular route brings you back to the quay on St. Agnes and where you'll meet the boat to St. Mary's. In peak season boats will generally pick up at 2pm, 4pm or 5pm - listen out as your boatman drops you off and he'll let you know the pick-up times.



Try this day trip yourself

ROUTE

DEPART

ARRIVE

DEPART

Land's End/Newquay

08:00 year round

08:15/08:30

18:00, Isles of Scilly

patio area overlooking the harbour.

Take a tour of the north end of St. Mary's where you'll discover some of the most beautiful beaches in the UK, like the hidden gem of the island - Bar Point. The beach veers round in a V shape with one vista looking across to the island of St. Martins and the other the great expanse that is the Atlantic Ocean, on a clear day you'll just be able to make out the mainland. The sand is fine here and the dunes are sheltered, and the sea a sparkling blue.

Try this day trip yourself

ROUTE

DEPART

ARRIVE

GOLF

VINEYARD

FOOD

DEPART

Penzance Harbour

Check-in 08:00-08:45 for 09:15\* departure

12:00\*

St. Mary's Golf Course

Carn Morval

Tel 01720 422692

Holyvale Vineyard

Holyvale

Tel 01720 420317

Open April-September

Juliet's Garden

Seaways Flower Farm

Tel 01720 422228

16:30\*, St. Mary's Harbour

\*Times vary with tides. Check-in (IOS) is 15:15-16:00. Please check the timetable for your day of travel.



Try this day trip yourself

ROUTE

DEPART

ARRIVE

INTER-ISLAND BOAT

SNORKEL WITH SEALS

DEPART

Land's End/Newquay

08:00 year round

08:15/08:30

10:15 to St. Martin's

14:00-17:00

Contact Scilly Seal

Snorkel 01720 422848

18:00, Isles of Scilly



SKYBUS

St. Martin's

You might be surprised how much you can do on a day trip to Scilly - visitors Katie and Rory share their story of birdwatching, cream teas, and snorkelling with Atlantic grey seals.

We set off from home at around 6am, as we were booked on the first flight of the day from Land's End airport. After a very speedy check-in, we relaxed with a coffee and croissant, watching the crew get the planes ready for the day. We flew to the Isles of Scilly on the Skybus Islander plane; it only took 20 minutes from Land's End, and it was an incredible way to see the islands from

above. From St. Mary's, we took a boat across to St. Martin's. We took our binoculars - it's a great opportunity to spot some seabirds along the way.

When we got to St. Martin's we had time to explore the island and dip our toes in the sea. We sat in the sun and enjoyed a cream tea at a lovely little café before setting off to meet the Scilly Seal Snorkelling guides.

Our guides supplied us with wetsuits and all the gear we needed to go snorkelling. We jumped on-board the boat from the quay and headed over to the Eastern Isles to look for the grey seals. We got in the water and approached the seals slowly and with some caution - they are wild animals, after all.

They seemed shy at first, but as soon as we relaxed around them they immediately became more inquisitive and playful, playing hide and seek and displaying graceful underwater gymnastics.

The water was cold but - thankfully - the wetsuits are really thick, and swimming around keeps you warm. Back on the boat the guides gave us chocolate and a hot ginger tea to warm the cockles! If you get the chance to snorkel with the seals, go!

They're beautiful, gentle, and very curious creatures and each encounter is completely unique. It's a great day trip and an unforgettable experience - an amazing encounter with British wildlife, in an incredibly beautiful setting.





# 80 years of flying to Scilly from Land's End Airport

An aeroplane might be the fastest way to the Isles of Scilly, but it's by no means a newcomer. In fact, there have been scheduled flights to the islands since 1937 – and Skybus has been part of that proud tradition for 35 years. Let's take a look at some highlights from Scilly's aviation history...

## 1937

The first scheduled, commercial flight from Land's End to St. Mary's was made by a de Havilland Dragon aircraft, carrying just 5 passengers. The flight was provided by Gordon Olley's Channel Air Ferries. Olley was a First World War flying ace, and the world's first pilot to log one million miles.

For the first two years, planes had to land on the St. Mary's golf course. Two runways were laid out, and a bell was rung to warn golfers of incoming planes. Occasionally, in high winds, golfers were drafted in to help keep aircraft steady.

One of the passengers on the first flight was the islands' oldest resident, John Mumford. As a boy, it had sometimes taken him fifteen hours by sea to get to the mainland – this flight took just fifteen minutes.



## 1939

A dedicated airfield was opened at High Cross Farm, overlooking Old Town – with up to eight return trips now landing and taking off daily, the golf course had been getting harder to use. The site is now at St. Mary's Airport.

This is also the year that Channel Air Ferries became part of Great Western and Southern Airlines. This made it possible to fly from St. Mary's to Bristol via Plymouth, with a whole choice of connecting routes (like our Newquay and Exeter services today).

## 1940

All available aircraft were pressed into service to help with the evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force from Dunkirk. Civil flights to Scilly would not return until 1946 – when Island Air Services provided regular trips to Land's End carrying freight and pleasure flights in the summer.

## 1947

British European Airways (BEA) took over the air service to Scilly. Passenger numbers hit a new record high in 1953, with 36,000 passengers making the journey between Land's End and St. Mary's.



In 1962, Captain Morris Hearn MBE retired, after 21 years of service. During his career, he completed 15,000 flying hours and 31,650 flights between Land's End and Scilly.

## 1961

Mayflower Air Services began operating flights from Plymouth to St. Mary's. Over the next few years, Newquay, Bristol and Cardiff were also added.



## 1970

Westward Airways launched, formed by the famous aviator Viv Bellamy. BEA objected to a new scheduled service to the islands, so instead he created an engineering and restoration facility along with pleasure flying.



In 1971 Harold Wilson, Prime Minister and regular visitor to the islands, opened the brand new purpose-built terminal at St. Mary's Airport.



## 1972

Brymon Airways launched a service from Newquay to St. Mary's, and later from Exeter too. In the first season they carried 2,500 passengers. By 1974, Brymon were based at Plymouth and became the first company to launch the Twin Otter aircraft.

## 1984

Skybus launched, when we proposed a daily Land's End to St. Mary's service. Our first Islander aircraft offered a freight and chartered passenger service.



## 1985

35,000 boxes of flowers were flown to the mainland using our Islander aircraft in a single year. (We also purchased two more Islanders in this year.)

## 1987

The first scheduled Skybus service was introduced on April 1st – it went on to carry 15,700 passengers during its first year. By 1989, that had grown to 24,000 passengers (and 600 tonnes of freight). The airline flew from Land's End, Newquay, Exeter, Bristol and Southampton – until 2012, when we decided to concentrate on the three direct routes we offer today.

## 2014/2015

We gave Land's End airport a complete overhaul, with a new terminal and a hard runway, making the service much more reliable in wet weather. We also bought a fourth Twin Otter aircraft – which made incredible 4,500-mile journey to reach us, from Canada.



## 2015

We added another Islander aircraft – and not just any Islander. This particular plane was flown by James Bond, in the film Spectre. This brings our fleet up to eight aircraft: four Islanders and four Twin Otters, travelling the routes between the Isles of Scilly and the mainland.



## 2017

At Skybus, we're proud to be part of the rich heritage of aviation on Scilly – and to be the longest-serving fixed wing air service in the islands' history. We're looking forward to many highlights to come.



# Sights from Skybus

The Isles of Scilly are unlike anywhere else, and flying to them is all part of the experience. There's no need for in-flight entertainment on Skybus — the open cockpit and bird's eye views of the Devon countryside and Cornish coastline will keep everyone's attention.



Peter Holy - private pilot from Shoreham



## Sights from Exeter Airport

You'll fly out over the historic city of Exeter — look for the Gothic cathedral. Then it's over the sweeping uplands of Dartmoor, and Dartmoor Prison. We then pass over Plymouth, the Royal Naval Dockyard and the river Tamar. We cross to Cornwall with views of Looe and Liskeard, Eden Project and the china clay works. Further up the coast, you'll be flying over Truro Cathedral, the Fal Estuary, Roseland Peninsula and the mining towns Redruth and Camborne.

Then it's spectacular West Cornwall — St. Michael's Mount, Penzance town, Land's End and out into the Atlantic, passing over Wolf Rock and Longships lighthouses before seeing the Isles of Scilly in all their glory.

## Sights from Cornwall Airport Newquay

Keep an eye out the window for the miles of stunning beaches along the North Cornish coast. There's the popular surfing beach Fistral and the outstretched miles of Gwitherian and Hayle Sands (look out for Godrevy lighthouse).

Historic engine houses and mines make a regular appearance along this stretch of coast.

Then it's onto Cape Cornwall, and Poldark country, Land's End before approaching the Atlantic Ocean and more iconic lighthouses. The finale is the stunning Isles of Scilly, that somehow manage to look different on every journey.

## Sights from Land's End Airport

This is the shortest journey of the three — but it's packed with things to see.

Depending on the wind direction, Skybus will either take off towards Sennen cove or fly straight out over the Land's End peninsula, famous for its jagged coastline — the cause of many shipwrecks from a time gone by.

Longships Lighthouse is a prominent landmark on this route, not far from Land's End, then it's straight out into the Atlantic, spotting sea life and the Seven Stones Reef for ten minutes (which always feels shorter) before the approach to the archipelago, Scilly.

## FLY TO SCILLY FROM THE UK, IRELAND AND EUROPE

They may feel like another world, but reaching the Isles of Scilly couldn't be simpler. Skybus flies year-round from Newquay and Land's End, and through March to November from Exeter Airport.

It's easy to get to the islands with connecting flights from across the UK and Europe.

## Newquay

Year-round direct routes

### UK

Leeds Bradford  
London Gatwick  
London Stanstead  
Manchester

### Ireland

Dublin



Newquay also offers many seasonal routes, please visit [cornwallairportnewquay.com](http://cornwallairportnewquay.com)

## Exeter

Year-round direct routes

### UK & Ireland

Belfast  
Dublin  
Edinburgh  
Glasgow  
Guernsey  
Jersey  
London (City)  
Manchester  
Newcastle  
Norwich

### France

Paris

### Spain

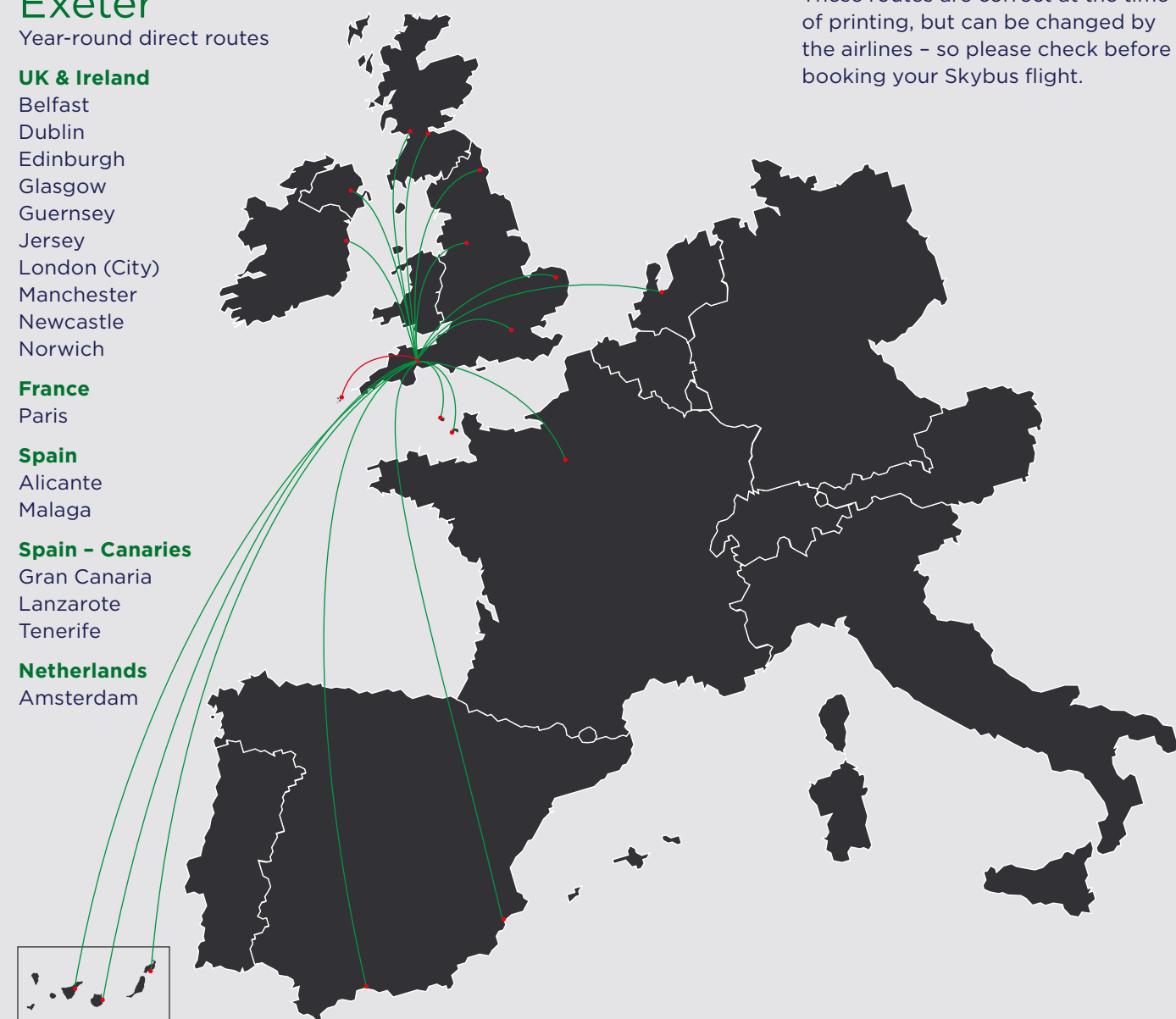
Alicante  
Malaga

### Spain - Canaries

Gran Canaria  
Lanzarote  
Tenerife

### Netherlands

Amsterdam



These routes are correct at the time of printing, but can be changed by the airlines — so please check before booking your Skybus flight.

Exeter also offers many seasonal routes, please visit [exeterairport.co.uk](http://exeterairport.co.uk) for more details.



# Keep on running (and swimming... and running...)

The ÖTILLÖ Swimrun, an endurance sport born from a bet, has races all over Europe – including, since 2016, the UK: running and swimming 23 miles around the Isles of Scilly. Andrew Fergus, half of the winning team, tell us about the experience.

I'd never visited the Isles of Scilly before coming for the ÖTILLÖ Swimrun. It's stunning; beautiful but precarious — as if the sea could gobble the islands up if it wanted to.

In the race, you compete as a team of two, and you have to stay within 10 metres of your teammate the whole time; Richard Stannard, my teammate, was a better swimmer than me, and I was the better runner. I swam directly behind him so I didn't have to navigate, just follow Richard's feet. Also, swimming behind someone provides a small slipstream that allows you to go a little faster than you would on your own.

Unfortunately, on the runs there wasn't a lot of help I could return to Richard. Some teams tie themselves together with a cord so the faster person pulls the slower one along, but we decided before the race that wasn't for us. The Isles of Scilly is a beautiful course. It uses the natural setting really well, doing a big loop around most of the islands. I've become more and more interested in races that use the natural environment (and aren't constrained by being 'standard' distances).

I really enjoyed the variability, and the many times we alternated from swimming to running: at any point on the course you knew that there was going to be a change coming shortly. If I had to name one favourite part, it was probably the run on St. Martin's.

## THINKING OF SWIM-RUNNING? HERE'S ANDREW'S ADVICE...

Don't be intimidated by the distance. Time goes by quickly when you're racing, and breaking up the running with swims is easier on your legs than if you ran the equivalent distance straight.

Try to find someone of similar abilities to you — it'll make the race more enjoyable.

Practice swimming with your shoes on and running in a wetsuit before doing a race; this feels a bit strange at first.

## WATCH THIS YEARS RACE

17th and 18th June 2017

ÖTILLÖ Swimrun returns in June... and at Isles of Scilly Travel, we're delighted to sponsor the race weekend, as destination partners.





## Cooking on Scilly: Tips from the Chef's Table



When you're staying on Scilly, it's only natural to want to make the most of the Islands' local produce and fresh-caught seafood. We asked Euan Rodger, along with his wife Lindsey, owners of Tanglewood Kitchen on St. Mary's, how to self-cater to impress, tackle Scillonian seafood, and please the picky-eater in your life.

**Q** I'm a novice in the kitchen, and there's only basic equipment in my holiday home. Is there anything foolproof I can whip up using Scillonian seafood, that will impress my family?

**A** Simply grilled Scillonian lobster or pan fried IOS crab cakes. Cooking lobster and crab is actually quite straightforward. All you need is a big pot and lots of boiling water. Refrigerate live overnight. Boil a large pot of water, add salt, and put the lobster or crab in.

Bring it back to the boil and cook the shellfish for 15-20 minutes, depending on its size. Crabs can be eaten hot or cold, but lobsters are best chilled and then split and eaten cold, grilled, or barbequed.

**Q** Is it a good idea to take a barbeque to the beach? What sorts of produce should I buy, and where?

**A** There are great spots all over Scilly to barbeque — but please make sure you follow local restrictions and don't leave any rubbish behind.

We have a daily supply of fresh fish and shellfish here in Tanglewood, so we can prepare lobsters and fish kebabs, all ready for you to barbeque.

If it's meat you're looking for, M Benney & Son in Garrison Lane is your first stop. For locally-reared pork or beef, go to The Farm Deli, and for great-tasting local duck, visit Salakee Farm.

**Q** How much does the best produce on Scilly change with the seasons?

**A** Fresh local produce is abundant from April to September. There are farm stalls dotted about all the five main islands. You'll find local produce in town on St. Mary's, and there are monthly local produce markets in the Town Hall. Scilly is a great place to forage both inland and by the sea. I'd recommend 'Wild Food Foraging' & 'Seaweed Foraging' by Rachel Lambert. Great books both available at Tanglewood Kitchen.

Tanglewood Kitchen offers a freshly-made meal service, and an intimate four to eight person 'chef's table' experience, the Tanglewood Table. You can find Tanglewood Kitchen at The Post Office, Hugh Street on St. Mary's.

**Q** My Dad doesn't like seafood. Is his diet going to be limited on Scilly?

**A** Not at all. We're fortunate to have a diverse range of local food and our local Co-op provides the range of food that you would expect anywhere else.

And with farm stalls, a butcher, a deli and a diverse range of pubs, restaurants, and cafés, you'll never go hungry, whatever your dietary requirements!

# Toots TAXI

For a friendly and reliable taxi service on St. Mary's give Toots Taxi a call.

**01720 422142**  
**07570 624 669**

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Tours • weddings • parties • quay and airport pickups

## Book your Toots Tour

Tailor-made tours to suit your requirements. Learn all about this idyllic island from your Scillonian guide. With commentary, history and photo opportunities.

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**07570 624 669** **tootstaxi.co.uk**

## SYLINA SELF CATERING



## New for 2017

If you're looking for a relaxed, get-away-from-it-all place to stay on St. Mary's, that's within striking distance of deserted beaches and wonderful coastal walks, then you've come to the right place! Sam and Paul Mallon are delighted to present Sylina, a newly-refurbished self catering holiday home that sleeps up to six people.

Facilities include a newly fitted open plan kitchen/diner/lounge, separate sunny south facing conservatory opening out on to a large garden. Wi-Fi, TV, books, BBQ. three ensuite rooms; two double or twin, and one double.

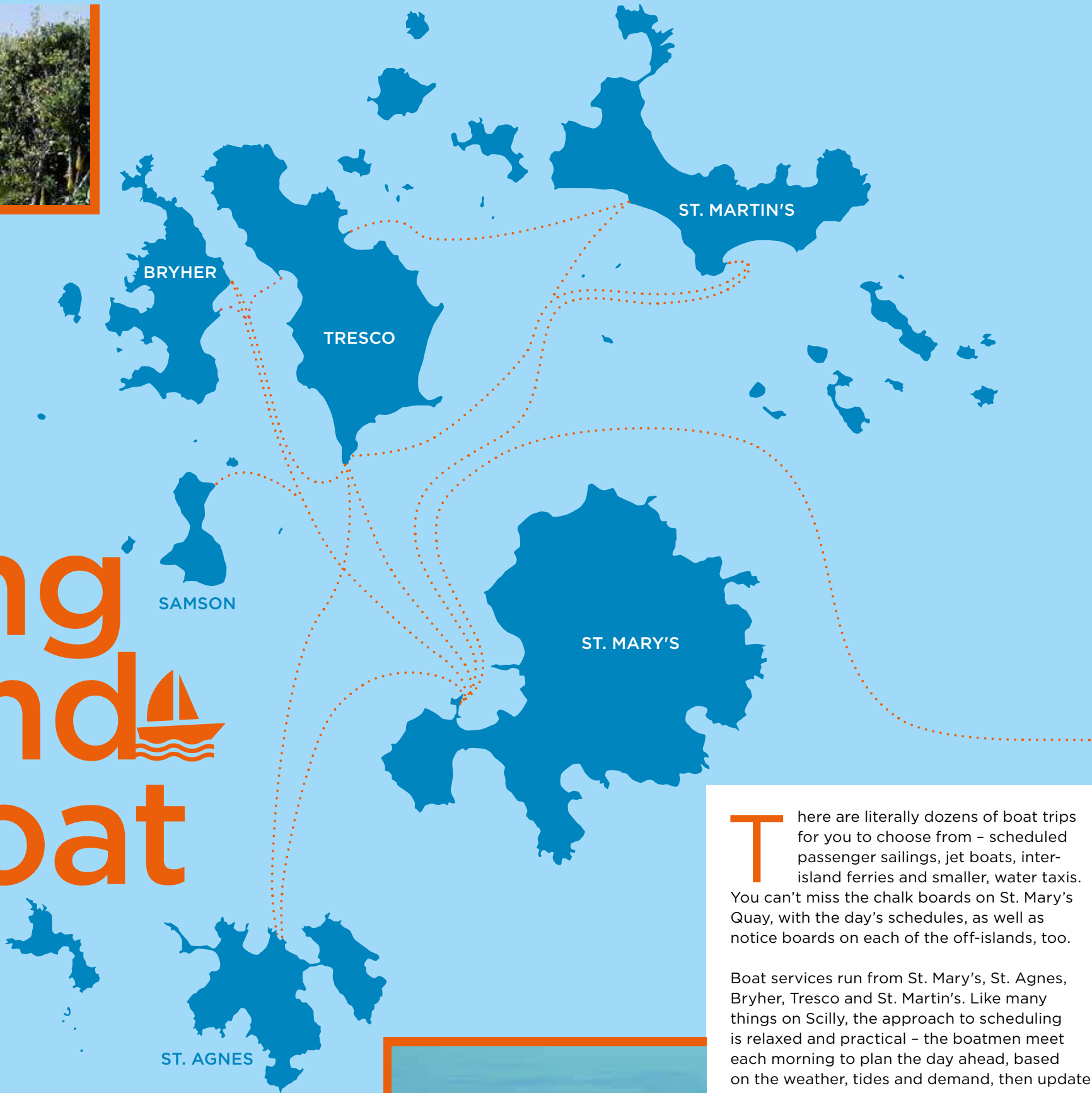
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# Getting around by boat

If you're planning to really experience Scilly, it won't be long before you want to visit the off-islands... and that means travelling with our main public transport: the local boatmen.



There are literally dozens of boat trips for you to choose from – scheduled passenger sailings, jet boats, inter-island ferries and smaller, water taxis. You can't miss the chalk boards on St. Mary's Quay, with the day's schedules, as well as notice boards on each of the off-islands, too.

Boat services run from St. Mary's, St. Agnes, Bryher, Tresco and St. Martin's. Like many things on Scilly, the approach to scheduling is relaxed and practical – the boatmen meet each morning to plan the day ahead, based on the weather, tides and demand, then update Facebook and tell the local hotels. From May until September, though, the day trip schedule from St. Mary's looks a good deal like this...

**Inter-island trips**  
The journey from St. Mary's to Carn Near on Tresco takes around 10 minutes. Travelling to St. Agnes is about 15 minutes, and other destinations, including other landing points on Tresco, are around 20 minutes.

**Circular trips**  
As well as public transport, the boatmen provide pleasure trips to see some of the islands' other highlights – like spotting puffins and seals on the uninhabited Eastern Isles. The choice of trips varies, and is greatest during high season, so keep an eye on the boards (or Facebook) before making your plans.

**Day trips from St. Mary's**  
St. Mary's Boatmen's Association provide the services shown below daily throughout the main season. However these may have to be varied because of tide, weather and numbers.

**Tresco**

St. Mary's Departures	Tresco Returns
10:00	14:15
10:15	15:45
11:15	16:45
12:15	
14:00	

**St. Agnes**

St. Mary's Departures	St. Agnes Returns
10:15	14:15
11:45	16:00
14:00	16:45

**St. Martin's**

St. Mary's Departures	St. Martin's Returns
10:15	14:30
14:00	15:45
	16:45

**Bryher (& Samson)**

St. Mary's Departures	Bryher Returns
10:15	14:30
14:00	16:45

**Island hopping (two island trip)**  
Whilst the most relaxing way to enjoy the islands is to spend a day on each one, several multi island combinations are possible.

These include Tresco and Bryher, Samson and Bryher, and Tresco and Samson. Availability of these trips will vary so please come and ask on St. Mary's Quay when on the Islands.

**Contact details**  
St. Agnes Boating operate boat services from St. Agnes contact Tel 01720 422704 or visit [www.stagnesboating.co.uk](http://www.stagnesboating.co.uk)

Tresco Boat Services operate boats from St. Martin's, Bryher and Tresco, contact 01720 423373 or visit [www.tresco.co.uk](http://www.tresco.co.uk)

**Please note** The times shown above are to illustrate the service provided and should not be taken as a timetable, as return times in particular, will vary. You will always be told the return times on the outward journey.





## CELEBRATING 40YRS OF **SCILLONIAN III**







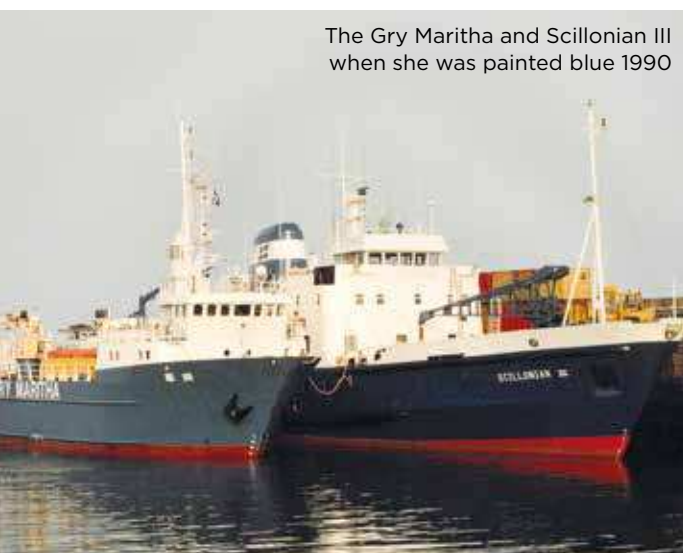
Scillonian III being built in Appledore Shipyard.



Prince Charles at the launch of Scillonian III May 1977.

## SCILLONIAN III

Passenger capacity	498
Length	68 metres
Gross Tonnage	1346
Cargo capacity	100 tonnes
Speed	15.5 knots
Approx passengers	4,500,000
Approx trips	9,000
Approx miles covered	648,000
Approx engine hours	45,000



The Gry Maritha and Scillonian III when she was painted blue 1990



Scillonian III in Scilly



The ships captain David Redgrave and purser Marcia Still



Scillonian III's loyal Engineering team



The board of directors signing the contract for Scillonian's build, 1972.

In May, the Scillonian III passenger ferry will celebrate 40 years of service, making her our longest serving passenger ship to date.

This milestone anniversary will be marked with a host of celebrations and interactive events throughout the year, including a party held on-board Scillonian in May when she's berthed in Penzance, ending with a firework display over Penzance harbour for everyone to enjoy, followed by a lunch reception hosted on-board the ship in St. Mary's in the month of June.

We will also be hosting an exhibition of Scillonian memorabilia, including photographs and souvenirs, with the display on show in both a Penzance gallery and a venue in Hugh Town on St. Mary's for members of the public to enjoy viewing for free. Plus there will be giveaways and competitions to enter – so make sure you follow us on social media and keep an eye on our website, [islesofscilly-travel.co.uk](http://islesofscilly-travel.co.uk) for details.

Company gave the vessel a major £1.5 million refit. Scillonian III has been painted in various colours over the last 40 years, starting off entirely white then transformed to blue to closer match the colours of the Gry Maritha, before the colour scheme was returned to the original white and buff in 1992.



### Scillonian III captains

**1977-1978** Harvey Thomas, **1978-2001** Paul Row, **2001-2010** David Pascoe, **2010-present** David Redgrave

The Scillonian is awash with history. She was officially launched by HRH The Duke of Cornwall, Prince Charles, on May 17th, 1977, before making her first voyage on May 25th, 1977, replacing a smaller vessel, Scillonian, which had been servicing the route for 21 years before her.

The launch ceremony was a momentous occasion for residents of the islands, staff from the Steamship Company and workmen, who greeted Prince Charles as he formally named Scillonian III, before cutting a ribbon and sending a bottle of champagne crashing against the bow of the ship.

After a tour of the vessel, the Prince revealed: "I gather the ship is so excellent it will cut half an hour off the time from Penzance to the Scilly Isles, which will please a lot of people going on their holidays." Since then, Scillonian III has made more than 9,000 return journeys to the Isles of Scilly, travelled more than 648,000 nautical miles and carried more than 4,500,000 passengers including visiting Royals, past Prime Ministers, and a myriad of celebrities. In 1998 the Isles of Scilly Steamship

There have been plenty of memorable moments on-board, in 2009 when the Scillonian III was used as part of BBC television's Top Gear challenges, with presenters Richard Hammond and James May taking on a challenge to race a letter from the Isles of Scilly to Scotland – an exciting episode to be a part of! During her 40 year history, the Scillonian III has had four Masters: Harvey Thomas was the original master from 1977 to 1978; Paul Rowe took over from 1978 until May 2001, and David Pascoe was captain of the ship from 2001 until 2010 when David Redgrave took over as Ship's Master.

Since the 1980s, the Scillonian III has supported various local groups and charities including the RNLI, Cornwall Air Ambulance, Cancer Research, the Lions Club, National Coast Watch and Children's Hospice South West, collecting donations on-board and at the bottom of the gangway. Sailing across to Scilly offers passengers a unique perspective of some of Cornwall's most iconic coastline. The journey is a great way to spot local wildlife, and is even accompanied at times by pods of dolphins.



# SCILLY UNDER CANVAS

Put off camping by the thought of leaky tents and portable toilets? We posed some questions to the Large family, regular visitors to the Garrison Campsite on St. Mary's, to see why camping is actually one of the best ways to experience Scilly — with a few modern comforts, of course.



**Q. Camping seems to involve a lot of equipment! How do you get it all to the islands?**

**A.** There's a lot of gear; we pack everything into large holdalls or plastic boxes. We hand these over to quay hands to load into containers; they're taken to the campsite for us — our gear often arrives before we do. For luggage restrictions see [islesofscilly-travel.co.uk](http://islesofscilly-travel.co.uk)

**Q. What is it about camping that you enjoy so much?**

**A.** It's easy to switch off and forget about work, while the children are free to explore the campsite, making friends and playing games. We feel we get 'more' from our holiday, and make the most of the time we have as a family.

**Q. Isn't your holiday totally ruined if it rains?**

**A.** Not at all. Of course, we'd all like it to be sunny every day, but holidaying in the UK can never guarantee that. We don't let the rain spoil things; we usually get up and get on with the day.

**Q. Is it awkward, sharing the space with kids? Are they up ridiculously early?**

**A.** It's never been a major problem for us (a reasonable size tent helps). Bed time does tend to go slightly astray, with living by the light and having new friends to play with, but it knocks them out and they normally sleep through until morning.

**Q. How do you keep clean?**

**A.** The Garrison Campsite has clothes-washing facilities available, but we use the laundrette service in Hugh Town; we drop clothes off before heading out boating and collect them on our way back.

**Q. How much cheaper is it to camp?**

**A.** Camping equipment can be expensive, but good quality and maintained equipment should last many trips. Camping also offers the flexibility of arrival and departure days, as you're not bound by changeover days or fixed durations.

**TEMPTED?  
TRY ONE OF  
THESE SITES...**



**St. Mary's**  
Garrison Campsite,  
Peninnis Farm  
Luxury Camping

**St. Agnes**  
Troytown  
Campsite

**St. Martin's**  
St. Martin's  
Campsite

**Bryher**  
Bryher  
Campsite



# Get your Scilly break off to a great start with **GWR's new sleeper service**

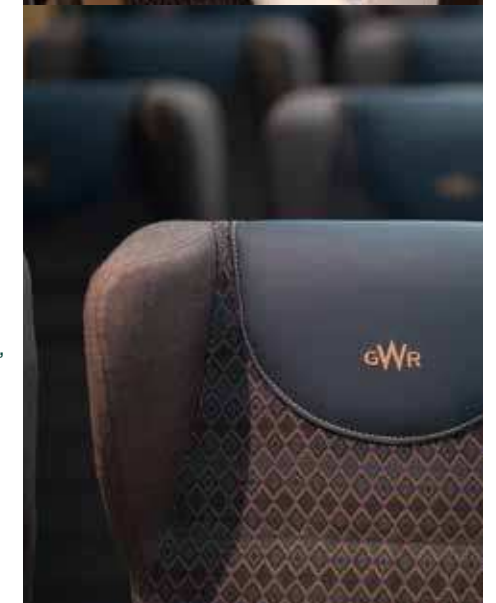


## Travellers will be able to enjoy:

- Increased number of sleeper berths and saloon seating
- Fully air-conditioned cabins with more pleasant lighting
- USB charging points as well as full-sized plug sockets
- Bunk beds with a built-in ladder for the upper bunk (twin berths only), and the bottom bunk able to convert into a sofa
- A small wardrobe, redesigned sink and integrated bedside table
- Hotel-style card keys to lock your door



- A modern, upgraded cocktail bar area with comfortable seating and open spaces
- Better accessibility for customers with reduced mobility
- Dedicated luggage areas for bikes and surfboards



A visit to the Isles of Scilly is all about escaping the stresses and strains of everyday life, and these unspoilt islands where simplicity is the order of the day prove the perfect antidote to our busy, crowded day-to-day routines.

Make a start on that precious peace and quiet and get your Scilly adventure off to the calmest and most comforting of beginnings by opting to travel to Penzance on GWR's luxurious Night Riviera sleeper service, and you'll begin your break already feeling refreshed.

The GWR sleeper service arrives into Penzance Station, from which it's an easy stroll along Penzance Quay to board the Scillonian III passenger ferry, or you can catch the Isles of Scilly Travel shuttle bus from the station bus stop for the short journey to Land's End Airport to connect with Skybus flight services.

The sleeper service is undergoing a major makeover this year, thanks to funding support from Cornwall Council, the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), in partnership with the Department for Transport, and the Night Riviera is being refurbished over the course of 2017, with the first sleeping berth carriage now in service and the project due

to complete next spring.

This major upgrade will make it even more tempting an option to board a GWR sleeper train at London Paddington, go to bed and wake up the next morning in Cornwall. Brand new cabins and lounges are being created, as well as a new cocktail bar style saloon and menus using fresh food from local suppliers wherever possible.

The cabins are being completely redesigned and refreshed to suit the modern passenger, with customer feedback helping to inform the changes. Prices for the Night Riviera are designed to offer value for money as an alternative to a traditional hotel. A single cabin starts from £60 in addition to GWR ticket price, or £70 (£35 per person) for a double cabin. This includes use of the showers at London Paddington Station and the First Class lounge, as well as a complimentary breakfast served to your cabin.

The Night Riviera runs from Paddington to Penzance 23:45-07:53, and 23:50-08:59 on Sundays. The return sleeper service runs from Penzance to Paddington 21:45-05:23 or 21:15-05:03 on Sundays (you can stay on-board until 07:00).

Find out more by visiting **gwr.com** or call **0345 7000 125**.

**Stay**  
By the night | By the week

~

**Eat**  
Ruin | New Inn | Flying Boat

~

**Enjoy**  
Abbey Garden | Spa | Gallery  
Boats | Bike Hire



**TRESCO**  
ISLAND  
WWW.TRESCO.CO.UK





### 💡 Helpful tip

If you've forgotten any of your pet's holiday essentials- contact Creature Comforts who will provide all you need to make your pets holiday comfortable and relaxed, offering blankets, special pet food and supplies; at no additional cost, just a donation to the local veterinary support group.

**Contact** Pam Manning  
**Tel** 01720 422478.



# An island adventure for **you** and **your pet**

**T**he Isles of Scilly are famous for their outstanding beauty, white sandy beaches and crystal clear waters but they are also a haven for dog lovers. Think long coastal walks, paddling in the shallows and evenings curled up in front of the fire. With most of the beaches, being dog friendly and miles of countryside walking, It's the perfect dog friendly holiday destination. And whether you choose to sail or fly, your pet can travel right by your side!

Pets can travel on Skybus from Newquay and Land's End airport in our Twin Otter aircrafts, you can rest assured that your pet will travel in safety and comfort in our RSPCA

approved animal carrier. Our Skybus flights take just 20 minutes from Land's End and 30 minutes from Newquay Airports.

There are lots of places to explore on the islands with your dog, Pelistry and Bar Point beach on St. Mary's are accessible to dogs all year round. The main town beaches - Town beach, Porthcressa and Porthmelon have seasonal bans through April-October. All of the neighbouring off-islands are dog friendly but on Tresco dogs need to be kept on a lead at all times and cannot stay.

The pubs on Scilly are happy to welcome dogs on leads, there are other dog friendly establishments

too- Carn Vean tearoom, Juliet's Garden restaurant and the Country Guesthouse, along with many more. You'll notice in most places, there's a water bowl available for your four legged friends.

One of the many joys about a holiday on the Isles of Scilly is experiencing 'island hopping', to get between the five inhabited islands (and countless uninhabited on a chartered trip) you'll need to catch a boat.

Dogs are welcomed on all of the island boats, you'll notice most of the boatmen have their own faithful sea dog by their side. Your pet will love the joy of hopping on and off boats and travelling between the islands.

*Karma*  
ST. MARTIN'S  
ISLES OF SCILLY, UK



## Reasons Why Karma St. Martin's is Your Dog's Best Friend



You're busily packing for a much-anticipated getaway; fizzing with excitement about new pastures and adventures (and a respite from 6am alarms!). Except there's a pair of big sad eyes right by your suitcase asking where you're going. Somehow it just doesn't seem right to leave a beloved family member behind while you enjoy all the benefits of a well-earned rest.

In the past, taking your dog away with you on holiday often meant being cooped up together in a lacklustre caravan park or bare-boned B&B. This couldn't be further from the truth at Karma St. Martin's. That's because this hotel is one of the new pure breed of luxury hotels that goes the extra distance to make your four-legged friend feel every bit as welcome as you are. In fact, we'd go so far as to say they're the Leader of the Pack!

Karma St. Martin's has been voted among the 'Top 10 Dog Friendly Hotels in the UK' and Cornwall Tourism presented the hotel with a 'Best Dog Friendly Business Award' in 2016; fast-tracking the hotel to the 2017 South West and National Finals.

### *Here's how the team at Karma St. Martin's roll out the red carpet for their canine guests:*

- 4-legged guests are immediately welcomed with a VIP (Very Important Pet) registration form, a welcome treat, bowls, and blankets
- You can spoil them with tempting treats from the canine-friendly menu - (Posh Dog's Crunch or Royal Dog's Dinner anyone?) - prepared by "Karma's Kanine Kitchen"

- The pet-loving team can provide dog-sitting services whilst their human companions enjoy a nourishing therapy at the soulful Karma spa or befriend the local seal colony on a snorkeling trip.
- 'Walkies' are an intrinsic part of any stay at Karma St. Martin's. Perfectly appointed on 2.8 hectares of sloping terrain, the beaches on St. Martin's are just a ball's throw away from the hotel and are open to dogs all year round.
- Dogs get the exhilarating freedom of being off-leash. St. Martin's absence of major roads and noisy cars means neither of you need worry about traffic disturbing your peace and safety as you amble freely around the island
- Enjoy an Access All Areas Pass. Pampered pooches accustomed to living in the lap of luxury can rest easy knowing that they may accompany their human into the hotel's sumptuous guestrooms, restaurant and wine bar
- The knowledgeable Front Office team guides our guests on the best transport options when travelling with a pet, be it by land, sea or air. They will also check availability of the RSPCA-approved animal boxes on the local Skybus airplanes

So, why not join the growing legion of canny dog owners who are taking their best friend away on holiday and book your next 'pooch perfect' stay at Karma St. Martin's. With the majestic natural setting, brilliant creature comforts and pet perks, they'll have both of you feeling like Top Dog.

Book now at [www.karmastmartins.com](http://www.karmastmartins.com) or speak to the friendly reservation team on [st.martins@karmaresorts.com](mailto:st.martins@karmaresorts.com) or Toll Free: +44 3 333 232 353

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f KarmaStMartins

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WE CREATE... EXPERIENCES



# What's on Scilly 2017

There's lots to do on the Isles of Scilly. With foodie feasts, world championship qualifiers, folk festivals and walking festivals. *We've pulled together a list of island events so you can start planning your time on Scilly. For more information on all local events, please see [www.visitislesofscilly.com/events](http://www.visitislesofscilly.com/events)*

## May

### Scilly Swim Challenge

20th May

Starting at sunrise 150 swimmers will attempt to swim around six islands in one day. That's a total of 15km in the water and 10km on foot. Another event takes place in September at a more leisurely two-day pace and in slightly warmer sea temperatures!

### Low Tide Event\*

27th May

At certain times of the year, Scilly experiences a spectacularly low tide revealing a sandbar between the islands of Treasco and Bryher. Treasco island holds a pop up mini festival at these times of the year with a prosecco and shellfish bar in the middle!

### Scilly Folk Festival

25th-30th May

A long weekend of music, song and dance featuring some of the best folk music from Scilly and the South West.

### Tresco Beer Festival

26th-30th May

## June

### Scilly Laughs Festival

10th-13th June

Four days, four islands and plenty of entertainment.

### Tresco Triathlon

11th June

A sprint-distance triathlon – a 12-mile cycle ride and 3 mile run finishing at the New Inn, Treasco.

### Otillo Swim Run event

17th-18th June

The swim-run world series returns for its second year to the islands. Ranked as one of the toughest endurance races in the world, the course covers 45km, land and sea! Hear all about last year's event from the winners of the race on page 14.

### Tresco Cider Festival

23rd-27th June

A lively celebration of local ciders and scrumpy, with live music over the weekend.

### Low Tide Event\*

25th June

## July

### St. Agnes Fete

30 July

St. Agnes Fete is loved for its live music and family friendly atmosphere. With tombola, welly-wanging and bric-a-brac stalls, it's a wonderful way to while away a few hours with the kids.

## August

### A Summers Daymark

5th August

The inaugural one-day festival in the sunshine by the beach. St. Martin's.



### Bryher Fete

6th and 20th August

This is the fete for foodies. Each year there's a bit of a competition as the locals attempt to outdo one another with their cake creations. It's the perfect place to pick up a little souvenir of your trip.

### St. Martin's Fete

20th August

St. Martin's fete is bags of fun and perfect for outdoorsy types. Put a bet on the human fruit machine, or slide down an enormous water slide onto the beach. Afterwards, tuck in to some delicious locally sourced burgers at the grand BBQ.

### The New Inn Summer Ale Festival

25th-29th August

Relax at the New Inn, listening to fine musicians and enjoy up to 30 different ales.

## September



### Taste of Scilly

Throughout September

A vibrant month-long celebration of the islands' best local produce. Look out for masterclasses, demonstrations and talks... or simply enjoy Scilly's abundance of food and drink delights.

### Scilly Swim Challenge

2nd-6th September

The second Scilly Swim Challenge of the year.

## October

### St. Martin's Film Festival

5th-8th October

St. Martin's film festival, a fun and relaxed few days of independent films shown in an outdoor setting.



### Walk Scilly

12th-16th October

The smaller autumn version of the earlier Walk Scilly event covers the five islands and a series of walking extravaganzas.

\*Please check weather and tide conditions before crossing. You can contact Treasco Boat Service (01720 423373) or the Island Office (01720 422849). Never attempt to walk across in mist, fog or poor visibility.

# #MyScilly

For some, it's the simplicity of island life and the return to a more peaceful pace, whilst others adore the near-deserted stretches of unspoilt white sandy beaches bordering crystal-clear, azure waters, which look exactly like the Caribbean yet lie just 28 miles away from Cornwall.

Many come back time and again for the wildlife, and the famous flora and fauna which is in abundance on the Isles of Scilly which creates magical havens like Treasco's Abbey Gardens, and outcrops around St. Agnes and St. Mary's where puffins and seals can be found.

Others treat Scilly like an adventure playground for adults, enjoying the great outdoors by kayaking, sailing, swimming, cycling or just walking the myriad footpaths, nature trails and coastal routes.

Foodies devour the freshly caught fish and shellfish landed only minutes away, and brought to their plate accompanied by island-grown fresh produce, and families rejoice in the calm, friendly and safe environment which offers the ideal holiday destination.

### But what's YOUR Scilly?

This year, Isles of Scilly Travel has been working alongside Visit Isles of Scilly, the official tourist board for the islands, on a destination-focused campaign called MyScilly, aimed at telling the stories of islanders and visitors alike, and showcasing what makes Scilly special for them.

### So what's YOUR Scilly?

We'd love to know – post your favourite memory of an Isles of Scilly holiday, or photos and stories about what you love about the Isles of Scilly, to Facebook, Twitter or Instagram with the hashtag #MyScilly



## Island regulars Roger and Patsy Manning tell their #MyScilly story.

Roger and Patsy Manning first visited the Isles of Scilly in 1979 and have returned every year since, sometimes even twice a year.

“ We tend to stay over at a B&B in Penzance, so we are up early ready to board the Scillonian ferry and make the most of the day. We've been extremely lucky with the weather on recent visits, enjoying excellent crossings and arriving on time to St. Mary's in beautiful sunshine.



We try to explore new restaurants and places when we visit Scilly, but there are also a number of places we have grown to love over the years, and which we have to visit every trip.

Our first evening is always spent in The Galley restaurant on St. Mary's, where we always have an excellent meal which never disappoints.

A trip is never complete without hopping on a boat and visiting Treasco Abbey Gardens. If we're lucky, we'll see one of the red squirrels scamper around the tables whilst we enjoy a coffee.

An off-island we visit each year is St. Agnes – it was an island slow to reveal its charms to us, but we've really grown to love St. Agnes over the years.



We wander up to the Coastguard Café for a coffee and sit overlooking the Western Rocks, where so many ships have floundered over the centuries with the loss of thousands of lives. It's a must when visiting St. Agnes to enjoy an ice cream from Troy Town Farm. Delicious, as always!

Friends used to wonder why we go back to Scilly year after year, only to realise exactly why we do as soon as they visited the islands themselves.”





# Paddle power

We've caught up with Erin Bastain, blogger and outdoor adventurer to hear about her experiences of Kayaking around Scilly...

FOR MORE INFO VISIT  
[www.erinbastain.com](http://www.erinbastain.com)

## HOW DIFFICULT IS IT TO GET YOUR KAYAKING KIT OVER TO SCILLY?

It's actually really simple to take your kayak to Scilly. You can book your kayak via [islesofscilly-travel.co.uk](http://islesofscilly-travel.co.uk) or you can call and speak to the booking office to get a spot for your boat on-board Scillonian III. In the morning of departure all you need to do is carry your kayak to the end of the quay in Penzance. The Scillonian crew are really used to managing kayaks.

## WHEN'S THE BEST TIME OF YEAR TO GO?

For me I like to travel places just out of season. May and September are my favourite months because it is a little quiet and the weather is still usually very settled. The Isles of Scilly can be kayaked all year round, but summer is the obvious time.

## HOW MUCH KAYAK EXPERIENCE DO YOU NEED?

The beauty of the Islands is there is nearly always a sheltered bay to explore, regardless of the weather. Sometimes you might have to catch one of the water taxis to find the

best spot to explore for the day but there are always options. The archipelago offers unforgettable paddling to both experts and novices alike.

It's an amazing place to have your first kayaking experience. I can't think of a place that will get you hooked on kayaking more than the sandy shores, and wildlife rich waters between the Islands. If your wanting to learn or unsure of where to paddle then a local guide is highly advised.

Not only will they have great safety experience, but they can show you all the delights, that only local paddlers will truly know about.

The tides and weather really can add a little extra excitement to a days paddling, you'll need to be experienced and feel confident to venture out around the outer islands.

## DO YOU SEE MUCH WILDLIFE?

The wildlife around the Isles of Scilly is abundant. Famous for it's birdwatching, little garden birds seem to fear no human, and will

happily sit upon your hand and eat seeds directly from your palm.

The sea birds which breed in huge numbers are of the same nature. The islands are a relatively safe haven for them to nest, and in June and July the skies around the outer islands are teeming with busy breeding birds. My favourite by far are the puffins, tiny colourful creatures, clumsy in the air, but at home atop the waves.

From a kayak you get to experience the wildlife from a completely different angle. The kayaks glide so silently through the water you can enjoy close encounters with seals basking in the sunshine and curious dolphins.

## IS IT VERY TIRING? DO YOU NEED TO BE FIT?

Not at all. For the past 8 years I have guided kayaking trips for all ages and abilities, from 90yr old grandma's to 5 year olds. No matter what your age or ability there is a type of kayaking that you will love. You get to choose whether you prefer gently exploring

the coastline or taking on exciting ocean swells. You don't need to be super fit to enjoy kayaking, you just explore at your own pace. It's all about being on the water, enjoying the scenery and wildlife in a way that suits you.

## HAVE YOU BEEN KAYAKING IN MANY PLACES? HOW DOES SCILLY COMPARE?

Kayaking has taken me all over the world. It's allowed me to explore remote fjords of Patagonia, circumnavigate 3 of the Mediterranean's largest Islands, and has even taken me on month long expedition within arctic Norway.

The Scilly's is right up there in my most incredible paddling places. The crystal-clear waters, wildlife and islands have so much to offer, I'll never get bored of exploring this magical archipelago.

## WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT A KAYAK HOLIDAY ON SCILLY?

For me its the crystal clear water. Kayaking over shallow banks

and looking down between the seaweed. Spotting starfish, and crabs scuttling around on the sea bottom. The brown leathery kelp sway beneath your kayak like an underwater jungle, even seeing seals swim bellow your boat.

You get to pull up on deserted white beaches for lunch, and camp on a different island every night.

Each Island seems to have its very own character, and the locals really are super friendly. Life seems to move at a slower pace on the islands and you can enjoy island life like nowhere else.

## ANY SECRET KAYAKING SPOTS YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE - OR OTHER TIPS FOR A BEGINNER?

My advice is to take the plunge and book onto a sea kayaking tour. See the Isles of Scilly from a entirely unique angle.

The weather doesn't have to be perfect either, remember kayaking is a water sport, and sometimes if you can't beat the rain, join it.



## PENZANCE: MORE THAN A QUICK STOP

Whether you're just starting your trip to the Isles of Scilly, or you're on your way home, don't rush away from Penzance too quickly; it's the perfect place to grab a bite or spend an hour exploring.

We quite understand the urge to spend as much of your time on Scilly as you can - but if you've never spent time in Penzance (apart from embarking and disembarking Scillonian), you're missing out.

After all, the town was featured in the New York Times' '52 Places to Visit in 2017' alongside Madrid, Calabria and the Maldives. And call us biased, but we think the accolade is well-deserved.

Quite aside from its great places to stay, and growing list of highly-regarded restaurants, Penzance has no shortage of interesting ways to spend the time - like the mysterious Egyptian House, run by the National Trust, and Branwell House, a former home of the Bronte sisters.

If the Abbey Garden is high on your list when you're on Scilly, you'll enjoy its smaller sibling, Penzance's sub-tropical Morrab Gardens. And of course there are the art galleries, and the recently-restored Art Deco-inspired lido, Jubilee Pool, right next to the quay.

All that's before we even mention how close you are to Mousehole - and don't tell us you've never looked at St Michael's Mount, out in the bay, and wondered what it's like to climb up to the castle. There's a tidal causeway across from Marazion - just a walk away.

If you don't know Penzance well, it's worth making a little time in your journey to explore - and find out why the New York Times thinks it's 'having a moment'.



# Keep Scilly wild and beautiful

64% of the islands are looked after by just one charity. Read on to find out more about the Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust.

The Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust is a local, independent charity which looks after more than 60% of the islands (just under 2000 hectares – that's around 1333 football pitches!), leased from the Duchy of Cornwall on a 99 year fully repairing and insuring lease. This includes the inhabited and uninhabited islands, both marine and terrestrial habitats; most of which are open and accessible for everyone to enjoy all year around.

The Trust is managed by a board of nine Trustees and on a day to day basis the work of the Trust is delivered by a dedicated island based staff team of six. Yes, that's just six people looking after 1333 Gorse coated, Bracken and Bramble enveloped, Pittosporum encroaching football pitches!

Our team of three Rangers (Rob, Darren H and Rhianna) and Head Ranger (Darren M) are 'out in the field' in all weather's completing the conservation, management and maintenance work set out in the Trust's Management Plan and Work Programme. Our CEO (Sarah) and Communications Officer (Nikki) are office based and ensure that the charity is run smoothly and efficiently.

The majority of the work which we complete is financed through time-limited grant funding (90% of our income). Consequently, a large proportion of this work is very targeted with specific outcomes; examples of this are the conservation work that we carry out on the uninhabited islands.

Managing, restoring and maintaining habitats to encourage continued breeding of ground and burrow nesting birds or the management of invasive plant species such as Pittosporum, Gorse, Bracken and Bramble, since the cessation of grazing, to recreate and manage the habitats needed for our smaller, rarer plant species and animals to thrive, i.e. the Dwarf pansy, Orange birds-foot and the Least adders tongue.

The remaining 10% of funding comes from membership, donations and legacies and allows us to carry out what is often considered by our local community and visitors the more visible and 'valuable' work; i.e. beach cleans, path clearance and ongoing maintenance of facilities like the boardwalks and bird hides.

Find more information visit [www.ios-wildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.ios-wildlifetrust.org.uk) or follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

## The Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust in numbers...

### 63 miles

Paths cut and cleared in 2016. That's from Scilly to Lands' End and back and a little bit more.

### 127m

New recycled plastic board walk laid in 2015 at Lower and Higher Moors saving 127,000 bottles from landfill!

### 18 sites

New archaeological sites uncovered. These join the 14 sites we already maintain on a yearly basis.

### 500kg

Nearly half a ton of marine debris removed from beaches on Scilly at our organised beach cleans.

### 1000 people

Engaged with our activities in 2016 including rockpool rambles, guided walks, beachcleans and wildlife safaris.



# ROCKPOOL GUIDE

Discover more about the wildlife that lives on the coast using our rockpooling guide.

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



9



10



## CARING FOR THE ROCKPOOLS

Put live animals back where you find them.  
Never pull plants or animals off the rocks that like to be stuck there.  
Always replace overturned rocks – they are someone's home.  
If you put crabs or fish in a bucket, only keep them for a short time before they get too warm. And make sure they don't eat each other!  
Take your litter home with you or put it in a bin.

## KEY

1. Shore crab
2. Blue Jellyfish
3. Flat periwinkle
4. Bird footprints
5. Beadlet Anemone
6. Rock Goby
7. Seven Armed Starfish
8. Snakelocks Anemone
9. Dog Whelk
10. Shrimp

Photos Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust

## Fay Page

### Handmade jewellery from Scilly



We make jewellery that is worn across Scilly, the UK and beyond. It all started in a tiny shed 14 years ago with a simple Scilly shell collection and we've grown each year to include several ranges.

Our work is inspired by our island home and everything is made here in our workshop by the sea.

[www.faypage.co.uk](http://www.faypage.co.uk)

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Lower Town St Martin's Isles of Scilly

Last orders for Christmas 2017, December 12th



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## Scilly's postal flower service

The perfect gift for an occasion



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# A little slice of Scilly

Whether you're after a memento of your holiday or a special slice of Scilly to share with friends or family, we've got just the thing...



1

### 1. SC Salt

SC Salt is simply made from the sea and the sun on the Isles of Scilly. Hand made Sea Salt from the crystal clear waters of St. Martin's Par. Available locally and online. [www.sc-salt.co.uk](http://www.sc-salt.co.uk)

### 2. Give the gift of Scilly

Whether it's a big birthday or congratulations are in order, why not let your friends in on the Scilly secret? Call 01736 334220 to buy an Isles of Scilly Travel gift voucher.



3

### 3. Fay Page - jewellers

Inspired by hours of shell searching and beachcombing on Scilly's beaches. Made from solid silver these treasures won't turn to sand in your pockets and will last a lifetime. Visit their St. Martin's workshop or website for a lovely Scilly memento. [www.faypage.co.uk](http://www.faypage.co.uk)

### 4. Scilly Billy

Get your Scilly on this summer! Scilly Billy offer a range of T-shirts, hoodies and bags which embody the charm, fun and characters of the Isles of Scilly. Which one are you? Scilly Billy the salty old sea goat, Scilly Moo the very silly cow or Scilly Ass the prankster pirate donkey? St. Martin's Pop-up shop (opening May), or [www.scillybilly.com](http://www.scillybilly.com)

### 5. Scenic flights

Climb aboard our Skybus Britten Norman Islander aircraft for a spectacular, aerial perspective of West Cornwall's most famous landmarks. It could be a special anniversary or birthday treat, or simply the high point of a holiday. [www.islesofscilly-travel/scenicflights](http://www.islesofscilly-travel/scenicflights)



5

### 6. Scilly Flowers

Scilly's postal flower service sending gift boxes of scented flowers all year round to any UK postal address. [www.scillyflowers.co.uk](http://www.scillyflowers.co.uk)

### 7. In the bag

Carry your holiday memories close with our handy jute bags. What's your favourite colour? Choose between vibrant blue or red. Available on-board Scillonian III or at Land's End Airport.



2



4



6



7



# Get your walking shoes on

There's nothing better than exploring Scilly at your own pace and under your own steam, we've caught up with an island resident and a regular visitor to share their favourite Scilly routes.

## FASCINATE THE KIDS

Lower Moors Nature Trail, St. Mary's

by Jane Morris, regular visitor.

The walk I would like to take you on is perfect for those tiny legs and avid imaginations!

When my children were small our favourite walk on Scilly was down the hill from Hugh Town to Old Town and back along the Lower Moors Nature Trail. We would start at Buzza Tower – just above Porthcressa beach, it's always a good place for hide and seek!

Round and round they would go hiding on the inset benches – forgetting quickly the sharp climb from Porthcressa to get up there!



Then continue down the hill past Old Town church on your right, worth a wonder through then onto Old Town

beach- popular with the locals. It's a very safe beach, great when the tide is out as it has lots of little pools to explore. There is a lovely café just off the beach, good for hot chocolate and ice cream!

Turning left alongside the café is the Lower Moors nature trail winding its way along boarded walkways, they have a satisfying 'bounce' as you walk, that the children loved.

As you near the end there is a little bridge over murky bracken water, surrounded by a mini forest of gnarled bracken trees. The children's grandfather convinced my three there were trolls living

in there, they loved reaching this part of the walk- a little fear but mainly excitement drove them on!

Turning left as you reach the road and a small hill takes you back towards Hugh Town dropping down past Porthmellon beach and back to the Strand, passing the Dairy for more ice cream.

In total with little legs and buggies, this walk would be an easy stroll about an hour and a half depending on motivation and the size of the walkers. It's easy for pushchairs – watch out if it's been wet – there used to be a huge puddle on lower Moors Trail!

## GUIDED BY THE TIDES

St. Agnes to Gugh

by John Peacock, Partner St. Agnes Boating.

Between St. Agnes and Gugh is the sand bar, one of the nicest beaches in Scilly. It's possible to walk across the sandbar at about half tide. Your boatman will be able to advise when it's safe to do so.

Turning right onto the sandy path you pass the two dutch style houses built by William Cooper in the 1920's. Take the right fork just past the houses onto the coast path. The path heads south and there are great views across to St. Agnes.

On the end of Gugh is the Hakestone, the local "rites of passage rock", you may see

local teenagers leaping off into the deep blue Atlantic. The path now heads east towards Cuckolds Cairn. During the breeding season, there are nesting gulls on your left on the English Civil War Cairn of Works battery so please keep to the path.

Under your feet, Manx Shearwaters burrow to lay their solitary egg before returning to the South Atlantic for our winter.

Past Cuckold's Cairn the path heads North and passes Droptose. This is a perfect double horseshoe bay and its probably the quietest beach on Scilly.

Don't forget to look for the Scillonian every lunchtime as it passes on it way into St. Mary's which can be seen across the water. On the

heather above Droptose is the Old Man of Gugh.



The standing stone dates back to prehistoric times and is the end of a lay line that

links to Stonehenge. The path continues up the hill and several Bronze Age Cairns can be seen.

At the top of Kittern Hill there is a fabulous view of the archipelago from St. Mary's in the East and the Western Rocks and the Bishop Rock Lighthouse in the West. The path goes steeply downhill here so be careful not to lose your footing.

Halfway back towards the houses on the West side of Gugh is a Path the leads up to to Obadiah's Barrow entrance grave excavated in 1901 by George Bonsor.

On a path to the right just above is the Carn Villa entrance grave. Returning the way you came back down the hill leads you back to the houses and the sand bar.

## A WORLD APART ... but not a world away



The 16th century Star Castle Hotel is steeped in history and set in 4 acres of sub-tropical gardens commanding breathtaking views of the archipelago. It is a gourmet hotel, known best for its two award-winning restaurants featuring local crab and lobster caught by the Francis family's own fishing boat.

STAR CASTLE HOTEL  
ISLES OF SCILLY

tel: 01720 422317

email: [info@star-castle.co.uk](mailto:info@star-castle.co.uk)

[www.star-castle.co.uk](http://www.star-castle.co.uk)

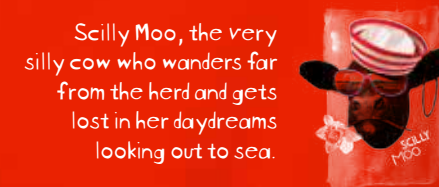
St. Mary's Isles of Scilly TR21 0JA

## Get your Scilly on!

### Which one are you?



Scilly Billy, the salty old sea goat who entertains his kids and grandkids with stories of smugglers, pirates and adventures on the high seas.



Scilly Moo, the very silly cow who wanders far from the herd and gets lost in her daydreams looking out to sea.



Scilly Ass, who fancies himself as Captain Jack Sparrow but hasn't quite got the brains and wit to pull it off.





# TEE OFF ON SCILLY

**WITH ITS NINE-HOLE LAYOUT, THE ISLES OF SCILLY GOLF CLUB IS EASILY PLAYABLE ON A DAY TRIP TO SCILLY.**

Playing the most South Westerly course is fun – but its real trump card is the location – where else in the world can you play golf with the view of a whole archipelago? You'll find The Isles of Scilly Golf Club on St. Mary's, about a fifteen-minute walk from Hugh Town; it sits above Porthloo hamlet just beyond the famous Juliet's Garden café. It's a friendly club, where visitors are very welcome.

Like lots of places on Scilly, the golf club uses an honesty box system, so you can just pitch up and put your green fee (and club rental, if you need it) in the box.

You may not need a golf buggy to get around the short 9-hole course, just a precise aim, as the course has evolved between the cliffs, heathland and the sea. Unusually, it's maintained by the club's members; one looks after the greens, and the others adopt a bunker each.

Try not to let the view put you off your swing: the course looks out, most notably at sunset, to the two Samson peaks and over to Tresco and St. Martin's directly in front. To the left is Hugh Town, the Garrison and, beyond that, St. Agnes and Bishop Rock lighthouse.

## THE ISLES OF SCILLY GOLF CLUB IN NUMBERS

**DESIGNED**  
1904

**YARDS**  
5898

**HOLES**  
9 (18 TEES)

**PAR**  
73

**GREEN FEES**  
9 HOLES £16  
18 HOLES £20

**CLUB HIRE**  
£8

**CONTACT**  
01720 422692

## “IT'S A VERY HAPPY CLUB...”

**SUE AND TONY MAJOR (A BEGINNER AND AN EXPERIENCED PLAYER) ARE LOCAL RESIDENTS AND REGULAR GOLFERS ON SCILLY. WE ASKED THEM FOR THE INSIDE GOSSIP ON THE COURSE:**

### WHAT'S THE CLUB LIKE?

Everybody is welcome. It's a really friendly place that encourages all ages and abilities. There are a lot of female players; it's really social we all get together twice a week to play. It's a course that's very kind to beginners and also to experienced match players. There's no dress code – just smart casual.

### WHEN'S THE BEST TIME TO PLAY?

Early morning or evening for a spectacular atmosphere and views. Spring and autumn are quieter than the summer.

### WHAT'S THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE ON THE COURSE?

Well... it's an exposed course, so strong winds can make play especially difficult. Keep an eye on the weather.

### HOW FEASIBLE IS IT TO PLAY DURING A DAY TRIP?

Very, as it's a 9-hole course and you can play as an 18 tee. It's around a 15-20-minute walk from Hugh Town and a fairly steep hill to reach the club, so it's worth taking a taxi – especially if you're an older player.

### DO I NEED TO BRING MY OWN CLUBS?

You can, or there are clubs to hire from the club. There's an honesty box system: you put a donation in the box by the little green hut. You can hire golf buggies if you need them.

### ANY INSIDER TIPS TO HELP ME GET A GOOD SCORE?

Sue says: “Tony tells me not to worry about getting in the rough; just hit it out onto the fairway, and then aim for a good clear shot next time. Everyone's friendly, so you can always ask for advice on the day.”

### AND IF YOU'RE NOT A GOLFER?

No problem. The clubhouse has its own bistro, so you can enjoy those same views – not to mention lunch, dinner, or a drink – in a much more relaxed way, while the enthusiasts are out on the course.

**“THE GOLF COURSE ON ST. MARY'S IS STUNNING. THE COURSE HAS VIEWS THAT RIVAL SOME OF THE BEST IN THE WORLD. I CAN'T WAIT TO PLAY AGAIN HERE IN THE SUMMER.”**

Grant Betty, visitor



# Tregarthen's Hotel & Cottages

## The Past, Present & Future of



### Contact us

**Tel** 01720 422540

**Email** [info@tregarthens-hotel.co.uk](mailto:info@tregarthens-hotel.co.uk)

**Or just pop in on St. Mary's.**

Guests at Tregarthen's Hotel on St. Mary's take their place in the heart of life on the Isles of Scilly. The history of the hotel is intertwined with that of the islands themselves and it has played a special role in establishing the Isles of Scilly as the desirable holiday destination that it is today.

During the mid-nineteenth century there was no regular transport between the islands and the mainland, but in 1849 the islanders provided a sloop, the *Ariadne*, to run a connecting service to Cornwall skippered by Captain Frank Tregarthen. It could take a day or two to make the trip.

Between 1849 and 1858, Captain Tregarthen and his three daughters opened up the family home at the foot of the Garrison Hill to paying guests thus establishing Tregarthen's as the first hotel on the Isles of Scilly.

It was rumoured that he took advantage of his conflict of interest, in running the only hotel on the islands, and would not declare it safe to set sail on the return journey until all his provisions were depleted and he had nothing left to sell to his guests! (A tradition that we are reassured no longer continues!)

In 1859 the steamer 'The Little Western' replaced the *Ariadne*, allowing visitors to now make the crossing from Penzance in only 4 hours, with a service about 3 times per week all year round.

Captain Tregarthen ran the service until 1870, with a crew of 5, when ownership was passed over to the West Cornwall Steam Ship Company. The logo of Tregarthen's Hotel still features an image of the *Little Western*, in memory of the service she gave to the Isles of Scilly.

Lord Alfred Tennyson is said to have penned 'Enoch Arden' during his stay here, which was published in 1864 during his time as Poet Laureate and novelist Wilkie Collins stayed for a night in 1855. During the Victorian era, tourism to Scilly became more popular, especially after the completion of the Cornwall Railway link from Penzance to London, in 1859.

During the First World War, Tregarthen's Hotel was commandeered by the Admiralty and acted as a Ward Room for officers stationed there. In the present day, Tregarthen's Hotel is still central to the hospitality and tourism industry on the Isles of Scilly. The hotel provides 32 hotel rooms, popular terrace, restaurant and bar with panoramic views across the water.

Under new ownership from 2015, the new vision for Tregarthen's is to develop it further into a hub for great hospitality, to include up to 12 self-catering cottages for family holidays, a landscaped sea view garden for outside dining and a programme of refurbishment over the next few years for all rooms. Four of these cottages are available for the 2017 season.



**TREGARTHEN'S**  
ST MARY'S ISLES OF SCILLY

[www.tregarthens-hotel.co.uk](http://www.tregarthens-hotel.co.uk)