

13 Balmoral Road, Portree, Isle of Skye, IV51 9DX// e info@skyeadventure.co.uk//t 07818 884 609 or 07785 962 391

CLIMBING

What to expect from your day

We will usually meet or journey together to arrive at our starting point for 9am. The day will always start by checking that your goals for the day are still the same. We will then discuss the plan, check weather conditions, your kit rock and then get ready for a great adventure.

We will have a short walk (5 mins) or long (2 hours!) approach to the climbing during which your guide will be trying to get to know you and find out your level of experience/fitness/knowledge. This is an important process as it allows us to pick the right strategy for the day and choose useful routes for you to enjoy/learn on or to get you out of your comfort zone on!

We pause for quick lunches so that we can get the most out of the day for you, unless it is really hot weather of course! The day usually finishes around 5pm and we love going to a pub/cafe for a chat about the day's adventures afterwards.

Where we climb

The Cuillin is the place to climb when the sun is out, Sron na Ciche is one of the best places in the world to experience rock climbing-every route is more dramatic than the last. At first glance the face looks quite uniform but as you get closer its full complexity of towers, slabs, gullies and cracks is revealed. The pick of the routes here, such as Cioch West and Arrow route take you to the airy perch of the Cioch itself but there are other classics such as Amphitheatre Arete and Shangri La that take in other parts of this magnificent cliff.

When you fancy a quicker fix, then Neist point is the place to go, both sea cliffs offer a great mix of routes on gorgeous dolerite. Neist has short routes, long routes, cracks, slabs and even the Green Lady pinnacle is an adventure out of all proportion to its height, the abseil off the seaward face will have you spinning like a spider! The short routes south of the steps are a great place to hone technique while Poverty point offers a chance to climb in solitude above the sea while keeping an eye out for Minke Whales or Basking Sharks.

The best routes at Flodigarry all involve an abseil in and then climbing back out on dark, sea washed rock of the highest quality that gradually changes to a browner, slabbier texture. You can see a spectacular sea cave that runs behind the main crag and it has one of the most bizarre looking climbs on Skye that follows a narrow pillar that spans the cave mouth. This is a special place out of sight of all roads and buildings with grand views along the sea cliffs north and south with a great vista to Rona and Torridon beyond.

We also climb at Staffin, a relaxed place with good views and short approaches where you can concentrate solely on scaling various interesting bits of rock! There is a grand view across the bay to the Quiraing and the rock is short, sweet and has plenty of variety-a great place for families wanting to climb together.

What to bring

Good outdoor clothing-waterproofs, warm clothing, hat/gloves.

A packed lunch, and something to drink.

If you have any climbing kit of your own please bring it but we will provide all climbing gear-shoes, harnesses, helmets, ropes and all hardware.

Bad Weather

We will try and run climbing whatever the weather -our extensive local knowledge means that we usually find a dry option. If this is not possible then we will either rearrange to a mutually convenient date or provide a refund, minus the deposit.