



**SHETLAND
WOOL
ADVENTURES**

KNITTING & HIKING IN SHETLAND



DISCOVER SHETLAND HERITAGE & KNIT WITH LOCAL EXPERTS

INTRODUCTION

This tour includes a combination of some of the finest coastal walks in Shetland with some of the best local guides and knitting classes led by expert Shetland tutors. It truly is a great opportunity to explore Shetland in an authentic way and relaxed pace.

My tours are designed to give an insight into Shetland's knitting traditions and local textile industry. Each trip offers a carefully planned blend of workshops and classes aimed at opening up the world of Shetland knitting, with walks and excursions to introduce the landscape and history of the islands. You will visit some of Shetland's most scenic locations and sample delicious local produce too.

It's a once-in-a-lifetime-holiday.

About Shetland Wool Adventures

Shetland Wool Adventures is a result of my passion for Shetland textiles and sustainable tourism. I have a huge appreciation of Shetland wool and textiles and I feel inspired by the isles every single day. It's a real privilege to be able to live and work in such a wonderful, creative and inspiring place.

I hope I can share some of my Shetland inspiration with you and show you our beautiful isles.

Miron Hay



YOUR SHETLAND WOOL ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrival & Welcome

Independent travel to Shetland. Meeting at 6.30pm for a welcome dinner at Peerie Shop Café. We will also be joined by Donna Smith who will give us an introduction to Shetland knitting. Then we will go over our planned itinerary and talk about the days ahead. Bring your knitting with you!

DAY 2

Mousa & Hoswick

After breakfast we will visit Ronnie Eunson's Uradale organic working farm. Ronnie will give us a tour of the farm and will tell us about the native Shetland sheep breed.

Then we will travel to Sandwick to take a boat trip to Mousa. Mousa is a small island, uninhabited since the 19th century, and it is known for the Broch of Mousa, an Iron Age round tower, still standing and amongst the best-preserved prehistoric constructions in Europe. We will enjoy a walk and a packed lunch in a beautiful environment of this special island.

In the afternoon we'll get creative during a wool dyeing class with Nielanell. We will design and paint our own pre-knitted woollen blanks, followed by a short design talk by Niela and a visit to her studio. You will make enough yarn to knit a pair of socks.



DAY 3

Fair Isle Knitting, Bressay & an Introduction to Shetland Archaeology

We will start the day with Jeannie Tulloch and Janette Budge who will share their tips on how to blend colours and shape yokes in traditional Fair Isle knitting during their Fair Isle yoke tips class.

After the class we will make a short ferry crossing to Bressay, where we will visit Chris Dyer's Garths Croft. We will have an opportunity to see Shetland sheep in all their natural shades.

Chris is also an archaeologist, so after visiting the croft, we will take a walk and learn about Shetland's landscape and archaeology. Shetland is an archaeological paradise, not only for professional archaeologists, but for anyone interested in the human history, as it has been inhabited for over 6,000 years.

DAY 4

South Mainland

Today we will explore the South Mainland. We will start with a visit of Jarlshof, the best known prehistoric archaeological site in Shetland, where we'll get a taste of the amazing prehistoric and Norse settlements discovered at this single site and learn about the people who lived here.

Then we will head to Sumburgh Head Lighthouse and Nature Reserve, one of Britain's most accessible seabird colonies. Here we will enjoy the spectacle of thousands of seabirds including puffins, fulmars, guillemots and shags. We will also have an opportunity to visit the visitor centre and explore the history and natural heritage of Sumburgh Head from early geological beginnings and Iron Age settlers to recent lighthouse keepers.

After lunch we will be joined by Donna Smith for a 'Shades of Shetland' class. During the workshop we will look at several examples of Fair Isle garments and swatches and will discuss the various ways colour can be used in pattern design. Using a photograph of Shetland and a corresponding colour palette of yarn, Donna will guide you through knitting a traditional Fair Isle swatch with the colours taken from the inspiration source. Let your knitting be inspired by the colours and shades of the Shetland landscape!

And for the complete Fair Isle and Shetland knitwear immersion, after dinner, we will enjoy Ella Gordon's vintage Shetland knitwear collection trunk show & talk.



DAY 5

The Westside, Eshaness & Ancient Volcano

After breakfast we will travel to the Westside of Shetland. Our first stop will be in Bixter at Marion Anderson's Breckenlea Croft and Shetland pony Stud to see her Shetland sheep, ponies and sheepdogs.

Then we will head to Sandness to visit the Jamieson's of Shetland Spinning Mill¹, where their yarn and knitwear is made. We will be given a tour of the factory and we will learn about the full process of yarn and garment production including grading, scouring, dyeing, spinning, knitting and linking.

After the mill visit we'll head north, known as Northmavine, which has some of the most spectacular coastal scenery in Shetland. We'll take a walk at Eshaness, blasted by the full force of the North Atlantic, with displays a stunning array of stacks, blowholes and geos (narrow inlets). The peninsula also tells a fascinating story of a long extinct volcano and a very different past environment.

DAY 6

Muckle Roe & Shetland Lace

Today we will walk on Muckle Roe - one of the finest places to walk on Shetland. The Hams of Muckle Roe gets its name from Old Norse and translates as the Havens (or Harbours) of the Big Red Island. It has high cliffs at the south and is made of red granite, with an ancient extinct volcano being one of its prevailing features. Packed lunch on this day.

In the afternoon we will learn to knit Shetland lace with with Anne Eunson. In this class we will be knitting a small Shetland Lace sampler/wall hanging. You will get to choose between a simple or intricate pattern, depending on your knitting skills.

DAY 7

Lerwick

After a morning visit to the charming Shetland Textile Museum, a vibrant centre of Shetland's textile culture and heritage, and a cup of tea and scones, the tour finishes.

¹ Please note that Jamieson's is a working mill so a tour of the factory is not always possible. If this is the case an alternative programme will be provided.



A TRULY AUTHENTIC SHETLAND EXPERIENCE

TOUR INFORMATION

2020 PRICE:†

£1990 + £120 single supplement*

† 2020 price to act as a guide and updated prices will be available soon.

*Price based on a twin/double room occupancy. If you would prefer a single room there is a £120 supplement.

THE PRICE INCLUDES:

- Six nights accommodation in a centrally located guesthouse in Lerwick
- Transport within Shetland**
- Delicious meals, tea & cake, wine with dinner
- Knitting classes led by Shetland expert tutors
- All visits as detailed in the itinerary
- The services of a tour manager
- The services of qualified Shetland tour guides
- Knitting materials
- A project bag
- Financial failure insurance

**Please note that travel to and from Shetland is not included in the price.



GROUP SIZE

We keep our groups size small, with a maximum number of 12 participants, to ensure quality and individual attention.

Our expert tutors and guides are always on hand to help you and provide you with help and advice.

We pride ourselves in a truly individual and personal approach to ensure you have the best possible experience.

TUTORS & GUIDES

We have a team of talented and experienced Shetland tutors who have a wide range of textile knowledge and expertise.

Our guides are professionally trained, accredited and insured and they are members of STGA (Scottish Tour Guides Association).

FOOD

Where possible, the food on our holiday is prepared by local chefs, who are passionate about using local produce to create delicious and balanced meals each day. We make sure all meals are healthy as well as tasty, and we'll make every effort to accommodate any dietary needs you may have.

ITINERARY

We reserve the right to make small changes to the tour where practical.

CONTACT

For more information or to book email misa@shetlandwooladventures.com

Find out more at www.shetlandwooladventures.com or follow us on Instagram at [@shetlandwooladventures](https://www.instagram.com/shetlandwooladventures)



TESTIMONIALS

From the moment the group gathered, I realized I had chosen the perfect trip for me. All of us were avid knitters who wanted to see the beauty of Shetland, get some brisk exercise and improve our knitting knowledge. The tour was arranged to the tiniest detail to make this happen for us. I heartily recommend this tour, and Shetland Wool Adventures in general.

KNITTING & HIKING TOUR MAY 2018

This tour was fabulous. It met my every expectation and I highly recommend it for those who want both scenery and knitting. The classes and instructors were excellent and very patient - I learned a lot of new techniques and I've returned home inspired. Most of all, though, the tour was a lot of fun. Which is important since, after all, this is a vacation!

KNITTING & HIKING TOUR MAY 2018

Enjoyed my third time with this tour on Shetland. Loved the walks on this trip very much. Great mix between walks and knitting classes!

KNITTING & HIKING TOUR MAY 2018

Anyone who is interested in learning more about Shetland and also wants to taste what Fair Isle and lace knitting is like should try this tour. It's most likely to fall in love with the island this way.

KNITTING & HIKING TOUR MAY 2018

A wonderful combination... workshops and classes to open up the world and background of Shetland knitting, walks and tours to introduce the landscape and history of the Islands, excellent food and accommodation....resulting in a great holiday!

KNITTING & HIKING TOUR MAY 2018

The description of the tour is just the tip of the iceberg for what you will actually experience!! The days are full of learning about the history of Shetland, language and of course knitting! If you are feeling "on the fence" about signing up for this tour, don't hesitate a moment longer. I'm so happy about my experience I'm having trouble putting it into words! Shetland Wool Adventures is a very special week filled with heritage, friendly Shetlanders and beautiful sights!

MAY 2018

This is the perfect way to experience Shetland. A carefully planned blend of textile heritage, knitting workshops and touring with local experts made me feel that I had had the best of everything. It was all seamlessly arranged by Misa, and we were greeted warmly by everyone we met.

MAY 2018

Shetland Wool Adventure is a once in a lifetime trip. The trip is outstanding and the friendships and memories are even better.

MAY 2018

This tour was an incredible experience! Misa did a great job blending knitting with touring of the islands. And I am completely in awe of these knitters!

MAY 2018