



LEED

TRAVEL

ITINERARY

GARYNAHINE & BARVAS ESTATE | JULY 2024

YOUR PROPOSAL



GARYNAHINE & BARVAS | JULY 2024

Dear Angler

Thank you for enquiring with LOOP Travel.

We have recently had the opportunity to combine the fishing from two estates and are very excited to have created this unique trip for you and your group, to the Outer Hebrides fishing the Garynahine and Barvas systems. This trip is recommended for 4 rods fishing.

Along with local guides, Ross Macdonald will be on hand to ensure your trip is as exciting as possible. He will assist the guides in showing you around the river, helping with any casting tuition if required and to help talk through tactics and take pictures of your trip.

Below you will find a breakdown of your travel itinerary, which we hope is in order.

Best Wishes

Alastair Peake

LOOP Travel

FISHING - GARYNAHINE



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The Outer Hebrides are widely regarded as a fly fishing paradise. This wet and windy outcrop in the North Atlantic still maintains a prodigious run of summer grilse, The Barvas and Garynahine estates represent two separate systems on the north west coast of the Isle Lewis each with differing characteristics.

The Garynahine river is small to medium sized river and is unlike any other in Scotland. It meanders across the moorland from two feeder lochs and holds good depth throughout its pools. This unique feature of long slow narrow pools ensures that the river is fishable even during periods of low water. The most favourable conditions are medium water levels and a good wind putting a ripple on the waters surface.

Tactics include fishing a single handed fly rod with a two fly setup, a muddler minnow fly on the dropper and a wee shrimp fly or stoats tail on the point. Working the muddler across the ripple will product exciting visual takes on the surface and hold on tight as these lively grilse are incredibly acrobatic!

There are also many pools with good flow where anglers are able to swing the fly, and in low water conditions the sea pool can provide incredible sport as the shoals of salmon enter the pool on each tide.

FISHING - BARVAS



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The Barvas system has one of, if not the, most productive sea pools in the Outer Hebrides where prolific catches can be made when the main run of fish arrive in July. This old netting station holds an exciting prospect for the salmon angler looking to try something a little different to the usual tactics, as single handed rods and top of the water tactics reign supreme here.

Striping muddlers and little shrimp flies, provide angry responses from tide fresh Atlantic salmon flooding the pool, it's truly one of Salmon fishing's most exciting and visual ways to catch.

Then there's even the opportunity to catch that most coveted and rare thing, a Salmon from a Scottish loch. Barvas has a large machair loch directly above its sea pool. Unlike in other areas where the conventional approach is trolling lures here on the islands it is possible to catch fish from a free drifting boat casting and retrieving flies on a short line, again on the top of the water and highly visible.

Above the Barvas Loch is the Barvas river, a true spate river and if visiting anglers happen to catch it in spate it can provide sensational fishing in a stunning highland river.

LODGE



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Garynahine is home to a beautiful traditional sporting lodge, one of the oldest residences in the Isle Of Lewis dating back to the 1720's. It has in recent times been refurbished to provide a very comfortable base for your Hebridean fishing adventure.

The lodge itself is situated just above the mouth of the Garynahine river, close enough that fishers are able to wander down for a cast after Dinner, or simply to stand on the bridge and watch the July shoals of salmon running in with the tide.

Although the fishing is for 4-5 rods the lodge houses 11 bedrooms (6 of which are ensuite) alongside three reception rooms and a billiards room. This makes Garynahine the perfect solution for those who'd wish to take their wife or even family with them to enjoy a Hebridean holiday while you fish. The lodge is sold on a self catering basis but a chef can be organised.

A little added bonus, Barvas estate is home to one of the best fishing huts in the country. A repurposed school bus from the 70's affectionately known as the 'Green bus' sits proud above the Barvas seapool and is as unique and charming as you might think. It's been said by more than a few people, sitting in the big green bus with a dram in hand watching the salmon jump at sunset in the summer is very hard to beat, we tend to agree and are sure you will too.

ITINERARY

Date	Description	Link	Cost
Saturday	<p>Arrive to Stornoway by own means, options to fly into Stornoway or take the Calmac Ferry from Ullapool to Stornoway.</p> <p>Continue to Garynahine estate and check into lodge around 4pm. or later meet up with your host and enjoy a quick cast in the early evening followed by dinner at the lodge.</p>	<p>Calmac Ferries Link: https://www.calmac.co.uk/destinations/lewis</p> <p>Google maps link for Garynahine Lodge: https://goo.gl/maps/7Rr6hAhjhzc4gmNJ9</p>	<p>Ferry at own cost, approx</p> <p>Vehicle: £100</p> <p>Passenger: £20</p>
Sunday	<p>Fishing for salmon is illegal in Scotland on a Sunday, therefore this day is to be filled with sight seeing around the island. Check out some of the worlds top rated beaches, explore the harris tweed mill and learn about the ancient standing stone and black houses. You host will provide a whole list of exciting things to do and see. Perhaps head for the rocks and catch some Pollock and mackerel for dinner.</p>		
Monday	<p>Guided Fishing</p> <p>Grab an early breakfast, two guests to join the Barvas team with Colin and drive the 35 minutes to the Barvas system. Fish the sea pools on arrival and then take the boat out and drift the Machair loch. Make sure you are in the sea pool at high tide! The other team will meet the Garynahine ghillie Donnie and fish along the Garynahine river.</p>		
Tuesday	<p>Guided fishing</p> <p>Teams to swap estates each day</p>		
Wednesday	<p>Guided Fishing</p>		
Thursday	<p>Guided Fishing</p>		
Friday	<p>Guided fishing</p>		
Saturday	<p>Fish in the morning and check out of the lodge by midday. Continue travels by own arrangement.</p>		

QUOTE

WEEK 29
13 - 20 JULY
£8,800 INC VAT

4 RODS / WEEK

WEEK 30
20 - 27 JULY
£8,000 INC VAT

4 RODS / WEEK

INCLUDED

- Self catering accommodation for 6 days and 7 nights
- 5 1/2 days fishing on both estates - 4 to 5 rods
- Shared ghillies, plus host
- Private room at Traditional lodge - 11 Bedrooms in Total
- Lodge tackle outfits available for use
- Photos of your trip

NOT INCLUDED

- Transfers getting there
- Alcohol - (Bring your own)
- Gratuities
- Lodge cook (Additional cost)



A 50% deposit will secure the fishing.

The balance is payable no later than 120 days prior to the date of the trip commencement date.



TRANSPORT

Getting to the Isle of Lewis, the most common route is to take a car and travel via the Calmac ferry service to either Stornoway or Tarbet. Stornoway is the closer of the two ferry ports to Garrynahine but the Skye-Harris ferry is often favoured as a more scenic route.

There are also regular flights to Stornoway from Glasgow and Edinburgh and there are hire car options at the airport. We'd recommend fishers take or hire a vehicle for their stay as the two systems are 30mins drive apart.

WHAT CAN I DO ON SUNDAY?

There is no fishing for migratory fish in Scotland on a Sunday, and the Hebrides is one of the last few places in the UK to observe an old-fashioned family Sunday where most things shut down for the day. Although that doesn't mean there's nothing to do - far from it!

Sea fishing and trout fishing is available, with prior arrangement we can organise fly fishing for Pollock from the rocks as an exciting alternative. If you fancy something different then a day sightseeing in the most beautiful part of the UK would be highly recommended. The beaches in particular are stunning, you can even try your hand at surfing if you'd like!

WEATHER & MIDGES

The weather is extremely variable on the islands. Hopefully it produces wet and windy conditions as the salmon LOVE wild weather. The most ideal conditions are lots of good strong south westerlies and plenty rain!

Are there midges? Yes! There is no denying midges can ruin an evenings fishing, but they can be combated as long as the necessary precautions are made. A LOOP mygg jacket and a pair of surgical gloves will make sure no evening session is ruined by the curse of the Highlands.

TACKLE



SINGLE HANDERS AND MIDGE JACKETS

OUTER HEBRIDES

A 10 foot 6 or 7 weight single hander is the best all round rod for hebridean fishing, although you may wish to take a switch rod in case there is a summer spate on the rivers.

A matched reel with a suitable floating line like the LOOP Opti stillwater or Evotec 85 fished with a level 12 foot leader of 10-12lb maxima. The salmon aren't leader shy but the wind can play havoc so heavy nylon is essential to help combat that.

Two flies are generally used, the favourite top dropper being a muddler minnow in orange or natural brown. Favourite point flies are stoats tails, park shrimp, calvin's shrimp, haugar and similar. Sunrays and collie dogs are useful along with a few small coneheads incase there is a little bit of water.

All fishing is with a floating line so there is no need to bring anything else unless you like to experiment. For sea trout and brown trout a selection of traditional Scottish wet flies will do the trick, with a teal blue and silver being an absolute must.

NEXT STEPS



If you would like to proceed with the above proposal, please respond via email to confirm and our administration team will issue the deposit invoice which secures the booking.

And if you have any further questions regarding the lodge, fishing, transport or simply need some tackle advice, please do not hesitate to get in touch via email or phone and we'll be able to assist you.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Outer Hebrides Soon!

Alastair Peake - LOOP Travel

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