

## Hebrides



<http://www.hebrideanhopscotch.com/outer-hebrides/>

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*A Hebrides are one of the most most fascinating and undiscovered archipelago off the west coast Scotland, which contains around 500 islands and belongs to Great Britain. They are divided into two mains groups – the Inner Hebrides (including [Islay](#), [Jura](#), [Skye](#), [Mull](#), [Raasay](#), [Staffa](#) and the [Small Isles](#)) and Outer Hebrides ([Barra](#), [Benbecula](#), [Berneray](#), [Harris](#), [Lewis](#), [North Uist](#), [South Uist](#), and [St Kilda](#)), which are separated by a strait called the Minch in the north and Sea of the Hebrides in the south. The Inner Hebides are located closer to mainland Scotland.*

*Overall, the islands have*

*an area of over 7 500 square kilometers and the population of almost 45 000.*

*This distant piece of the world has been inhabited for over 6000 years. Ancient monuments such as the famous stone circles and stone mounds are historical evidence of such a settlement. It is also worth mentioning that nearly 60% of people speak Gaelic, but for many natives it is the first language and for some it is even the only one.*

*Then,do not be surprised if you have a problem to get along in English.*

*The biggest attraction of the archipelago is its huge nature variety.*

*On the one hand,you will meet there beautiful*

*green meadows, vast heaths and peat bogs, on the other hand you will admire wonderful sandy beaches with numerous bays, surrounded by turquoise water. However, this is not all. The islands are also famous for powerful cliffs and sharp, jagged rocks, for which the ocean waves crash with a great bang.*

*Atmospheric conditions are also very different. Every day you can experience temperature changing and weather characteristic for each one season. Rainy clouds and thick fog can quickly give way to the warm rays of the sun. In summer day lasts almost 24 hours. Then Sun sets just for two hours a day. The*

*highest temperature is during June and July and the coldest is from December to February. Absolutely necessary on the Hebrides are fish shopping. There is salmon growing there.The waters are clean,so the fish tastes great. Without a doubt you have to try traditional FISH & CHIPS, as name says it consists of fresh fish, chips and [tartare sauce](#).*

*Another dish worth tasting is local lamb. It is absolutely fantastic. On the islands,the air and water are clean, and the presence of sea salt on the grass that sheep eat while grazing affects the taste of meat. Most sheep graze near the coast, so locally produced meat has*

*a specific taste and is delicate. The Shepherd's sheep are known to grow twice slower than other popular breeds, which is also attributed to the taste of meat.*

**Shetlands are a subarctic archipelago located in the Atlantic Ocean about 200 km apart from Great Britain's coast area. The population stands for about 23 200 people. It contains more than 100 islands in which 15 of them are inhabited by people. Total surface of this archipelago is 1467 km<sup>2</sup>.**



Shetlands

Maja Rachwał

Mainland has the biggest surface and is the centre of farming and husbandry. It is nearly 530 km<sup>2</sup> with the population of over 17 000 people. Its main settlement is Kirkwall. Fishing, crude oil processing, These ponies have

the raising of sheep and tourism are the backbone of Shetland's economy. In the 1 millennium p.n.e Shetland islands were first inhabited by Picts and then Vikings took over the control of the archipelago.

After that Shetlands were incarnated to Scotland. In 2008 authorities announced a secession of islands and turned it into British dependency. Did you know that some Shetland isles are inhabited by one

or two people? That is because of the climate, some isles are attacked by wild storms and winter hurricanes. Although they are so close to the arctic circle that summer days could be 23 hours long! Maybe that's

why some people call Shetlands the isles at the end of the world. Shetlands can be proud for their variety of bird races. Lovers of ornithology were the reason to open a first hotel there. Previously

you could only expect a B&B. The Shetland pony is a pony that is originated in the Shetland Isles. It is one of the smallest breeds of pony in the world. The maximum height of this pony is about 107 cm.



mr

boredpanda.com



Seaside

Maja Rachwał

## ANGLESEY ISLAND

One of the most beautiful islands in Great Britain is the Welsh County of Anglesey, known before as Ynys Dywyll, which meant Dark Isle. The only thing that separates it from the mainland is a narrow isthmus Menai Strait, and it is connected with a land by two huge bridges. The old one is called Menai Suspension Bridge, and the new one is Britannia Bridge. The most important city of whole Anglesey is Holyhead. The port that is located there is a significant place for the island's economy.

Until the XII century, that area was consecutively conquered by Celts, Vikings, Saxons and Normans. Eventually, in XIII century, Edward I English king gained that territory. Even today, the ubiquitous isolation from civilisation causes increase in patriotism in local communities. About 70% of citizens use original Welsh language.

Tourists can also visit medieval buildings. One of them is the monastery Pemnon Priory. The buildings where monks lived are partly in the state of ruin but the church is in good condition.

The other structure is Beaumaris castle, considered the most magnificent medieval stronghold.

Tourists also walk along a waymarked trail to Parys Mountain. It is the old copper mine which looks like an uninhabited planet, so it is worth visiting. Last, but not least, a place, which attracts everyone is a small village which has got a strange-sounding, unbelievably long name. It is called Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch. It is impossible to leave Wales without taking a picture with a sign at the beginning of this village!



Anglesey Island

<https://www.bing.com/images>


Orkney Islands

<https://www.bing.com/images>


Orkney Islands

<https://www.bing.com/images>

## ORKNEY ISLANDS

There are a lot of amazing places on our Earth. Orkney Islands are surely one of them. The picturesque archipelago located between North Sea and Atlantic Ocean attracts tourists with stunning landscapes and ancient objects.

Immense heathland and lakes enrapture all people coming there.

If it comes to places worth visiting, Scara Brae, the ancient settlement cannot be omitted. This historical village era was covered by sand for ages and exposed by sandstorm in 1850.

The next famous place is Ring of Brodgar, a stone circle, firstly built with 60 rocks. Today there are 27 rocks left.

Standing Stones of Stennes is another neolithic stone circle, but much smaller, because it includes 12 rocks. A hearth was located in the middle.

Probably dead people were cremated and buried in urns made with clay, because scientists found there clay fragments and burned human bones.

Another interesting thing to see is The Old Man of Hoy. It is a 137 metres high rock. The last famous place is Knap of Howar. They are the oldest houses in Europe, built about 5000 years ago, still well preserved today. They were probably inhabited by local shepherds and fishermen.



Isle of Arran

Visit Scotland

### Isle of Arran

Another island is Arran which is located on the Firth of Clyde bay. This is the seventh largest Scottish island. It is situated off the west coast of Scotland. It has 427 square meters and 4629 resident population.

The island is mountainous, and its biggest peak is called Goat Fell (874 m above sea level). You can see the whole island from this point. This is one of the marvellous attractions which engage the attention of tourists. If you like seeing mysterious places, you will love Machrie Standing Stones. You should visit the old castles which are located in here. There are also plenty of fabulous beaches, like Blackwaterfoot, Brodick or Whiting Bay, where you can rest and watch the sunset or enjoy the sound of waves. After that you have to sightsee the local villages and find shops or cafes.

Isle of Arran is a paradise for golf lovers, because they can play at seven golf courses. You can even bring your child or dog free of charge and enjoy the stunning scenery with them. Obviously, there are many things to do like sea kayaking, excursions around the coast of Arran, flying on a paraglider to see the island from the height, climbing and even riding a horse. You will not be bored.

The British Islands are waiting for you to explore and have fun with your family or friends.



Mystical waterfall

www.visitisleofman.com

### Isle of Man

Isle of Man belongs to British Islands archipelago. It is located between the Great Britain and Ireland in the Irish Sea. Man is not the part of the United Kingdom but rather a crown possession that is self-governing under the supervision of the British Home Office.

The island has an area of 572 square km and most of its surface is lowland. On the north there is Snaefell, the highest mountain (620 m above sea level) on the Isle of Man. Due to its location the climate is maritime. Summers are cool. Average temperature in August is 14,3 and in February it is 4,9 .

On this island, tourism contributes to economic growth. There are so many things to see and do, so no one will be bored. Let the heritage railways take you to a journey around the island. You can choose steam or electric rail as you wish. Go to glorious Douglas, the capital of Man and explore Laxey, Ramsey, the other towns. Climb the Snaefell on the amazing Mountain Railway. If you prefer more active leisure you must try the bike trails or even climbing adventure parks if you go for more demanding things. Every year an amazing race is organised on the Isle of Man. It is a motorcycle sport event. As you can see there are a lot of things that both children and adults will certainly enjoy.

You will love the local wildlife in natural habitat. On the coast you may find seals and magnificent puffins. Did you know that you can meet small kangaroos in here? They are called wallabies and they descend from a pair that escaped from the nearby Curraghs Wildlife Park.



Peel Castle on Man

Celtic Trails

### ISLE OF WIGHT AND ISLE OF BUTE

#### ISLE OF WIGHT

It is one of islands of British Isles. The Island appeared when the continental glacier melted and gave birth to the La Manche Channel. In the 40s Romans after subduing Britain named this island Vectis. England has bought Wight island only in 1293.

Wight island is one of the few places in England where you can see red squirrels. The Island is also natural habitat for gophers and bats. Although it is one of the top locations with dinosaurs' fossils, most of the ground is used for farming. When there is a low tide the bed shows us a dinosaurs' trails. The symbol of Wight island is an Orchid.



#### ISLE OF BUTE

This Scottish island is 24 km long and 8 km wide. It is home to nearly 7 thousand citizens. In Poland it is known as an Island of Snakes. It has been called this name by prisoners of Bute Island.

During the World War II Wladyslaw Sikorski, Polish general officer jailed his political opponents there. He founded a Polish Military convict settlement. The most severe punishment was inability of fighting for the country. The detention caused a lot of suicides, which started to be a blight of Isle of Bute.



#### ISLE OF SCILLY

This archipelago comprises 140 islands of which 5 are inhabited. The biggest St. Mary's, which is 6,29km<sup>2</sup>, Tresco - 2,97km<sup>2</sup> and St. Martin's - 2,37km<sup>2</sup>. There are only 2 thousand people living there, mainly on St. Mary's Island.

The landscape and climate is mixed. Although, temperature is almost constant, winter winds can be extremaly strong. South coasts are used for plants cultivation while north coasts are often devoid vegetation.

Since 1651 to 1986 there was a war between The Netherlands and Isles of Scilly, which lasted for 335 years. However, the entire war went non-shot what makes it, the war with the least numer of casualties