

EASTER SCOTLAND CRUISE

Saturday 15th April to Saturday 22nd April 2017 'A voyage of discovery to the Islets of Langerhans'

Hoots Mon! We're awa` tae the Isles.

It's time to polish your haggis and get your thermal sporran out!

The Easter cruise this year is planned for - Easter! So Highland egg hunts and Easter Bunnies are back. We are returning to old stomping grounds, chartering from Isle Of Skye Yachts at Armadale having booked the *Bavaria 36 (Finn)*, the *Jeanneau SO 379 (Voyager)*, and the *Jeanneau SO 36i (Janet MacArthur)*, with an option on the *Jeanneau SO 42i (Ab Fab)* if applications warrant it. There will be 6 berths on each boat. **Cruise fees are proposed at £380,** (including on-board food), £100 of which is payable as a non-returnable deposit once your booking is accepted, with the **balance of £280 payable promptly** by 28/2/2017. If full payment is made by the AGM (14th January 2017) the cruise fee will be reduced to £370.

What can we say about Easter cruising in Scotland? Thoughts like 'Foundation stones of the club, creation of men from buoys (sic), something similar for women that isn't sexist, fantastic scenery, weather, sea eagles, stags and seals, more weather, the best cruising grounds north of Watford Gap, and Whisky' all come to mind. And more weather.

This is real 'take it as you find it' sailing with the weather varying from Mediterranean to Arctic, and winds ranging from absent to rather more, but there are always sheltered deserted anchorages and adventurous and exploratory destinations when conditions allow.

We start at Armadale on the afternoon of Saturday 15th April, returning a week later. What more can we say about the planned itinerary? Our stated purpose is to discover The Islets of Langerhans, though these wee beasties have proved rather secretive. Whilst many have searched, few have found them and then only on the autopsy table. Though if we fail to land on the fabled Islets we might hope to take in some of the following: the swirls of Kyle Rhea, the avian life of the Shiants, the mystique of the Outer Hebrides, the magic of Wizard Pool, the hidden whisky bottles of Eriskay, the potency of Rum, the white bits of Eigg, the cleanliness of Muck, and leave out the negativity of Canna (groan). Jonty's fantasy is to sail out through the Sound of Harris and return through the Sound of Barra (at Easter?!), but the route depends on the Weather Gods and the whimsicality of the Commodore Afloat, so who knows?

Please fill in the booking form with as much detail as possible. If you wish to sail with a particular person, please say on the form: we will try to arrange it, but we will need to balance the skills on each yacht. Penguin invites all to come sailing, whatever your previous experience – if any, but please note that all participants must be able to **swim 25 metres**. A note for parents and offspring – *our* experience is that *you'll* have a better time sailing on different yachts! If you have any special dietary needs or medical conditions, please let us know: it will be kept confidential. Next of kin details will be passed to the charter company. Please note that the Penguin Cruising Club operates a no smoking policy.

Finally, if you have ANY questions, please do not hesitate to contact me – I look forward to meeting everyone at the Reunion and on the quayside on Skye.

Jonty Pearce

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