



SKYE TRAIL
A TOUR OF THE WINGED ISLE

Inner Hebrides
 SCOTLAND

COTSWOLD WAY Cotswold England

ABOUT THE TRAIL

→ **DISTANCE** 168 km (104.4 mi)
 → **DURATION** 5 to 9 days
 → **LEVEL** Moderate

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“The Cotswold Way is a classic English long-distance trail, following the western edge of the Cotswolds from Chipping Campden to the Roman city of Bath.”



WANDERLUST BRITISH & IRISH ISLES

Hiking the Trails of Great Britain and Ireland

Editors: gestalten & Alex Roddie
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NEW



SAMPLE COVER

From breathtaking nature to timeless culture, explore the hiking trails and the wonders of the British Isles.

The British and Irish Isles are a paradise for hikers. They provide a unique blend of breathtaking nature, fascinating local history, and timeless culture. Stunning photography showcases the diverse natural landscapes and rich national history of the region. The book offers maps, valuable insights on the trails, the best time to hike them, and regional specialties that will help readers make the most of their adventures.

Whether you're an avid hiker or an armchair traveler, this new addition to the *Wanderlust* series will take you from the heart of the Scottish Highlands, to the Lake District, Ireland, and onward to the expansive coastline of the English Riviera. In addition to highlighting the natural and historical monuments of the islands, this book celebrates the best hiking trails and details the best of British and Irish culture, providing readers with some unique spots to relax and unwind after a day of exploration. Experience the warmth and hospitality of the locals, and end your island journey by the fireside, savoring all that these remarkable islands have to offer.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- A wide selection of easy-to-follow walking routes, ranging from short distance jaunts to traditional long-distance hikes
- Stunning photography of the regions diverse natural landscape and rich national history

ALEX RODDIE is an experienced mountaineer and hiker, exploring nature's wild for over 15 years. Based in England, Alex works as an editor, writer, and photographer for outdoor-related publications and websites.



THE KERRY WAY County Kerry IRELAND

GOOD TO KNOW

START/FINISH
 Killarney, Ireland

TOTAL ELEVATION GAIN
 4,712m (15,463ft)

SEASON
 From October to March the weather can be wet and stormy, with a chance of snow on higher paths. The best months are May to August.

ACCOMMODATIONS
 Discreet stealth camping is practiced by some hikers on remote parts of the route. However, it is not encouraged by landowners. There are only a few official campsites and no mountain huts or refuges. Most hikers will need to make use of hotels, hostels, guesthouses, and B&Bs. There are many options in the towns and villages along the Kerry Way. Book well in advance.

HIGHLIGHTS

1. Tomteastall
2. Maghlynnudly's Reeks
3. The views from Coomshingaun
4. The stone forts at Lusher and Slieve Donard

HELPFUL HINTS

WHAT TO BRING
 Good waterproofs! The climate of the Kerry Peninsula can be wet. Carry a supply of cash in euros, as cards are not accepted everywhere.

FOOTWEAR
 Underfoot surfaces on this hike include tarred roads, gravel paths, rocky paths, and muddy bogs. Combined with the risk of wet weather, most hikers will be happy in hiking boots.

PLANNING AND NAVIGATION
 Although the trail is signposted, parts of it head into rough mountain terrain. Carry a guidebook, compass, and topographic maps (Distance Survey of Ireland's Discovery series, sheets 78, 80, and 84).

SUPPLIES
 There are food stores at Killarney, Glenties, Cahersiveen, Waterfalls, Cahernacree, Sneem, and Kenmare. Some accommodation providers offer light meals, but others, such as hostels, do not. B&Bs offer breakfast, but not evening meals. Between Killarney and Glenties you may need to carry food for two to three days.

WATER
 There is a lot of water in Ireland—streams, lakes, rivers—but the landscape is agricultural, so it isn't always safe to drink. Treat or filter water you top up from natural sources. You'll be able to fill bottles from your accommodations each day, and you can purchase bottled water at food shops.

BACKGROUND

STONE RING FORTS
 Stone ring forts can be found throughout the Ring of Kerry and Dingle Peninsula. Most were constructed between the Bronze Age and the early Christian era, and they vary in size, some were no more than fortified farmsteads, while others were huge, probably built by wealthy nobles, and would have housed several families. Thousands of ring forts survive, and they can be seen at several locations along the Kerry Way, notably the Lusher and Slieve Donard forts. Legend has it that these ancient monuments were constructed by fairies. Disabling these sites is regarded as bad luck, so don't take any stones as a souvenir!

FLORA & FAUNA

CELTIC RAIN FOREST
 Although much of Ireland is now agricultural, fragments of ancient Celtic rain forest survive. On the Kerry Way, you'll hike through stands of ancient oak woodland. These are often relics of the vast wet forest that once blanketed the landscape in the millennia after the last ice age. Celtic rain forest harbors species such as variable oak, cherry, birch, mosses, liverworts, and lichens.

