

# Shetland Textile Discoveries 2019

## Tour and workshops

Arrival 15th July/ Departure 21st July  
£1,389 per person

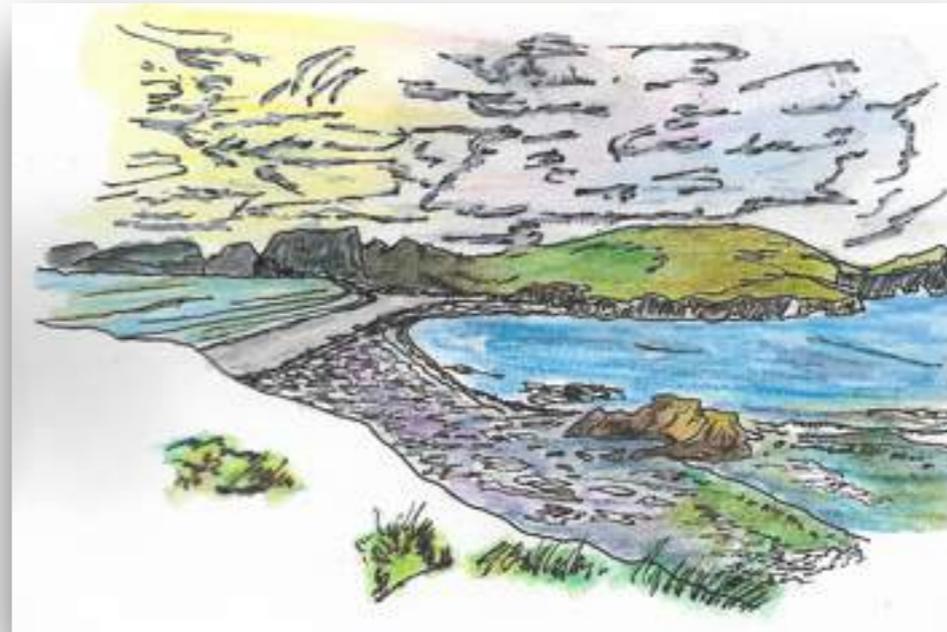


## CHAPTER 1

# CAPTURING THE ROMANCE OF SHETLAND

The Shetland Islands, in the far North of Britain, are a destination for anyone who knows anything about textiles. They are also an endless source of inspiration for artists and craftspeople who fall in love with the land, sea and sky which surround and make up these magical islands.

Come with us on a journey of discovery with our small group tours and create your own memories of a visit to this unique archipelago.



## INTRODUCTION

These unique islands in the Far North of the UK are well-known for patterned knitwear but there is much more than simply Fair Isle in Shetland.

On this tour we will first travel to see some of the traditional knitting, weaving and spinning for which the isles are famous. We will also see how people are using Shetland as a source to design and create.

Our final two days will be in the North Isles where we will go for walks along the beaches and hills to find inspiration for creating our own textile pieces at the studios in Yell.



## First steps

Getting to Shetland is always an adventure. The flights into the isles come in at Sumburgh while the ferry terminal is in Lerwick, the capital of Shetland. However you arrive in the islands we will organise transfers to your bed and breakfast accommodation which is either in Tingwall or Scalloway.



The first night of the tour itself we will meet for a meal together. We will go through the itinerary for the tour and chat about what we will see and do before retiring to our accommodation for the night.

If you do decide to come to the islands a few days earlier walking in Scalloway is well-worth it. A short walk out of the village lies a vista of islands and ocean, old drystone walls and remains of dwellings. In Tingwall the walk along the road to the loch takes in the farmland before arriving at the head of the voe (an inlet from the sea). Walking along the voe will give you lovely views of the sea and beautiful summer flowers.

Remember to take your camera or sketching materials whenever we go out. There is always something worthy of a picture wherever we are in Shetland. On the tour aim to wear layers because the weather up here is changeable, and walking shoes.

# South Mainland

- Sumburgh Head
- Croft House Museum
- St Ninian's Isle
- Hoswick

Pickup - 9:00 from Tingwall,  
9:15 from Scalloway

The first day of our tour will be spent visiting the sights in the south of the Mainland.



Sumburgh Head is the lighthouse at the extreme south of the island and is a good place to see some of the birds for which Shetland is known. The lighthouse itself is an interesting building which has exhibition rooms attached showing the role the light played in the Second World War and some of the history of the light.



The Croft House Museum is another of the small museums in Shetland, and one which is a real favourite for visitors. The building shows how people lived in the islands with peat fire, box beds, and thatched roof adding to its atmosphere.

The beautiful tombolo which joins St Ninian's Isle to the Mainland is a definite must for any visitor to Shetland. This sandy bar is a natural phenomenon, created by the action of waves washing around the island and meeting in the middle.

We will also visit a knitwear designer or two, and spend time looking at Hoswick, an area where textiles production has long been part of the industry.

Our evening meal will be at the Scalloway Hotel, where the menu offers fresh seafood, lamb and other local products, before we go back to our accommodation for the evening.



# Westside and North Mainland

- Skeld
- Jamieson's Mill
- Mavis Grind
- Eshaness
- Stenness
- Busta House Hotel for dinner.

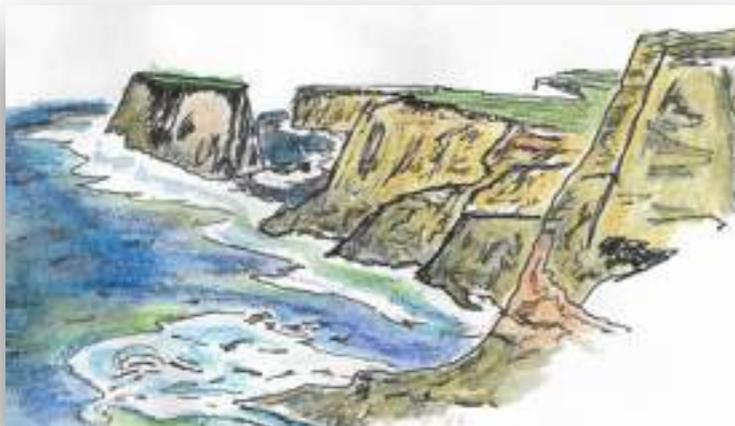
Pickup - 8:45 from Tingwall, 9  
from Scalloway

On this day we head over to the Westside along the scenic route through Skeld and Walls (*WaaS* in dialect) to Sandness where Jamiesons of Shetland produce their yarns, knitwear and tweeds. It is an interesting drive past working peat banks and flocks of Shetland sheep, beautiful views and the harsh yet strangely haunting moorlands which have seen so much history. If we get a chance we can stop to look at some of the peat drying alongside the road. A chance for interesting geometric patterns!



Next we take the winding road through Aith (*Eið* in Old Norse) and into Voe and Brae. Voe has an interesting textiles history through the Adie family and we will get a chance to read about their story while looking over the inlet after which the township is named. After Brae we will have a quick stop at Mavis Grind to look at the narrowest point of the island where boats used to be portaged across from one side to the other.

Heading northwards we enter Northmavine with some of the most dramatic scenery in Shetland. We will have time to explore the area, taking in the volcanic landscape at Eshaness where rock meets the Atlantic Ocean, and the old fishing station at Stenness before heading back to Brae's Busta House for our evening meal.



# Leirvík/ Lerwick

- Da Street - The main shopping street of Lerwick
- Jamieson and Smith - the Wool Brokers
- Jamiesons of Shetland
- Shetland Museum
- Shetland Textile Museum
- Fjarå for our evening meal.

Pickup - 8:45 from Tingwall, 9 from Scalloway

Shetland Museum and Archives, a fascinating treasure trove of history, geology, art and textiles including exquisite lace shawls and tweeds.

Driving a little out of town we will pay a visit to Jamieson and Smith, Shetland's Wool Brokers, and follow that up with a trip to the Textile Museum, a gem where demonstrations of knitting and spinning can often be found going on.

Fjarå Cafe is situated on the edge of the water looking back into town. Sometimes seals bask on the rocks and birds fish offshore. We will have our evening meal at Fjara and then head back to our accommodation for the night.

Lerwick is the main town in Shetland. In fact, it is our only town, home to a third of the population. It is also the centre of commerce in the islands with a busy port and the main shopping area called colloquially *Da Street*. The day will be spent with a short walking tour, then time for shopping before meeting up in the afternoon for the Wool Brokers and Textile Museum.



Our preliminary walk starts on takes in the old part of Lerwick, the Lodberries, from where we can see the bay which gives the town its name; Leirvík in Old Norse means *Muddy Bay*. We will go along the front to an area called *The Knab* which offers beautiful views across to the island of Bressay and back into Lerwick itself.

The walk is not particularly strenuous but is up and down a hill or two so walking shoes are advisable.

Coming back into town we will head along Da Street past the shops which vary from yarn supplies and books to soap and gifts. At the other end of town is the

### The island of Unst

- Muckle Flugga Shore Station
- Victoria's Vintage Tea Room
- Boat Haven and Heritage Centre
- Norwick and Skaw beaches
- Baltasound
- Muness Castle
- Westings
- Viking settlements and the longship *Skibladner*

Pickup - 8:45 from Tingwall, 9 from Scalloway



# Unst

Unst is the furthest North in the inhabited British Isles, and draws visitors to its shores because of the beautiful beaches, birds, scenic views and rare plants. Leaving early in the morning from our accommodation we will drive north to the ferry terminal at Toft, cross through the island of Yell and head onto Unst from the ferry at Gutcher.

There is plenty to see and do in Unst. From the views of Muckle Flugga lighthouse to the beautiful bay at Haroldswick there is always something to photograph or sketch.



We will spend the day both indoors and out, looking at the lace knitting in the Heritage Centre, or the collection in the Boat Haven with its fascinating histories of the fishing industries in the isles before heading out to walk on beaches like Norwick or Skaw.



While we are in Unst we can visit a reconstruction of a Viking longhouse alongside which is the longship, *Skibladner*. The island is part of a research project into the Viking world and there are some fascinating sites to visit.

On our return to the Mainland we will stop at Frankies Fish and Chips for our dinner.

### The island of Yell

- The scenic East Road
- Old Haa Museum
- Sands of Breckon
- The Shetland Gallery
- The Shetland Tweed Company
- Westsandwick Beach
- Workshops with Shona Skinner and with Andy Ross

Pickup - 8:45 from Tingwall, 9 from Scalloway

Yell is the largest of the North Isles and a good place to spend time exploring coastline and interior. The island boasts easily accessible beaches at West Sandwick and at Breckon, both stops on the tour. Breckon in particular is photogenic and with its interesting history and natural beauty features high on the favourites of those lucky few who stay on Yell or visit the island.



Yell is home to The Shetland Gallery as well as The Shetland Tweed Company and GlobalYell. We will visit these companies and we will also have a workshop with The Shetland Gallery owner and internationally known textile artist, Shona Skinner, and a colour workshop with the weaver, Andy Ross who established GlobalYell and the Tweed Company.

Andy will work on colour wraps using any sketches and photographs you have taken on the trip. These wraps will help

with colour choices and ideas for future projects, and act as a reminder of the colours of the islands.

Shona's workshop will be on creating a textile piece or two using different techniques to bond, distress and embellish fabrics. Your unique pieces can be kept or framed as mementos of your time spent in Shetland.

Our final meal together will be in the studio in Yell after which we will head back to the accommodation for the final night.



## DETAILS

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# INSURANCE

To book your transport to Shetland visit either LoganAir or British Airways websites. The route is a codeshare between the two. Flights arrive at Sumburgh on Shetland.

The Northlink ferry leaves from Aberdeen or Orkney and docks at Lerwick.

The weather is changeable in Shetland and occasionally flights are delayed. We advise that you leave a day or two between departing from the isles and your onward connection.

We advise that you purchase holiday insurance to cover you in the event of emergency or cancellation in addition to the financial failure insurance included, the wording for which is below.

GlobalYell Ltd is a company committed to customer satisfaction and consumer financial protection. We are therefore pleased to announce that, at no extra cost to you, and in accordance with "The Package Travel, Package Tours Regulations 1992" all passengers booking with GlobalYell Ltd is fully insured for the initial deposit, and subsequently the balance of monies paid as detailed in your booking confirmation form. The policy will also include repatriation if required, arising from the cancellation or curtailment of your travel arrangements due to the insolvency of GlobalYell Ltd. This insurance has been arranged with Affirma a trading brand of MGA Cover Services Limited (registered address Farren House The Street, Farren Court Cowfold West Sussex RH 13 8BP, company registration: 08444204 authorized and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority registration number 678541) under a binding authority with the insurer CBL Insurance Europe Limited (registered address 2nd Floor 13-17 Dawson Street Dublin 2 Ireland, who are authorized and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority registration number 203120)

In the unlikely event of insolvency, you must inform Affirma (MGA Cover Services Limited) immediately on +44 (0) 20 3540 4422. Please ensure you retain this booking confirmation form as evidence of cover and value. Policy exclusions: This policy will not cover any monies paid back to you by your Travel Insurance or any losses which are recoverable under another insurance or bond.

# BOOKING

There are a few different ways to book on our tours.

- Send us back the booking form at the end of this brochure by post or email.
- Email us at [globalyell@btconnect.com](mailto:globalyell@btconnect.com) to enquire about places and details.
- Telephone us at +44 (0)1957 744 355 or mobile number +44 (0)7900 430 429.
- Write to us at GlobalYell Ltd, 4 Sellafirth Business Park, Yell, Shetland Isles ZE2 9DG, UK.

However you book, we will send you a Paypal invoice which you can pay either by card or PayPal balance.

The full cost of the tour is payable eight weeks before the start date. A full refund can be given up to the start of those eight weeks, but not after that date. If you cannot travel please speak to us about transferring to a different tour or the following year.

## What is included in the price?

- \* Transfer from your place of arrival in Shetland to bed and breakfast accommodation.
- \* 6 nights accommodation in either Scalloway's Cornerstone Bed and Breakfast or Tingwall's Valley Bed and Breakfast. Either of these will also be happy to book extra nights for you if you decide to stay on after the tour or arrive a few days before. Grace at the Cornerstone can be emailed at [thecornerstonebandb@gmail.com](mailto:thecornerstonebandb@gmail.com) and Pat at Valley Bed and Breakfast can be emailed at [valleybandb@live.co.uk](mailto:valleybandb@live.co.uk).
- \* Evening meal on the day before touring, lunches (including a picnic lunch on one day) and evening meals during touring dates, breakfasts on touring dates and the morning following the last tour date.
- \* Coffee and tea (and cake!) during touring.
- \* Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks at evening meals.
- \* Transport and guiding during the tour in a minibus.
- \* Entry fees and ferry tickets.
- \* Materials for any workshops.
- \* Financial failure insurance.
- \* A gift at the end of your tour.
- \* Transfer from the bed and breakfast accommodation to your point of departure from the islands.

## What is not included?

- \* Purchases.
- \* Tips and gratuities.
- \* Extra accommodation nights.
- \* Transport to and from Shetland.

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# Booking form

Please complete this form and send it by email or post. Alternatively you can book by email correspondence or telephone. A Paypal invoice will be sent with the 20% deposit amount indicated as payable immediately. Your place is guaranteed once we have received your deposit.

Name:

Address:

Telephone number (including country code)

Email address: (We need this for sending a Paypal invoice. If you do not have an email address we will send your invoice by post.)

Date of arrival:

Time of arrival:

Departing from:

Picking up from:

Date of departure:

Time of departure:

Departing from:

Going to:

Dietary requirements:

Medical information:

Any other information you think we may need:

Signature:

Date:

Please return to GlobalYell Ltd, 4 Sellafirth Business Park, Yell, Shetland Isles ZE2 9DG, UK or send to [globalyell@btconnect.com](mailto:globalyell@btconnect.com).

# Testimonials

## AN INTERNATIONAL CLIENTELE

Shetland has a real draw for people across the globe, not only for its textiles heritage but also for its history, scenery, wildlife and flora. Over the past few years a growing number of people have been discovering the islands, many through Ann Cleve's books and others through the *Shetland* series on television, adaptations of those books. Some people have long known about Shetland while, to others, these islands have suddenly become evident.

Over the past ten years that I have run tours in Shetland I have been lucky to meet people from all walks of life. Our visitors have come from all over Europe, Western and Eastern, from North America, Africa, Asia and Australasia. I have not had anyone from South America yet but meeting such a wide range of people with such varied interests and backgrounds is what makes my life and work so interesting and unusual.

Below are some testimonials from some who have been on tour with us.

"You created a schedule with views, vistas, walks; locations big and small; breakfasts, lunches and dinners; talks, visits and shops, and you were just plain fun. You were the glue and instigator, a generous, gracious and hospitable shepherd. You picked up whatever we put out there and created an "experience," far beyond shuttling us between locations." - Pamela, USA

"My Shetland trip was a dream. All of the guests are beautiful souls who shared stories, giggles and their gorgeous knitted accomplishments throughout the tour. Andy your tour was fabulous! Your generosity unbounded. We got to experience the Shetlands through the eyes of an artist. We experienced the landscape which for me, brought reality to the palette of colours unique to the Shetlands. We visited quaint museums which gave us a pulse on the lives of the peoples who inhabit the regions. We walked on beaches and the tops of cliffs, what can I say? It was a marvellous experience, one that I would return to, in a heartbeat!" - Lynn, Canada

"5 days in the Shetlands isn't enough, but they were spectacular! The landscape, traveling companions, and of course the tea and cake, made for a memorable trip. I can't wait to come back." - Karen, USA

"An absolutely wonderful trip from start to finish! I would recommend Andy's tours to anyone whether they are textile enthusiasts or not. Andy catered to all interests and made sure that the tour contained the perfect balance of Shetland history and lore, textile facts and production information, beautiful landscapes, amazing food, and added to all of that tons of laughter. I will cherish my memories from this trip and can't wait to visit Shetland again!" - Dana, USA

"Our May 2018 tour with Andy Ross from GlobalYell encompassed far more than a comprehensive introduction to Shetland's rich textile history. We met with contemporary designers, artists and craftspeople, visited galleries, museums and manufacturers, toured the islands from Sumburgh to Hermaness and saw incredible scenery, enjoyed delicious meals wherever we went, experienced local hospitality, fell in love with springtime lambs, and quite literally laughed our way around the islands in a unique atmosphere of camaraderie facilitated by our most generous host. All in all a thoroughly enjoyable experience I'd repeat again in a heartbeat!" - Jenny, Australia