

Thistle Street Bar Self Drive Route to Skye

Unless you have a private helicopter there are two ways to get from the Scottish mainland to Skye – by [car ferry](#) from Mallaig which lands at Armadale on the south east of the island, or by bridge from the [Kyle of Localsh](#). We would recommend using the ferry to go there and the bridge to come back. The reason for this is because when you drive the route to Mallaig, you will cut through Glencoe on the way and be able to experience one of the most spectacular views in Scotland.



All you have to do is hire an Aston Martin DB5 to get the full Bond Skyfall experience. The famous scene shown below is on the road to Glen Etive, a minor road off the A85 which cuts off to the left after you pass the [Glencoe Mountain Resort](#).



If you would prefer to have a guided tour, just email us on welcome@thistlestoptours.co.uk and we will arrange that for you.

Isle of Skye route from Edinburgh

- Head west from Edinburgh and take the **M9** to Stirling. If you have time you can stop at [Linlithgow Palace](#), birthplace of Mary Queen of Scots, [Stirling Castle](#) or the [National Wallace Monument](#).
- If you stay on the M9 you will eventually pass Stirling Castle which will be on your right. Take the **A84 / A85** signposted for [Crianlarich](#). On the way you will pass near [Deanston](#) distillery (which doubled as Jared Fraser's French warehouse in Outlander), the village of Doune (home to [Doune Castle](#) – aka Castle Leoch in Outlander and film location for Monty Python and the Holy Grail). You will also drive through the picturesque town of Callander where you can stop to see some Highland cows at the [Trossachs Woollen Mill](#) (on the right as you leave the town) before continuing on your way.
- You will stay on the **A84** from Callander which, when it reaches [Locheearnhead](#), becomes the **A85** as it heads the final few miles to Crianlarich.
- Once you reach Crianlarich stay on the A85 and you will eventually come to the village of [Tyndrum](#). Here you can take a break at the [Green Welly Stop](#), an outdoor clothing store with a restaurant, so you can grab a coffee or some last minute supplies such as [midge repellent](#) eg Avon Skin So Soft or Smidge (you'll need it!).
- When you leave Tyndrum you'll come to a fork in the road. Take the right hand one (**A82**) heading for [Fort William](#), the nearest town to [Ben Nevis](#), the highest mountain in Britain. On the way to Fort William you will cut through Rannoch Moor (film location of the outdoor scene in Outlander where Jamie is doing hard labour with the other prisoners outside 'Ardsmuir prison). You will then arrive in Glencoe, location of the brutal [massacre](#) of the MacDonalds in 1692 in a plot hatched by the British Government to force the Highlanders to swear loyalty to King William III. As you cut through Glencoe, you'll see the famous mountain Buachaille Etive Mor (Gaelic for 'the great herdsman/ shepherd of Etive') on your left-hand side. Unless you plan to stop for the James Bond view on the road to Glen Etive, stay on the road on the way to Fort William.
- You'll then come to a few bends in the road with a car park and the [Three Sisters](#) mountains on your left. Park here to get a great viewpoint. This was the film location for [Mary Queen of Scots](#) and also the opening titles in Outlander (Jamie and Claire on horseback). If you continue on the A82 to Fort William you will come to the [Glencoe Visitor Centre](#) on your left hand side. You will also cross the bridge over Loch Leven before arriving in Fort William.
- Once in Fort William head west along the A830 to Mallaig. Along the way you will pass the village of Corpach with its [shipwrecked fishing vessel](#). You will also pass [Glenfinnan](#), where Prince Charles Edward Stuart raised the Jacobite standard to

begin the final [Jacobite Rebellion of 1745](#), and a must for fans of the original Highlander movie and, of course, Harry Potter.

- Continuing on the A830 to Mallaig you will pass the villages of [Arisaig](#) and Morar with its silver beaches and stunning views before arriving at Mallaig.

We hope these suggestions prove useful.

Sláinte

The Thistle Street Bar team