

# Itinerary: Cycle tour of the Isle of Man



#### **Tour Highlights:**

Miles and miles of quiet country rods and lanes

Amazing views of all the mythical 'Seven Kingdoms' from one place – England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales Anglesey and the Isle of Man

The chance to sample delicious local food and drink, including Manx Kippers, Queen Scallops, Loaghtan Lamb, Real Ales, Rhubarb Fizz and Fynoderee Gin

Rich history, colourful heritage and culture can be explored at numerous points on the route

Victorian heritage railways and trams and the largest working water wheel in the world

**Arrival Day:** Transfer to accommodation. In the evening, there will be a briefing, including a run through of the routes and the answering of any questions.

### Ride Day 1:

Douglas - Castletown - Port St Mary - Port Erin - Niarbyl - Peel - Douglas

#### 52.7 miles

The first riding day of the tour takes you to the south and west of the island. A ride along the scenic Marine drive will reward you with breath taking views as you make your way south towards the Island's former capital, Castletown. From here you can take the road to Port St Mary then onto Howe Road which will descend to the Island's most southern tip with panoramic sea views. Arrive at the Sound and Calf of Man, one of our natural wonders, abundant in wildlife and considered one of the most scenic places in the British Isles, before looping back to Port Erin.

Enjoy an ice cream on Port Erin promenade before climbing to the top of the Sloc known as the Round Table. As you descend and continue along the coastal road to Dalby, be sure to take in the far





reaching views of Niarbyl. Take a detour to visit the secluded beauty spot of Niarbyl, a place of great geological importance and also a peaceful bay with its rolling hills and thatched cottages. From here make your way back onto the main road which will lead you to the sunset city of Peel. Be sure to explore Peel, which is home to a castle, museums before making your way out of Peel and towards the famous Tynwald Hill. Make you way back along the country roads to bring you back to Douglas.

Points of Interest:

- Castle Rushen
- The Sound
- Niarbyl
- Peel Castle
- Tynwald Hill

#### Ride Day 2:

Ramsey – Jurby – Point of Ayre – Ramsey

#### 40.5 miles

A flat 40-mile tour of the Northern Plains, starting and finishing at Ramsey's Victorian Iron Pier.

From the Ramsey Queen's 2,241 foot iron Pier which is currently under restoration, make your way through Ramsey which takes its name from the Norse phrase wild garlic river and was the most convenient harbour to England, Scotland, Ireland and Scandinavia, invaded by Vikings and the Scots in its time. Explore the historic estates of Milntown as you ride out of Ramsey which displays an important collection of vintage cars and motorcycles.

Make your way past Andreas Church, through St Judes and around the Curraghs before cycling up the coast Road to Jurby which is a good stop for a refreshment. From here it's a smooth journey passing a choice of nature reserves on remote countryside roads before reaching Bride and the turning point to the Point of Ayre.

From the Point of Ayre, make your way back into Ramsey and be sure to explore the high street which is known for its small independent boutiques and novelty gift shops.

Points of Interest

- Queens Pier
- Isle of Man Motor Museum
- Jurby Transport Museum
- Andreas Church
- Ayres Nature Reserve

#### Ride Day 3:

Douglas – Laxey – Dhoon Glen – Douglas

30.3 miles





This route takes you out of the Island's capital and into Laxey and its beautiful surroundings.

Make you way around the coastline taking in the view along Douglas promenade and King Edward road. Take a left at the Bibaloe Beg Road which will take you past Conrhenny Plantation and give you spectacular countryside views. Be sure to stop at King Orry's grave where there are remains of two prehistoric chambered tombs: King Orry's Grave, the largest cairn, is estimated to have been built during Neolithic times around 5000 years ago by farmers as memorials to their ancestors. Across the road is the other tomb. To find the site, follow the sign and path to find the stone circle which is behind a house.

From here, meander your way around to Dhoon Glen and up to Glen Mona before making your way back through to Laxey. In Laxey, stop to explore the famous Lady Isabella Water Wheel and the promenade for stunning coastal views. Continue along the coast road to make your way back to Douglas.

Points of Interest

- Laxey Woollen Mills
- Laxey Wheel
- Laxey Beach
- Dhoon Glen

Extra Routes

- <u>https://www.visitisleofman.com/see-and-do/active-and-adventure/cycling/road-cycling</u>
- <u>https://www.visitisleofman.com/see-and-do/active-and-adventure/cycling/mountain-biking</u>

## Contact

Speak with the Travel Trade team for more information or for a bespoke itinerary for your group or tour: (01624) 686888 traveltrade@gov.im