

Group Day Out – Itinerary

Vikings in Tynwald, Peel and the North

A journey to one of the most important ancient monuments on the Island - the landmark four-tiered Tynwald Hill to discover the Viking legacy. Continuing the story of Viking rule visit the House of Manannan or the fortress of Peel Castle in the fishing port of Peel before taking the scenic coastal route to the northern town of Ramsey. Optional visit to Norse crosses or Ramsey's historic houses, before boarding the Manx Electric Railway for a leisurely return to Douglas.



Tynwald Hill



House of Manannan



Manx Electric Railway

MORNING

A 15 minute journey from Douglas brings you to the heart of the Island and landmark site of **Tynwald Hill**, the ancient meeting place of the Manx parliamentary assembly and where the Island's laws are proclaimed each year on our National Day. Tynwald, was thought to be established in the Viking Age over a thousand years ago, making it the oldest continuous parliament in the world.

A 30 minute – 1 hour tour by a Blue Badge guide could also include a visit to the **Royal Chapel** which is linked by a pathway to the hill and the **Culture Vannin Tynwald and Cultural Exhibition Centre** (open weekdays) located opposite. The centre covers Tynwald's connection to other 'thing sites' around the world like Thingvellir in Iceland, unique Manx customs, Lego model of the Tynwald Day procession and gift shop.

Continue the Viking story at Peel (a 6 minute drive away), allowing 2 hours to journey through the life-sized reconstructions at the **House of Manannan** guided by the legendary sea god. As well as the impressive replica Viking ship Odin's Raven the interactive museum includes discoveries from Peel Castle and tells the story of the time when the Island ruled The Kingdom of Mann and the Isles.



Touring the ruins of Peel Castle takes 1 hour with audio guides available. Situated on St Patrick's Isle, it was originally a place of worship before becoming the fort of Magnus Barefoot – an 11th century Viking King of Mann.

LUNCH

Take some free time in Peel for lunch. The House of Manannan has an on-site café or the adjacent traditional pub The Creek. In walking distance your clients could opt for a taste of fresh seafood delicacies and Manx produce at the kiosks, local cafes (Roots) or quayside bistros (The Boatyard and Chris Franklins). It is recommended to call the preferred seated indoor eating out establishments in advance to check opening times and inform them of your group visit. Find them in the [Supplier Directory](#) – search Eating Out and Peel and the West.

AFTERNOON

Continue the journey on the scenic coastal road North.

If your group wishes to continue the Viking theme, **Jurby Church** and/or **Maughold Church** (and crosshouse) have Norse and Viking cross-slabs to view. Jurby holds a remaining piece of the Heimdall cross, showing him with the Giallar horn guarding Bifrost, the bridge to Asgard, realm of the Norse gods. Maughold has the Island's largest collection of carved Celtic and Viking Crosses in the grounds of St Maughold Church including one of the earliest examples of the Triskellion, the Manx three legs emblem.

There is an option for your group to opt for time in the northern town of Ramsey. This was the most convenient harbour to England, Scotland, Ireland and Scandinavia, invaded by Vikings and the Scots in its time. The town has a number of independent shops, sandy beach, quayside and Queen's Pier which is currently being restored.

Alternatively on the outskirts of the town choose from a visit to **Milntown Estate House Tour and Gardens** or a visit to **The Grove**, for a glimpse into Victorian Life at this home which was summer retreat for the Gibb family.

At Ramsey or Maughold your group can board the **Manx Electric Railway** back via Laxey to Douglas, taking 1 hour 15 minutes.

Contact

To arrange a group visit to any MNH attractions – House of Manannan, Peel Castle and The Grove contact lynn.mckibbin@mnh.im, +44 (0) 1624 648017.

To reserve the Manx Electric Railway and obtain the best value passes for your group for your length of visit to the Isle of Man contact hireme@gov.im or +44 (0) 1624 697400.

To speak with the Travel Trade team for more information about this itinerary or create a bespoke itinerary for your group or tour contact:



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