



WDCS POD Plod

27th to 30th August 2010

Description:

The Moray Firth is a beautiful and unspoilt part of Northern Scotland and home to one of just three populations of bottlenose dolphins around the UK.

This exciting challenge offers you the chance to experience the breathtaking scenery along the Moray Coastal Trail between Findhorn Bay and Spey Bay, whilst raising valuable funds to help protect the dolphins of the Moray Firth.

The 26 mile sponsored walk will take place over two days and will be led by Sarah Dolman, WDCS's Protect Our Dolphins Campaign Lead and Alice Pope, WDCS's Scottish Conservation Officer.

The base for the walk will be at the beautiful seaside town of Lossiemouth with its spectacular scenery and beautiful sandy beaches. You will stay at the Stotfield Hotel, a large Victorian building built in 1895, with panoramic views overlooking the Moray Firth.

Highlights:

- Enjoy a short break in a beautiful part of Scotland
- Bottlenose dolphin and wildlife watching boat cruise
- Breathtaking coastal scenery
- Dolphin watching opportunities from viewing spots along the route, and at the Wildlife Centre
- Learn more about our Protect Our Dolphins campaign from WDCS staff
- Enjoy a reception and guided tour of the WDCS Wildlife Centre at Spey Bay
- Shore-based dolphin watching with Charlie Philips, WDCS's Adopt a Dolphin Field Officer at Chanonry Point

Itinerary:

Day 1 (Friday 27th): Travel to Inverness to be met by a member of WDCS staff. Transfer to the Stotfield Hotel in Lossiemouth. Late afternoon/early evening boat cruise from Lossiemouth.

Day 2 (Saturday 28th): Transfer from Stotfield Hotel to Findhorn Bay for 8.30 - 9am start. Walk from Findhorn Bay back to Lossiemouth (16 miles), with lunch at Burghead and shore based dolphin watching opportunity along the way. Evening meal at hotel with WDCS staff and Charlie Phillips as guest.

Day 3 (Sunday 29th): Walk from Lossiemouth to Spey Bay (10 miles), with lunch at Kingston overlooking the nature reserve and



Spey Bay. Tea and cake reception on arrival at WDCS Wildlife Centre. Guided tour of Wildlife Centre, Ice House and nature reserve. Shore based dolphin watching opportunity from the beach in front of the centre. Transfer back to Inverness late afternoon/early evening for return journey.

Day 4 (Monday 30th): Trip to Chanonry Point for shore based dolphin watching with Charlie Phillips in the morning for those people travelling home in the afternoon.

N.B. The itinerary is there as a guide and may change due to bad weather, tides, wildlife movements, the strength of the group and so on. We will do our very best to keep to the set itinerary, however, we cannot be held responsible for any last minute changes that might occur. *Please also remember that dolphins are wild animals and therefore sightings cannot be guaranteed.*

Price: £150 deposit payable on booking. Minimum sponsorship amount of £500.

Price includes:

All transfers; dolphin and wildlife watching boat trip; two nights dinner, bed & breakfast accommodation at the Stotfield Hotel in Lossiemouth; all lunches and snacks; tea and cake reception at WDCS Wildlife centre at Spey Bay; trip to Chanonry Point for shore based dolphin watching with Charlie Phillips; POD campaign t-shirt; memento goody bag.

Price excludes:

Travel to Inverness; one night accommodation in Inverness for Sunday evening; travel insurance; alcoholic drinks; personal items.

Guides:

Sarah Dolman (WDCS's Protect Our Dolphins Campaign Lead), Alice Pope (WDCS's Scottish Conservation Officer), various WDCS staff based at the Wildlife Centre in Spey Bay.

Important travel information:

You are free to decide how you would like to travel to Inverness for the start

of your trip; we would recommend arriving at Inverness by lunchtime or early afternoon if possible for transfer to Lossiemouth and the boat trip. You can be met from the airport, main train station or bus stop in Inverness by WDCS staff. For your return journey home you will need to book flights etc for late afternoon/early evening on the Monday if you wish to go to Chanonry Point.

