

# Puffer Steamboat Holidays, Co. Ltd.

## “VIC 32” BOOKING FORM – SUMMER 2019

Contact Cathy at Puffer Steamboat Holidays, Crinan Boatyard, Crinan, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8SW.  
Tel: 01546830133 or email : savethepuffer@hotmail.co.uk

Please reserve space for.....people on the S.L 'VIC 32' for week/s starting with  
Cruise.....week beginning.....

- Berth preference (please tick)
- Bunk(s) in twin cabin
  - Double bunk cabin
  - Single occupancy (If you are not prepared to share the cabin payment is required for both berths less 20%)
  - We are vegetarian (tick if yes)

Other dietary requirements (we can deal with food intolerances but are unable to cater for severe food allergies).

I/we would like to become a 'Friend of VIC 32' and would like to receive the Puffer Preservation Trust Gift Aid form by post; tick if yes

I/we would like a bus timetable, tick if yes)

(NB There is no timetable for Cruise H and I. Please enquire of Scotrail for trains for Fort William and Corpach or Inverness as appropriate ).

Full Name.....

Names of other party members.....

Address.....

Postcode .....

Home Telephone ..... Mobile Telephone .....

Email address .....

Please complete the form and either post it or email it to the Trust.

I have read the brochure and enclose a deposit of £100 per person. I will pay the balance due at least 30 days before the start of my cruise.

Please note : All cheques payable to Puffer Steamboat Holidays Ltd. All payments must be made in £ sterling .Our bank transfer details are as follows:

A/C90066332.Sort Code 82-66-11. IBAN GB19CLYD82661190066332

Signature..... Date .....

We are in compliance with current GDPR guidelines,our privacy policy is available on request.

Please tick the appropriate box below if any of the activities indicated interest you.

Navigation Crew: (i.e.on the Bridge, studying charts, Wrestling with the wheel and the Captain’s temper.)	
Engineer/Stoker (i.e. getting dirty, burnt, hot and sweaty.)	
Deckhand (i.e. getting ropes from boat to quay, casting off etc.)	
Deckchair Hand (i.e. keeping clean and watching all the others get dirty.)	

## Cruise Descriptions

**CRUISE A.** On arrival at Crinan, having welcomed you to the boat, we might suggest a woodland walk to blow the journey's cobwebs away. On Monday morning we venture through the lovely Crinan Canal built over 200 years ago by John Rennie- prepare those lock – gate pushing muscles! On Tuesday we depart from Ardrishaig and head up Loch Fyne, famed for its kippers and beauty to anchor off Crarae gardens and for those intrepid enough to enjoy a dinghy trip ashore, walk around amongst rhododendrons and azaleas. On to admire Lachlan Castle and on again to Tarbert, a busy fishing village full of life. Having spent the night at the pier, we continue on Wednesday morning to Lochranza on the Island of Arran. We anchor in the bay close to a seal colony and bicycles may be hired in the village. On Thursday we steam to Millport on the Island of Great Cumbrae, famed for its chocolate shop and bicycling around the island. During lunch we continue to Rothesay, on the Island of Bute and in the afternoon you might visit Mountstuart House or just potter around this Glaswegian holiday resort with a Victorian atmosphere and 1098 Castle. On Friday we return to Ardrishaig via a brief look in at Loch Riddon and Tighnabruich.

**CRUISE B.** The itinerary is partially the same as Cruise A but we do not make a passage through the Crinan canal and have an extra day in the area. The cruise starts in Ardrishaig and ends in central Glasgow. You will be advised of the exact location on receipt of your holiday balance.

**CRUISE C.** The itinerary is the same as Cruise B but starts in Glasgow. Here again, you will be advised of the exact location on receipt of your holiday balance.

**CRUISE D.** This is a new cruise in the Loch Fyne and Clyde area starting and finishing at Ardrishaig, a small harbour at the eastern end of the Crinan Canal. Walk its colourful banks on your arrival. We may visit any or all of the following places during the cruise according to the Skipper's whim and fancy: Tarbert, Lochranza, Millport, Largs, Rothesay, Dunoon, Blairmore, Carrick Castle in Loch Goil, the Holy Loch, the Gareloch including passing the submarine base at Faslane, Helensburgh, Greenoch, Tighnabruich, Loch Riddon and viewing the Maids of Bute.

**CRUISE E.** The itinerary is the same as Cruise A but is reversed. The cruise starts at Ardrishaig and ends at Crinan.

**CRUISE F.** We greet you at Crinan and may well suggest you enjoy our local woodland walk. However you are most welcome to stay on board and browse through our library. On Monday morning we steam silently away, out of the sea-loch and set off from Crinan for Tayvallich in Loch Sween, anchoring on the way in the Fairy Isles, swimming amongst the seals or exploring the area. On Tuesday, having climbed Tor Mor for the view over the Sound of Jura, we may land on one of the MacCormaig Isles and on to Craighouse on Jura. On Wednesday, we may continue on to Loch Melfort via distant views of the dreaded Corryvreckan whirlpool! On Thursday we cruise to Ardmaddy Gardens or Arduaine and walk around the gardens, then on to Loch Craignish via Loch Shuna and the Dorus Mor. On Friday we return to Crinan, having stopped for lunch near Macaskin Island. You will be lucky if you see a pier on this cruise let alone civilization! So be prepared to brave the boat's boarding ladder as we will be using the dinghy for access ashore.

**CRUISE G.** This cruise is similar to Cruise F, we might if the weather is suitable go to COLONSAY by public transport, (if available). This is a long day out so one does need some stamina. However it is well worth it. We leave the Puffer on the pier at Craighouse, Jura and taking a picnic lunch with us, we go by bus to Feolin where we board the little ferry to Port Askaig, Islay. From there we scramble up the gangplank of the enormous Caledonian MacBrayne ferry to Colonsay (approx 1 hour ).A bus tour of the Island is a possibility although you can spend the day walking and exploring this magical isle.

The beach at Kiloran is pure beauty and Colonsay House gardens are well worthwhile. We return to the Puffer the same way. The cost of the transport this day will be added to your 'bar bill' at the end of the week and invoiced to you accordingly. It will be approximately £25.00.

Or we might if the weather is suitable anchor in Seil Sound and dinghy ashore to walk 2 miles across Seil Island to Easdale where we take the little ferry to Easdale Island. Picnic lunch amongst the ancient slate quarries and return to the Puffer. We have recently discovered the delights of Ardmaddy garden and will try to visit here if the schedule on either Cruise F or G allows.

**CRUISE H.** We welcome you on board at Corpach, Fort William. On Monday morning we steam off out of the sea lock and explore Loch Linnhe toward the Corran Narrows and Loch Eil, where the Puffer

worked during the war. We return in the afternoon into the Caledonian Canal which was built by Thomas Telford in 1822. On Tuesday we climb Neptune's Staircase, make our way to Gaerloch and walk up to Loch Arkaig on the Achnacarry estate, perhaps visiting the Cameron Museum. On Wednesday we continue along the canal, anchoring in quiet leafy Loch Oich by Invergarry Castle and walk around the estate. On to Fort Augustus and its Benedictine Abbey, via Culloch and Kytra locks when the intrepid may wish to walk along the towpath, following the boat and picking wild fungi, blackberries and nuts. On Thursday morning we set off early and travel to Foyers on Loch Ness for a quick walk up to the waterfall, then on to Inverness in time for shopping and perhaps an evening visit to the Eden Court theatre or cinema. We have developed a little extra itinerary (at a reasonably small extra cost) by taking taxis to either Cawdor or Brodie Castles via the ancient Klava Cairns. On Friday we hope to leave the canal at Clachnaharry sea-lock and travel under the Black Isle bridge, down the Firth to Chanonry Point opposite Fort George and puff amongst dolphins and porpoises. We return to Muirtown Canal Basin, Inverness and if travelling by car, mini-bus transport to your vehicle.

**CRUISE I.** The itinerary and return transport arrangements are the same as Cruise H, although reversed. You join at Muirtown Canal Basin, Inverness and the journey ends at Corpach, Fort William.

Please ask about becoming a 'Friend of VIC 32'. For an annual subscription, receive our newsletter 'The Calliope' and help us continue VIC 32's restoration.

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### TRAVEL TO REACH THE PUFFER

If you travel by road, there is car parking available at Ardrishaig, Crinan, Corpach or Inverness. Public transport to Ardrishaig is by bus from Buchanan Street bus station in Glasgow (near to Central Railway Station). Short journey onwards to Crinan by local taxi from Lochgilphead bus stop. Public transport to Corpach is best by Scotrail from Glasgow (Queen Street Station) - or sleeper from London Euston via Glasgow-which covers the dramatic and scenic West Highland route over Rannoch Moor or even aeroplane to Inverness from anywhere.

### 2019 SUMMER WEEKLY CRUISE SCHEDULE ON 'VIC 32' 38th YEAR OF CRUISING

Date	Day	Cruise	Price per person	Embarkation / Disembarkation port
April 28	Sun	A	£1082	Crinan - Ardrishaig
May 5	Sun	D	£1082	Ardrishaig - Ardrishaig
May 12	Sun	B	£1082	Ardrishaig - Glasgow
**May 18-24 (excluding May 20 /21 ) Day trips / suppers Glasgow				
May 26	Sun	C	£1082	Glasgow - Ardrishaig
June 2	Sun	D	£1082	Ardrishaig - Ardrishaig
June 9	Sun	E	£1082	Ardrishaig - Crinan
June 23	Sun	F	£1082	Crinan - Crinan
June 30	Sun	G	£1082	Crinan - Crinan

Free trips round Crinan Bay: Saturday, Sunday, Monday, July 6 /7 / 8

Day trips: Thursday July 11th, Friday July 12<sup>th</sup>, Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup>, Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup>,

Monday July 15th, from Crinan. £1080 per trip (for 10 persons).

July 21	Sun	F	£1082	Crinan - Crinan
July 28	Sun	G	£1082	Crinan - Crinan
Aug 11	Sun	H	£1082	Corpach - Inverness
Aug 18	Sun	I	£1082	Inverness - Corpach
Aug 25	Sun	H	£1082	Corpach - Inverness
Sept 1	Sun	I	£1082	Inverness - Corpach
Sept 8	Sun	H	£1082	Corpach - Inverness
Sept 15	Sun	I	£1082	Inverness - Corpach

Group bookings should pay a deposit of 25 % of the holiday cost and the balance 45 days before the start of your holiday.

Cruises A/B/C/D/E/H and I- for group bookings; the holiday price is £12,985 (for 12 people).

For cruises F& G – for group bookings; the holiday price is £10,820 (for 10 people).

Inverness Open Weekend: Aug 31 – Sep 1st. The boat will be stationary at Muirtown Canal Basin, open to the public from 9.00am to 4.30pm, both days for guided tours and the opportunity to buy Puffer souvenirs.

On cruises H and I free transport will be available to return you to your vehicle at either Corpach or Inverness. For cruises B & C we recommend the Glasgow Campbeltown City-Link (West Coast Motors) Bus.

If you travel by road, there is car parking available at Ardrishaig, Crinan, Corpach or Inverness .

Public transport to Ardrishaig is by bus from Buchanan Street bus station in Glasgow (taxi to Central Railway Station or 15 min walk up hill). Short journey onwards to Crinan by local taxi (pre-booking essential) from Lochgilphead bus stop.

Public transport to Corpach is best by Scotrail from Glasgow (Queen Street Station), or sleeper from London Euston via Glasgow which covers the dramatic scenery of the West Highland Route over Rannoch Moor or even aeroplane to Inverness from anywhere.

Travel advice will be sent to you with confirmation of your booking.

For any cruise or day trip that involves Glasgow the vessel is now based at Yorkhill Quay, Riverside Museum. There is good pay and display car parking here. For a day trip buy two 4 hour tickets and display on windscreen, (Post Code G3 8RS). If this berth is not available to us, you will be told nearer the time, where to embark the boat.

\*\* Between the dates, May 18/24 (excluding May 20/21) the Puffer will be available for Glasgow based 'Day Trips' (£1080) for a group of up to 12 persons; down and back up the River Clyde included is morning coffee, buffet lunch and afternoon tea.

The boat is based at Yorkhill Quay Riverside Museum (Post Code G3 8RS). There is good pay and display car parking here. For a day trip buy two 4 hour tickets and display on your windscreen.

We will also be available for 'Puffer Suppers' at £50 per person in groups of 12 persons. Please ask for the supplementary form/s to be completed for the Glasgow Day Trips and the 'Puffer Suppers'.

These holidays are for any age group, but a modicum of physical and mental agility is necessary. The Puffer is a coal-fired steamboat and the funnel emits the occasional cloud of black smoke with the inevitable effect of causing black smuts and grime on deck – so we do not recommend that you go to Harrods Boating Department for your holiday outfit! 'VIC 32' is not a luxury liner; she is a comfortable passenger puffer.

Schedules depend on weather conditions and other factors and the operators reserve the right to make changes or cancel cruises. Passengers should arrive after 3.30pm on Sunday on all cruises and leave before 4.00pm the following Friday.

All cabins have charging points for your mobile phones etc. Please bring the device that you use to charge your mobile phone in your car.

The Puffer Steamboat Holidays, Co. Ltd is an ancillary of The Puffer Preservation Trust Co. Ltd and is a non-profit making company. All earnings are ploughed back into the Trust and the money is spent on our hull replacement programme.

Booking Form enquiries and payments to be SENT BY POST to Cathy at Puffer Steamboat Holidays, Crinan Boatyard, Crinan, LOCHGILPHEAD, Argyll. PA31 8SW. Tel: 01546 830 133 .

Email: savethepuffer@hotmail.co.uk