

# Stornoway

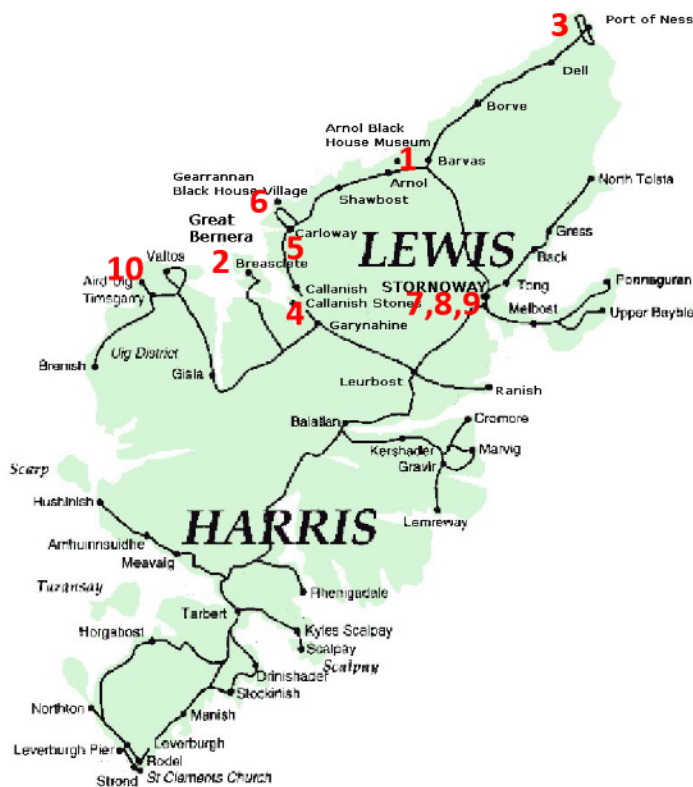
## “Gateway to the Outer Hebrides”

The largest town in the Western Isles of Scotland.

An ideal base from which to explore the many ancient sites on the Isle of Lewis and the adjoining Isle of Harris.

A regular ferry service operates to Stornoway from Ullapool.

Tarbet on Harris has services to both Uig, Isle of Skye and Lochmaddy, North Uist



1. Arnol Blackhouse
2. Bosta Iron Age House
3. Butt of Lewis Lighthouse
4. Callanish Standing Stones
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**Arnol Black House** Built in around 1880, No.42 Arnol gives a special insight into island life. This blackhouse was once the residence of a Hebridean crofting family and their animals, who moved out in 1966, and today it is preserved almost as the family left it. A peat fire burns in the open hearth with the smoke filtering out through the roof.



**Bosta Iron Age House** In 1993 a great winter storm reconfigured the beach at Bostadh, revealing a series of well preserved houses, some virtually intact. The main settlement was occupied around the 6th-9th centuries comprising a cluster of semi-sunken circular buildings, each with a rectangular central hearth and at least one smaller chamber opposite the main entrance.



**Butt of Lewis Lighthouse** The Butt of Lewis itself comprises rocks and cliffs of 60 to 80 feet high. It is no surprise to find it's the location for a lighthouse, though to find a red brick lighthouse in a country better known for painting them white is less expected. The Butt of Lewis Lighthouse stands 121ft high and was built between 1859 and 1862.



**Callanish Standing Stones** are an extraordinary cross-shaped setting of stones erected 5,000 years ago. They predate England's famous Stonehenge monument, and were an important place for ritual activity for at least 2,000 years. It is believed it was an astronomical observatory.



**Carloway Broch** an excellent example of a structure found only in Scotland. At 11 feet, it still stands close to its impressive full height. The broch was probably constructed about 200 BC. Broch-building ceased around AD 100 but continued in use. Dun Carloway may have been used until about 1000. It's also said to have been used as a stronghold by the Morrison Clan during the 1500s.



**Garrannan Blackhouse Village** consists of 9 restored traditional thatched cottages, which were lived in until 1974 and were the last group of blackhouses to be inhabited in the Western Isles. There is a Café, a museum (a blackhouse set in 1955), a resource center and a small gift shop.



**Lews Castle** A Victorian castle built in the mid 1800s. Whether searching for a delicious handcrafted dish, a frothy cappuccino, a gift from our Outfitters store, luxurious holiday accommodation or an unforgettable journey through our ground floor public rooms – Lews Castle by Natural Retreats offers exceptional experiences in the heart of Stornoway.



**Museum nan Eilean** is an exciting new museum and public archive in the leafy grounds of Lews Castle, in a building inspired by the former glasshouses on the same site. The museum introduces life in the Outer Hebrides from prehistory to the present day with a range of Gaelic-led exhibitions including significant archaeological finds from the National Museum Scotland.



**Stornoway Harbour** The main port for the Outer Hebrides, Stornoway's safe natural harbour allows vessels of up to 6.5m draft in all weather. The port is home to a small fishing fleet, a fabrication yard, a commercial slipway, coastguard station, lifeboat station and is the main ferry port for the Outer Hebrides with both freight and passenger ferries operating daily. The inner harbour has a marina facility for small yachts. The port is the heart of the town of Stornoway and all major services are readily available. The port is open 24/7 all year round and visiting vessels should report in on channel 16 (working channel 12). The approach to Stornoway is by one outer channel entrance to the harbour 4 cable width with at least 12m depth. The inner channel also has 4 cable width with at least 6.5m depth.

**Uig Sands** The landscape here is hillier, and more dramatic than elsewhere on Lewis, with its combination of myriad islets, wild cliff scenery and patches of pristine golden sand. The area extends from Brenish in the west to Lochganvich in the east. Uig beach is famous for being the site where the Lewis Chessmen, 12th century Viking chess pieces, were found.

