# Engineer completes 900-mile Land's End to John O'Groats journey by 46 buses in under eight days



James White, a 42-year-old chartered engineer from London, recently completed a unique adventure: a bus journey from Land's End to John O'Groats, spanning nearly 900 miles across the UK. His odyssey, which took seven days, six hours, and 59 minutes, began in September when he decided to prove that it was indeed possible to traverse the country using public transport alone.

White's journey, far from being a leisurely jaunt, involved navigating a series of bus routes, resulting in a total of 46 different buses. He aimed to document his experience while encountering the diverse stories of fellow passengers along the way. Speaking to Metro, he described his initial inspiration for the trip as stemming from a chance encounter with a bus stop during a visit to Land’s End.

Throughout his travels, White encountered a mix of scenic beauty and local characters. One memorable interaction took place in Bodmin, Cornwall, where he met a man who candidly admitted to drinking since the morning and attempted to sell him a pigeon that had flown into his flat. White recounted, “I wasn’t in the market for a companion at that point of the journey.”

In addition to eccentric characters, White also overheard conversations that piqued his curiosity. Notably, he recalled two women discussing the enigmatic circumstances surrounding a woman named Sally and why her husband had left her, a mystery that remained unresolved by the end of his trip.

White's route took him through various towns including Penzance, Bristol, Worcester, Macclesfield, and Leeds. While he was impressed by many of the bus services, he noted that the number 192 bus from Stockport to Manchester was less enjoyable. “It has a reputation for the characters who tend to use it – my journey was no exception,” he stated, opting to remain diplomatic about the experience.

Conversely, he found the Scottish buses, particularly the X99 from Inverness to Thurso, to be quite comfortable, noting that they resemble coaches due to the longer distances they cover. The scenic views along this route were a highlight, showcasing the picturesque A9 coastal drive through the Highlands.

The cost of White's journey amounted to just over £200, and he successfully raised £4,000 for the mental health charity Campaign Against Living Miserably. Upon reaching John O'Groats, he expressed a sense of satisfaction rather than overwhelming joy, having achieved what he set out to prove.

This unconventional travel story not only highlights the variety of experiences that bus travel can offer but also sheds light on the characters and conversations that contribute to the journey. White's project serves as a testament to the interesting facets of public transport and the narratives woven into each trip across the UK.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://lejog.org/guide-book-or-blog/move-along-please-lands-end-to-john-ogroats-by-local-bus/> - This article details an individual's journey from Land's End to John O'Groats using 46 buses over 11 days, highlighting the feasibility of such a trip entirely by public transport.
2. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/howaboutthat/10947507/Its-a-record-four-days-by-bus-from-Lands-End-to-John-OGroats.html> - This news piece reports on a 16-year-old who set a record by traveling from Land's End to John O'Groats in four days using 36 buses, demonstrating the practicality of long-distance bus travel across the UK.
3. <https://www.twowanderingsoles.com/blog/lands-end-to-john-o-groats-uk> - This travel blog provides insights into planning a journey from Land's End to John O'Groats using public transportation, including bus and train options, and offers practical tips for such an adventure.
4. <https://www.timeoutdoors.com/events/babble-ride-across-britain/scotland-route> - This event listing details a nine-day cycling challenge from Land's End to John O'Groats, showcasing the endurance required for such a cross-country journey.
5. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/howaboutthat/10947507/Its-a-record-four-days-by-bus-from-Lands-End-to-John-OGroats.html> - This article highlights the experiences of a traveler who encountered diverse stories and characters during a bus journey from Land's End to John O'Groats, emphasizing the human interactions possible on such trips.
6. <https://www.twowanderingsoles.com/blog/lands-end-to-john-o-groats-uk> - This blog post discusses the challenges and experiences of traveling from Land's End to John O'Groats by public transport, including navigating various bus routes and the time commitment involved.
7. <https://metro.co.uk/2025/05/02/i-took-46-buses-lands-end-john-o-groats-this-grimmest-one-23008500/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data