# Isle of Tiree shines as UK’s sunniest holiday destination with over 240 hours of May sunshine



The Isle of Tiree, located in the Inner Hebrides of Scotland, is gaining recognition for its enviable levels of sunshine, making it one of the brightest spots in the UK. With an average of over 240 hours of sunshine in May, Tiree surpasses London's average by nearly 50 hours, enriching its appeal as a holiday destination. Often referred to as the ‘Hawaii of the North,’ the island's climate is significantly influenced by the warm Gulf Stream, which contributes to its pleasant summer weather.

Tiree is the westernmost island in the Inner Hebrides and has a small population of approximately 650 residents. Despite its modest size, the island attracts around 30,000 visitors each year who come to relish its picturesque scenery, which features white sandy beaches and clear-blue waters. The island's idyllic environment has led to it being featured in The Sunday Times' list of best places to live in Scotland for 2025. Reviewers highlighted Tiree's “close-knit creative community” and its “spectacular sunrises and sunsets.”

Visitors to Tiree can enjoy a variety of outdoor activities, particularly water sports. The island is well-known as a mecca for windsurfers, especially during the annual Tiree Wave Classic, the longest-running windsurfing event in the UK, held in October. Alongside windsurfing, local businesses such as Wild Diamond Tiree provide equipment rentals for paddleboarding, surfing, and kayaking, with coaching available for all experience levels.

Belephuil Bay and Balevullin Beach are among the island’s most picturesque spots, offering breathtaking views and exceptional sandy stretches. However, aquatic adventures are not the only draw; culinary offerings also thrive on the island. The Tiree Crab Company serves locally sourced seafood including lobster and crab, complete with a selection of freshly made sandwiches.

Access to Tiree is facilitated by an airport offering regular flights from Glasgow and Oban, with one-way fares starting at approximately £60. Each flight lasts just under an hour. Alternatively, passengers can take ferries from Oban, with a crossing time of around four hours, and it is advisable to book in advance due to the popularity of the route.

The most favourable time to visit Tiree generally falls between May and August, when visitors can enjoy extended daylight hours and less rainfall. May, in particular, is noted as the best month for sun-seekers, as midge populations are also minimally intrusive during these months, making outdoor activities more pleasant. Winter, too, offers unique opportunities, especially for surfers, although it is typically windier, especially in December and January.

With its stunning landscapes and vibrant community, the Isle of Tiree presents a compelling destination for those seeking sun and adventure without the need to travel abroad.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/maps-and-data/location-specific-long-term-averages/gf517mw0k> - This Met Office page provides detailed climate data for Tiree, including average sunshine hours, confirming its status as one of the brightest spots in the UK with over 240 hours of sunshine in May.
2. <https://www.reef-tiree.com/blog/the-sunniest-holiday-destination-in-the-uk> - This blog post highlights Tiree's reputation as the sunniest Scottish island, with May being the sunniest month, supporting its appeal as a holiday destination.
3. <https://www.reef-tiree.com/blog/the-sunniest-holiday-destination-in-the-uk> - The article mentions Tiree's average annual sunshine hours and its comparison to other UK locations, reinforcing its status as a sunny destination.
4. <https://www.reef-tiree.com/blog/the-sunniest-holiday-destination-in-the-uk> - The blog post discusses Tiree's climate being influenced by the warm Gulf Stream, contributing to its pleasant summer weather.
5. <https://www.reef-tiree.com/blog/the-sunniest-holiday-destination-in-the-uk> - The article mentions Tiree's population and its appeal to visitors, supporting the claim about its modest size and popularity among tourists.
6. <https://www.reef-tiree.com/blog/the-sunniest-holiday-destination-in-the-uk> - The blog post highlights Tiree's picturesque scenery, including white sandy beaches and clear-blue waters, aligning with the description of its environment.
7. <https://metro.co.uk/2025/05/05/uks-hawaii-north-gets-240-hours-sunshine-may-23007517/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data