Naturalist Studies in the Highlands of Scotland
Sample Travel Itinerary
Naturalist Studies in the Highlands of Scotland: Program Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival
Aigas minibuses will collect CTY families on July xxth at the railway station around 4:00 p.m. Following arrival at Aigas Field Centre, the group will meet for afternoon tea and cake. In the evening, we have our first dinner together and a relaxed evening to settle in and get to know each other.

*Overnight: Aigas Field Centre (D)*

Day 2: Aigas and Glen Strathfarrar
We’ll spend the morning exploring the estate itself. We will play games, discover its wildlife, look for critters great and small, and delve into the ancient history of this area at Aigas’ Bronze Age site that dates back over 3,000 years. In the afternoon we’ll head out to one of the local glens—the stunning and secluded Glen Strathfarrar. Here we’ll search the landscape for the supreme hunter, the golden eagle, and other wildlife such as the majestic red deer. Exploring Scotland’s iconic landscape by foot reveals the hidden truth and beauty.

*Overnight: Aigas Field Centre (B,L,D)*

Day 3: The Black Isle
Aigas is fortunate to boast a huge variety of habitats right on their doorstep, and this fertile, estuary bound peninsular is proof of that. Abounding with wildlife, we’ll search for creatures of the foreshore and also the dolphins living in the Moray Firth, which are the largest bottlenose dolphins in the world. We’ll investigate the strange folklore of this land and look into its unique geology, and we may also have a boat trip, weather permitting.

*Overnight: Aigas Field Centre (B,L,D)*
Day 4: West Coast
No visit would be complete without a trip to the stunning, rugged west coast of the Highlands. We will take a walk down to the hugely impressive Corrieshalloch Gorge, play on the white sandy beaches, and even hope to find Britain’s largest bird of prey - the white-tailed sea eagle - which has been re-introduced to the area.

*Overnight: Aigas Field Centre (B,L,D)*

Day 5: History Day
Today we’ll dive into Scotland’s bloody past, with a visit to Culloden Battlefield, the site of the last battle on British soil in 1746 and we’ll have our own battle re-enactment. We also visit the mysterious Clava Cairns, an ancient and secretive site dated to 2000 BC. In the afternoon, we return to Aigas for bushcraft and games.

*Overnight: Aigas Field Centre (B,L,D)*
Day 6: Glen Affric Today we spend the day exploring one of the oldest habitats in Britain - the native Caledonia Pinewoods of Glen Affric, a local glen often hailed as Scotland's most beautiful landscape. We walk amongst ancient granny pines, looking for invertebrates and listening out for the native crested tit and Scottish crossbill. Following this, we take a short walk to see the magnificent Plodda Falls. 
*Overnight: Aigas Field Centre (B,L,D)*

Day 7: Aigas and Beauly
For the kids, we'll spend the day having fun on site with options of different activities and time to complete the group project that we will work on throughout the week. For the adults, there is the option of a trip to Beauly, our local village, a tour around the ancient priory and a tour around our local whisky distillery. Alternatively, you can take some time off to relax on the estate. In the afternoon, we will have a chance to learn some of the moves for our evening ceilidh, plus more activities and time to relax with our new friends. 
*Overnight: Aigas Field Centre (B,L,D)*

Day 8: Departure
You will depart shortly after breakfast. However, we are sure that you'll be leaving on a high; with new friends, new knowledge, and new memories.