

Group/School: xxxxxxxx
Leading party member: xxxxxxxx
Address: xxxxxxxx
Email address: xxxxxxxx
Outline course details: xxxxxxxx

Dates:xxxxxxx

Day one

Flight to Inverness Airport/ transfer to Ullapool / arrive at accommodation.

Optional field session (time permitting).

Walk to Ullapool beach NH 122944 to collect and identify a selection of hand specimens (This beach is the distal end of a periglacial alluvial fan complex and thus contains a wonderful variety of rock types)
Evening meal

Class session 1.

Introduction to the course / health and safety / background to the geology of NW Scotland, sampling strategies, rock type ID.

Day two

Breakfast

Class session 2.

Introduction to the Moine Thrust, rock types and stratigraphy.

Field session 1.

Drive to Knockan Crag National Nature Reserve NC187090, field identification, strike and dip, rock descriptions.

Continue northwards to the Rockstop Cafe and visitor centre NC 237327, talk by Dr Laura Hamlet about the NW Highlands Geopark, geoconservation and geotourism. Views of the Glencoul Thrust.

Lunch at the cafe.

Field session 2.

Drive back towards Ullapool and stop at Inchnadamph Hotel NC 250216.

Walk up the Traligill Valley, strike and dip measurements and rock descriptions, imbricate thrusts and karst landscape, dry valleys, sinkholes, caves.

Return to accommodation in Ullapool

Evening meal

Class session 3.

Tidying up field notebooks, relating field observations to a geological map, drawing a simplified cross section from a geological map.

Day three

Breakfast

Class session 4.

Introduction to geological mapping and map reading skills.

Field session 3.

Walk from Ullapool eastwards along the A835 to Parc Mhor, walk up onto the hillside NC140940.

Geological mapping exercise, mapping exposures of Cambrian Quartzite, Fucoïd Beds, Salterella Grit, Durness Limestone Group and Lewisian Gneiss.

Lunch in the field

Mid afternoon - return to accommodation

Free time in Ullapool

Evening meal

Class session 5.

Drawing out geological maps, using a flow chart to identify hand specimens of metamorphic rocks / fabrics, discussion on sills / dykes / flows.

Day four

Breakfast

Field session 4.

Drive to Scourie village and then walk northwards along a trackway towards Bealach an Eilein NC 157457. Identifying the Scourie Dyke outcrops, rock descriptions, mineral ID. Discussion about and use of a variety of sampling strategies to measure their orientation.

Return to Scourie village.

Lunch

Field session 5.

Drive back towards Ullapool and go to Clachtoll via Lochinver.

Identifying and field sketching the unconformity between the Lewisian Gneiss and Torridonian Sandstone on Clachtoll Beach.

Drive to Stoer Village.

Walk along the coast to identify exposure of the Star Fada meteorite impact ejecta site NC 033284

Return to Ullapool

Evening meal

Class session 6.

Plotting dyke orientation and statistical analysis of the orientation data (chi-squared test).

Finishing off notebooks.

Plenary

Day five

Early breakfast

Transfer to Inverness and flight home.