

# Exploring The Nc500 Travelling Scotlands Route 66

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Exploring The Nc500 Travelling Scotlands Route 66 Conquering the NC500 Your Ultimate Guide to Scotlands Route 66 The North Coast 500 NC500 Scotlands answer to Route 66 promises a breathtaking journey through dramatic landscapes charming villages and vibrant culture But planning this epic 516mile road trip can feel overwhelming This guide tackles the common challenges faced by NC500 adventurers offering practical solutions and expert insights to help you plan an unforgettable experience Problem 1 Overwhelmed by Planning Where to Start Many aspiring NC500 travellers are daunted by the sheer scale of the route Its not just about driving its about choosing the right time to go selecting accommodation mapping out activities and understanding the potential challenges of Scottish weather The sheer volume of information online can be equally daunting Solution A structured approach is key Start by determining your trip length The NC500 can be completed in 5 days but 710 days allows for a more relaxed pace maximizing your enjoyment of the scenery and activities Consider your interests hiking wildlife spotting whisky distilleries historical sites This will help you prioritize locations and activities Utilize online resources like the official NC500 website dedicated travel blogs like this one and interactive route planners to create a personalized itinerary Remember to book accommodation well in advance especially during peak season MaySeptember Consider a mix of accommodation types from charming BBs to cozy hotels and even wild camping with proper permits Problem 2 Unpredictable Scottish Weather How to Prepare Scotlands weather is notoriously fickle Sunshine can quickly turn to rain and even summer months can experience chilly temperatures This unpredictability can significantly impact your trip if youre not prepared Solution Pack for all eventualities Layering is crucial Pack waterproof and windproof outerwear warm layers fleece jumpers comfortable walking shoes and quickdrying clothing Check the weather forecast regularly and be prepared to adjust your plans accordingly Consider investing in a good quality waterproof bag for your electronics and other sensitive items A reliable map or downloaded offline maps is essential in case of poor 2 mobile signal Remember that driving conditions can change rapidly so drive cautiously and be aware of potential hazards Problem 3 Finding Unique Experiences Beyond the Scenic Route While the stunning scenery is a major draw many travellers want to experience something more than just driving Discovering hidden gems and authentic Scottish experiences can elevate the trip significantly Solution Dive deeper than just the main route Explore the numerous side roads and hidden trails that lead to secluded beaches picturesque villages and historical sites Engage with local communities by visiting craft shops farmers markets and local pubs Consider participating in activities like whisky distillery tours kayaking hiking or wildlife watching tours Research local events and festivals happening during your travel dates for a truly immersive experience Websites like VisitScotland and local tourism boards offer a wealth of information on unique experiences Problem 4 Managing the Driving Avoiding Road Fatigue The NC500 involves long driving

days especially if you're aiming for a shorter trip. Driver fatigue is a serious concern that can compromise safety and enjoyment. Solution: Plan your driving days realistically. Don't try to cram too much into a single day. Schedule regular breaks for rest and refreshment. Share the driving if possible to prevent fatigue. Choose scenic viewpoints for breaks to admire the landscape and recharge. Consider using navigation apps that provide alternative routes in case of road closures or unexpected delays. Always prioritize safety over speed.

**Problem 5: Budget Constraints**

Balancing Luxury and Affordability: The NC500 can be an expensive trip, especially if you opt for luxury accommodation and activities. Balancing your budget with your desire for a memorable experience can be tricky. Solution: Planning your budget in advance is crucial. Consider a range of accommodation options from campsites and budget-friendly guesthouses to midrange hotels and luxury stays. Prioritize your must-do activities and research free or low-cost alternatives. Pack your own food and drinks whenever possible to cut down on dining expenses. Look for deals and discounts on activities and accommodation by booking in advance or through travel websites.

**Expert Opinion:** According to travel expert [Insert Name and Credential], the key to a successful NC500 trip is meticulous planning and a flexible attitude. Embrace the unexpected and be open to 3 spontaneous detours. The true magic of the NC500 lies in the journey itself, not just the destination.

**Conclusion:** The NC500 is more than just a road trip; it's an unforgettable adventure that offers a unique blend of stunning landscapes, cultural experiences, and thrilling challenges. By carefully addressing the potential pain points, you can transform this epic journey into a truly memorable and rewarding experience. Remember to embrace the unexpected, savor the journey, and let the wild beauty of Scotland captivate you.

**FAQs:**

1. **What's the best time to travel the NC500?** The best time to travel the NC500 is during the summer months (June–August) for the longest daylight hours and warmest temperatures. However, shoulder seasons (May and September) offer fewer crowds and potentially lower prices.
2. **How much does the NC500 cost?** The cost can vary greatly depending on your travel style, accommodation choices, and activities. Expect to spend anywhere from £500 to £2000 per person for a 7-10 day trip.
3. **Is the NC500 suitable for all vehicles?** While most vehicles can handle the NC500, a car with good ground clearance is recommended, especially if you plan to explore some of the more remote areas.
4. **What should I pack for an NC500 trip?** Pack layers of clothing, including waterproof and windproof outerwear. Sturdy walking shoes are essential, as are a first-aid kit, a good map, and a fully charged phone with a portable charger.
5. **Can I wild camp on the NC500?** Wild camping is permitted in some areas of Scotland, but it's crucial to check local regulations and follow Leave No Trace principles to protect the environment. Obtain necessary permits where required.

[The Rough Guide to the North Coast 500 \(Compact Travel Guide eBook\)](#)  
[Cycling the North Coast 500 Exploring the Nc500](#)  
[NC500 Log Book and Map](#)  
[Why the Nc500](#)  
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a guidebook to the 850km 528 mile nc500 cycle route around northern scotland this circular tour starting and finishing in inverness and passing through wester ross sutherland caithness easter ross and the black isle is suitable for all types of bikes and cyclists with a good level of fitness the nc500 can be cycled in 2 weeks presented in 16 stages between 24 and 89km 15 55 miles alternate routes are given to avoid the steep ascent of bealach na bà or the undulating assynt peninsula the busy a9 east coast road is avoided but is described as an alternative route route passes ullapool thurso and tain 1 150 000 mapping and profiles are included for each route gpx files available to download detailed information on accommodation refreshments and facilities along the route

a lively and entertaining road trip around scotland s north coast 500 route exploring the history and cultural heritage of the area with plenty of exciting diversions and anecdotes along the way journeying around the northern highlands of scotland the author visits many towns and villages as well as sometimes going off the beaten track

the north coast 500 is a 516 mile scenic route around the north coast of scotland starting and ending at inverness castle the route is also known as the nc500 and was launched in 2015 linking many features in the north highlands of scotland in one touring route this log book includes special features complete overview map of the nc500 route over 100 pages to write down your thoughts on your stopping locations famous brown sign front cover with blue thistle badge detailed log book template this is a must have journal to accompany your trip of a lifetime over the nc500 route look back on this book in years to come and relive the tales and events of the journey click the button to purchase a copy now

this book is not a tour guide or instructions on how you should travel the nc500 it chronicles our trip and explains why we undertook the adventure it s a book that gives a reason to live life to its fullest it describes a journey of heartache anger and frustration and at the heart of it is a love story

this practical travel guide to the north coast 500 features detailed factual travel tips and points of interest structured lists of all iconic must see sights as well as some off the beaten track treasures our itinerary suggestions and expert author picks of things to see and do will make it a perfect companion both ahead of your trip and on the ground this north coast 500 guide book is packed full of details on how to get there and around pre departure information and top time saving tips including a visual list of things not to miss our colour coded maps make the north coast 500 easier to navigate while you re there this guide book to the north coast 500 has been fully updated post covid 19 the rough guide to the north coast 500 covers inverness to the black isle and beyond the road to john o groats along the north coast exploring the northwest and wester ross to inverness inside this north coast 500 travel guide you ll find recommendations for every type of traveller experiences selected for every kind of trip to the north coast 500 from off the beaten track adventures in the black isle to family activities in child friendly places like dunrobin castle or chilled out breaks in popular tourist areas like inverness practical travel tips essential pre departure information including the north coast 500 entry requirements getting around health information travelling with children

sports and outdoor activities food and drink festivals culture and etiquette shopping tips for travellers with disabilities and more time saving itineraries includes carefully planned routes covering the best of the north coast 500 which give a taste of the richness and diversity of the destination and have been created for different time frames or types of trip detailed regional coverage clear structure within each sightseeing chapter of this the north coast 500 travel guide includes regional highlights brief history detailed sights and places ordered geographically recommended restaurants hotels bars clubs and major shops or entertainment options insights into getting around like a local tips on how to beat the crowds save time and money and find the best local spots for going whale watching off the west coast or hiking highlights of things not to miss rough guides rundown of the caledonian canal inverness ness islands and thurso s best sights and top experiences helps to make the most of each trip to the north coast 500 even in a short time honest and independent reviews written by rough guides expert authors with a trademark blend of humour honesty and expertise this north coast 500 guide book will help you find the best places matching different needs background information comprehensive contexts chapter of this travel guide to the north coast 500 features fascinating insights into the north coast 500 with coverage of history religion ethnic groups environment wildlife and books plus a handy language section and glossary fabulous full colour photography features inspirational colour photography including the stunning assynt and the spectacular duncansby head sea stacks colour coded mapping practical full colour maps with clearly numbered colour coded keys for quick orientation in the north coast the black isle and many more locations around the north coast 500 reduce the need to go online user friendly layout with helpful icons and organised by neighbourhood to help you pick the best spots to spend your time

this practical travel guide to the north coast 500 features detailed factual travel tips and points of interest structured lists of all iconic must see sights as well as some off the beaten track treasures our itinerary suggestions and expert author picks of things to see and do will make it a perfect companion both ahead of your trip and on the ground this north coast 500 guide book is packed full of details on how to get there and around pre departure information and top time saving tips including a visual list of things not to miss our colour coded maps make the north coast 500 easier to navigate while you're there this guide book to the north coast 500 has been fully updated post covid 19 and it comes with a free ebook the rough guide to the north coast 500 covers inverness to the black isle and beyond the road to john o groats along the north coast exploring the northwest and wester ross to inverness inside this north coast 500 travel guide you'll find recommendations for every type of traveller experiences selected for every kind of trip to the north coast 500 from off the beaten track adventures in the black isle to family activities in child friendly places like dunrobin castle or chilled out breaks in popular tourist areas like inverness practical travel tips essential pre departure information including the north coast 500 entry requirements getting around health information travelling with children sports and outdoor activities food and drink festivals culture and etiquette shopping tips for travellers with disabilities and more time saving itineraries includes carefully planned routes covering the best of the north coast 500 which give a taste of the richness and diversity of the destination and have been created for different time frames or types of trip detailed regional coverage clear

structure within each sightseeing chapter of this the north coast 500 travel guide includes regional highlights brief history detailed sights and places ordered geographically recommended restaurants hotels bars clubs and major shops or entertainment options insights into getting around like a local tips on how to beat the crowds save time and money and find the best local spots for going whale watching off the west coast or hiking highlights of things not to miss rough guides rundown of the caledonian canal inverness ness islands and thurso s best sights and top experiences helps to make the most of each trip to the north coast 500 even in a short time honest and independent reviews written by rough guides expert authors with a trademark blend of humour honesty and expertise this north coast 500 guide book will help you find the best places matching different needs background information comprehensive contexts chapter of this travel guide to the north coast 500 features fascinating insights into the north coast 500 with coverage of history religion ethnic groups environment wildlife and books plus a handy language section and glossary fabulous full colour photography features inspirational colour photography including the stunning assynt and the spectacular duncansby head sea stacks colour coded mapping practical full colour maps with clearly numbered colour coded keys for quick orientation in the north coast the black isle and many more locations around the north coast 500 reduce the need to go online user friendly layout with helpful icons and organised by neighbourhood to help you pick the best spots to spend your time free ebook free ebook download with every purchase of this guide book to the north coast 500 allows you to access all of the content from your phone or tablet for on the road exploration

a road trip round the nc500 north coast 500 in scotland wild mountains beautiful lochs amazing stacks stunning beaches wonderful wildlife wild passes very few people the open road the nc500 has everything and is regarded as the best road trip in the uk by those who have done it and those who dream of doing it this is the story of a road trip round the route and the adventures that were had it may not be typical but it was fun and if it encourages you to get on the road then its job is done part travelogue part tourist guide part polemic part stand up routine this will whet your appetite or bring memories of when you did it ray dexter is a traveller and educator dexter veers between self depreciation and self aggrandisement the budapest sun he seems obsessed with whisky and fried breakfasts richard saunders

a beautifully observed and sympathetic tour of modern britain that runs on the tracks of our years david quantick all aboard for a one of a kind journey by train to some of the most obscure parts of britain

the north coast 500 log book and journal contains space to log one months worth of travel on the nc500 with map each day contains 3 pages with space to fill out date visited where you stayed and the facilities available places you visited space to insert a photo daily highlight wildlife seen notes please see my author page for other designs

with handy sized 6x9 90 pages to log one months worth of travel on the nc500 trip the north coast 500 nc500 is scotland s answer to america s route 66 the nc500 offers more than 500 miles of superb driving in the stunning highlands landscape of north west scotland there are so many natural attractions to see along the way with

many pretty towns and villages together with coastal scenery sandy beaches many with a mountainous backdrop this book allows you to record every day of your trip over a two page spread there are 60 overnights spreads so you can record your journey to and from the world famous nc500 as well as the route itself each day contains 3 pages with space to fill out date visited where you stayed and the facilities available places you visited space to insert a photo daily highlight wildlife seen notes this journal is not only the ideal way for you to document your travels but it also makes a thoughtful and practical gift for your family and friends as a christmas gift birthday retirement present or as an all year everyday gift i also created another log book for trip to nc500 in a motorhome or camper van which is more detailed with overnight location mileage friends met weather expenditure the day s highlights the next days plan and much more please see my author page to see them and other books with breathtaking cover illustrations thank you

includes foldout map on front lining paper and full size folded map inserted inside back cover

embark on the ultimate scottish road trip your essential guide to the north coast 500 discover the rugged beauty and hidden gems of scotland s iconic north coast 500 with gentry b gregor your seasoned travel companion whether you re cruising in a campervan conquering the route on a motorbike or taking a leisurely road trip gentry s nc500 guide book 2024 is your indispensable guide to this epic adventure inside you ll find expertly curated itineraries tailored plans for every interest from adrenaline pumping hikes to whisky distillery tours hidden gems uncover secret beaches cozy pubs and stunning viewpoints overlooked by other guidebooks practical tips essential advice on accommodation driving conditions the best time to visit and how to make your trip unforgettable stunning photography be transported to the wild heart of scotland with breathtaking images accommodation for every budget handpicked campgrounds b bs hostels and luxury hotels must see attractions activities don t miss out on the best castles wildlife and breathtaking landscapes fuel food facilities know exactly where to refuel grab a bite and find those all important restrooms insider tips experience the nc500 like a local with gentry s expert advice on packing local customs and responsible travel let gentry b gregor be your guide to the adventure of a lifetime start planning your unforgettable north coast 500 journey today

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if your travelling the stunning highlands of scotland then a planner and journal is a must this quirky nc500 planner has helpful guides to assist with planning your trip around the north coast 500 space to add your own research and a handy bucket list check box so you can tick off the destinations as you visit them with a beautifully hand drawn daily journal to prompt you to log your experiences along the way as well as space to attach your favourite snaps from each day it will make a treasured keepsake for years to come this planner has been thoughtfully put together to encourage your creativity as you explore the picturesque scenery of the scottish

highlands it will be the downtime you need in your adventure to preserve those memories forever includes summary page ideas for places to explore including the stunning beaches mountains thrill adventures and castles bucket list with checkboxes to mark off as you visit lined planner handy journal prompts to keep you writing no matter your journaling experience daily overview at the beginning of every day daily journal in a quirky layout pages for photos after each day space for 14 days worth of travel to journal log travel to from scotland too

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