

Western Mysteries Intensive 2026

Seeing and Sensing the Spiritual in Nature





Highlights

- Iona Abbey, High crosses, and Museum
- Walking Iona to the Hermits Cell
- Columba Bay, Iona
- Fingal's Cave on Staffa
- Lochbuie Stone Circle
- Sites of Celtic Christianity, lonely chapel ruins and healing sites.
- Schooling in sense perception and sharing circles
- Eurythmy every morning
- Intensely nourishing landscape and nature impressions
- A small group and community experience
- Cosy accommodation on the Ross of Mull
- Delicious organic meals.

Iona

The Druid Mysteries, Columba, Celtic Spirituality and esoteric Christianity

Several day-tips will lead us to Iona, the heart of Celtic Christianity where, even today, the atmosphere and presence of that period can still be experienced.

We will explore the ancient Abbey grounds, the high crosses and the beautiful artefacts in the Abbey museum.

We will hike Dun I for an observation exercise about the specific nature signatures of the Hebrides.

We walk towards Columba Bay for intense, regenerative nature encounters.

We walk on and meditate at the heart of Iona, the Hermit Cell.

Topics for our seminar evenings will be the spiritual background of Iona, the Celtic saints, the mission of the Celts and Celtic Christianity for the whole of Europe and today.





Isle of Mull

Ancient stones, rich nature and the Westen Mysteries

A day trip will bring us to the remote Lochbuie and Laggan area, with stone encounters, the Lochbuie Stone Circle and the Laggan Celtic chapel site.

This, at first sight not very spectacular stone circle, is, but one of the best examples in respect to it showing all characteristics of the archetype of a stone circle, which we will study and observe on different levels using the Goethean scientific approach of “seeing and sensing the supernatural in sense perception”. A topic we will talk about, but also practice in our perceptions of standing stones, healing sites and power places.

A day trip to other sites on Mull and its abundance of wildlife will bring us further North to the Easfoss Waterfall, black sands beach and the Kil Ninian holy well. Hopefully, we will spot otters, golden eagles, white tail eagles and dolphins.

A day trip to Staffa is a must-do. Fingal’s Cave with its perfect basal columns is a natural cathedral and ancient site of initiation.



Details

Western Mysteries intensive 2026:
Tuesday 31st March to Tuesday 7th
April 2026.

This offering costs £1050. There are twin and double bedrooms, and single rooms (+£100) available. All en-suit. Accommodation will be in a cosy country house (Achaban House on the Ross of Mull). Limited to 9 participants.

We will have Charlot Derbidge doing the catering for us. She will also lead eurythmy sessions every morning.

Included are accommodation, and all shared meals, ferry rides and entrance fees. We will use cars to get around the island. Car expenses are not included. The expenses for the cars, hired or private, will be shared among all participants.

You make your travel arrangements to arrive on time and for after the trip.

This trip requires some mobility to make the most of it, and resilience and appropriate clothing regarding all kinds of weather, as most sites are outdoors, and some of them require walks through boggy terrain to reach them.

Language: German and English

Register until Christmas 2025.
20% non-refundable deposit at registration.

There is a second offering in summer 2026, a 14-day excursion to the Orkney archipelago, at the end of July.

For further details and contact:
www.knowyourself.land



The tour guide:

Dr. Renatus Derbidge, born in 1979 in Frankfurt/Main, Germany, is a Goethean biologist. He moved to the Isle of Mull near Iona in Scotland in 2018 to study the Western Mysteries at the places where they can still be experienced today. He has published his research extensively. He is the founder of the Iona Summer Schools that have happened since 2016 every year. He offers travel experiences and seminars about the topic. He currently works as land manager and researcher at Fairhill Rise, a Ruskin Mill provision for young adults with learning disabilities near Edinburgh. He will guide the day trips, the shared observations and the sharing circles. In the evenings he will embed the day's experiences in a wider anthroposophical and historical context.