

EUROPE
WINTER
SCOTLAND
TRADITION FIRE FESTIVAL OF
SCOTLAND



• *Dates of Organizations:*



✚ On the last Tuesday of January every year to mark the end of the Christmas season, Europeans are once again basking in the dazzling, warm and exciting light of the region's largest-scale fire festival. held in Lerwick - the capital of the Shetland Islands, Scotland to commemorate the mysterious Viking culture.

● *Festival Details:*



✚ *Up Helly Aa is a traditional mid-winter bonfire, commemorating the time when the ancestors of the Norse Vikings dominated the Shetland Islands (now part of Scotland). The exciting, multi-event, festival takes place every year on the last Tuesday of January.*



✚ *Up Helly Aa originated in the 1870s when a group of local youths wanted to celebrate Christmas in the Shetland Islands with a new idea. The first torch relay event on Up Helly Aa day started in 1881. From 1956, young volunteers were also allowed to participate in the festival, called Vi-kids.*



✚ The locals named the festival “Up Helly Aa” in the late 19th century in the Norse language: “Up” means “end”, “Helly” means “holiday” and Aa means “all.” chief”.



✚ Locals, known as guizers, hold festivals to recall traditional Norwegian legacies, dress up as Vikings, and parade around town with battle axes and torches , while towing a Viking pirate's longboat.



✚ This traditional event is held on the island of Shetland with a series of monumental activities such as parades, singing, dancing, torch relay and parties. The festival commemorates and honors the Viking culture that has existed for a long time and left a great influence in the Nordic region.



✚ These Viking groups, called Jarl, are led by a Guizer at the top. Jarl Squad teams spend the day marching around Lerwick, the capital of the province of Shetland. Finally, they advanced to the riverbank and set fire to a warship with about 1,000 torches. When the train burned down, they returned to the downtown area and drank beer until the next morning.