

island guide 2020-21



island map
essential arran
where to shop, eat & stay
family fun
activities & adventures
entertainment & events
competition

the only Arran guide you'll ever need www.visitarran.com
ARRAN TIME
your time









THE DOUGLAS HOTEL

The Douglas Hotel is the focal point for the village of Brodick and is the perfect base for the discerning traveller. We are a 21 room boutique hotel, offering a personalised level of service in luxury and comfort. Our welcoming staff will ensure access to the huge variety of activities available on Arran, whether they be sporting, cultural or historical. Our room prices start at £99, including breakfast for two.

PLEASE CALL OUR FRIENDLY **RECEPTION TEAM on 01770 302 968** or email us on stay@thedouglashotel.co.uk

regular updates and offers



BEST BOUTIQUE HOTEL







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The information contained in this publication has been published in good faith on the basis of information submitted to VisitArran and every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy. However, you are strongly advised to double check prices, dates etc before making final arrangements. All liability for loss, disappointment, negligence or damage caused by reliance on information contained in this publication is hereby excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law.



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www.visitarran.com







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COASTS

& WATERS

welcome

... a warm Arran welcome to the 12TH edition of the VisitArran magazine!

VisitArran brings business and community together to provide you with a quality 'Arran' experience for your holiday. This collaborative approach was celebrated when we won the 2018 National Thistle Award for Working Together in Tourism - because on Arran tourism really is everyone's business.

This magazine is just the start of your journey. No matter how long your visit, we hope the information contained within will assist you in planning and improving your stay to the beautiful and accessible Isle of Arran – and that you will pay a return visit. With such reasonable ferry fares you can visit more often, and explore our island further whilst you're here!

Arran is a popular visitor destination, and as the island's destination management organisation, we recognise that we are only stewards of Arran for generations to come. As such, we would ask that if you enjoy your visit you might think about supporting the Arran Trust, our visitor gifting scheme. Through the Arran Trust we can offer community groups funding to assist with access, paths, conservation, and other environmental initiatives - all of which help to keep Arran beautiful. More information on the Arran Trust can be found on page 67 of this magazine or check out

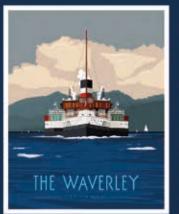
www.arrantrust.org

Enjoy your island time in no time - Arran welcomes you!

Kenneth Bone

Chairman, VisitArran

FOR DETAILS OF OUR ALL-IN-ONE GIFTCARD



ICONIC

Signed limited edition art prints exhibited online and at The Douglas Hotel, Shore Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran.

+44 (0) 7801 234 588 GALLERY@ICONICRESERVE.ART INSTAGRAM.COM/ICONICRESERVE ICONICRESERVE.ART





getting about

how to get here

Arran is easily one of the most accessible islands to visit, and following the introduction of road equivalent tariff, it's now even better value to visit Arran! If you live to the East or South of the country, there are regular 55-minute ferry crossings from Ardrossan with CalMac Ferries.

Ardrossan is ideally situated in Ayrshire, only a short drive from both Glasgow International and Prestwick Airports, and although there are additional sailings on this route in summer months, these sailings can be very busy. So if you are bringing a car on this route, please book in advance with CalMac Ferries - www.calmac.co.uk

If you don't have a car, there's a direct rail link from Glasgow Central Station to Ardrossan Harbour – and the journey takes about 45-50 minutes, so all in all your travel time from Glasgow to Arran can be less than 2 hours!

If you're travelling from the North or West then perhaps the Lochranza – Claonaig ferry is for you. This 30 minute link connects Arran directly with Argyll, is also run by CalMac Ferries, and you just turn up and go! In winter the ferry sails from Tarbert to Lochranza, and you need to book. Watch out for marine wildlife such as dolphins, minke whale, and porpoises en route!







by air

Regular train services are available from both Glasgow airports. A shuttle bus from Glasgow International (GLA) Airport can take you directly to Paisley Gilmour Street train station, where a train will connect with the ferry at Ardrossan. Alternatively taxis are relatively inexpensive and readily available. Glasgow Prestwick (PIK) Airport has its own rail station with services via Kilwinning, where you can change for Ardrossan Harbour.

by train

There are excellent rail links east, west, north and south between Glasgow and most parts of the UK. There is a direct and frequent train service between Glasgow Central and Ardrossan Harbour. For more information contact **www.scotrail.co.uk**

For more travel details check out the Traveline Scotland journey planner:

www.travelinescotland.com

by car

The UK's network of motorways, and other major roads means that Ardrossan Harbour can easily be reached by car, possibly via the M6/M74 (from London to Glasgow) and M77/A77 (from Glasgow to Ardrossan). Remember if you are bringing a car over to the island via Ardrossan, you should book in advance with CalMac – www.calmac.co.uk

Typical journey times by car to Ardrossan Harbour from:

London – about 7.5 hours

Birmingham – about 5.5 hours

Manchester – about 4.5 hours

Edinburgh – about 2 hours

Glasgow – about 45 minutes

Inverness – about 4 hours

fuel services

Blackwaterfoot Garage

T: 01770 860277

Whiting Bay Garage

T: 01770 700345

Bay Garage, Brodick T: 01770 302839 / 07967 587481

Lamlash Petrol & Diesel Services

T: 01770 600242

once you're here...

If you don't have transport, there are other options. Once you're here you might want to use local buses to get around – most of these coincide with the ferry times from Brodick, and it's best to get a timetable when you arrive. Or check out the latest timetable for the Arran Area Guide on our downloads page (which has lots of other useful info) online:

www.visitarran.com/info/downloads

Car hire from Arran Rent-A-Car can offer more freedom, as can having your own personal tour guide. You can also take a taxi or a private hire - taxis are available at the pier during boat times. You can pre-book these to collect and drop you off anywhere on the island, and the taxi/private hire partners with VisitArran offer personal guided tours as well. Taxis are also available for wheelchair access from Bay Garage.

Check your accommodation providers too – some of them may offer transport to and from Brodick Pier.

cars and garages

Angus Lambie Motor Engineers Ltd

T: 01770 302677

Arran Rent-a-Car & Vans

T: 01770 302839 / 07967 587481

Arran Tours Private hire

T: 07517 3568851

Blackwaterfoot Garage

T: 01770 8602777

Bay Garage Taxi/Private hire/Tours

T: 01770 700345 / 302839

Whiting Bay Garage T: 01770 700345

service providers

Arran Banner Our local paper – see their What's On for events! T: 01770 302142

Arran Estate Agents T: 01770 302310

Arran Haulage For all your delivery needs.

T: 01770 302777

Arran Vets T: 01770 302511

Forestry & Land Scotland T: 01770 302218

Heather Lodge Holistic Therapy Centre

T: 01770 302827

Jas Campbell Solicitors & estate agents

T: 01770 302027

Simply Housekeeping T: 07368 342650

Thomson Construction

T: 01770 600242







ISLE ARRAN

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TWO DISTILLERIES



VISIT THE PICTURESQUE LOCHRANZA DISTILLERY AND THE EXCITING NEW LAGG DISTILLERY ON THE BEAUTIFUL ISLE OF ARRAN.

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arranwhisky.com laggwhisky.com











BRODICK CASTLE, GARDEN & COUNTRY PARK

Explore the castle and experience the Victorian arcade, atmospheric lighting, sounds and costumed interpreters, relax in the gardens, enjoy our packed events programme and have fun in the Isle Be Wild adventure playground.

nts.org.uk

For the **love** of Scotland



The National Trust for Scotland is a Scottish charity, SC007410

eilean arainn

We're very proud of our beautiful island and welcome you to enjoy it too. With stunning scenery, amazing wildlife, world famous produce and lots of space to enjoy, visitors to the Isle of Arran (Eilean Arainn) become our friends. The island's people enjoy a blether, and can tell you lots of local tips about the best places to walk, stay, eat or play! We invite you to come and share our island home – and maybe take a little bit of Arran magic with you, until you come back next time...that is!

Arran is not called 'Scotland in Miniature' for nothing! The Highland fault line divides the island into two very different sections – and just to make it easy, the String Road divides the rocky and mountainous north (our 'Highlands') from the lush undulating pastures of the south (our 'Lowlands') – just like the Scottish mainland, but in a lovely compact kidney-shaped oasis that is called Arran.

We have seven primary schools, one secondary school and a resident population of around 5000. We have a cottage hospital, three main medical centres and various satellite surgeries around the island. Administratively, we are part of North Ayrshire Council, and along with our lovely wee cousin islands of Cumbrae (why not take a day to cycle round?) we are part of the Highlands & Islands Enterprise area too.

Arran has an excellent grocery offering, so there's also no need to bring in your own provisions – you can buy all you need here on Arran, and support the local economy at the same time. Villages such as Whiting Bay, Blackwaterfoot and Pirmmill have excellent local shops offering choice and good value, and of course Brodick and Lamlash have supermarkets too.

Arran covers an area of 432 square kilometres (167 square miles) and is only 56 miles in circumference, so really nowhere is more than half an hour's drive away from the village you're staying in — yet there's still plenty of space to enjoy. The influence of the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf Stream create a mild oceanic climate, which is why you'll see swaying palm trees around the shores…bizarrely sometimes at the same time as snow on the hills!

Arran is well known for community spirit. We believe in working together; if it's good for us islanders, then it will be good for our visitors, and therefore good for our community too. We're justifiably proud of our hospitality and know you'll get a warm welcome whether it be at the church coffee mornings, a village ceilidh or school concert. Check out our **Villages (21)** page for more details.

What can we offer you to do? Explore our island by foot, by bus, by bike, by horse, or even by Mogabout! Stroll up stunning glens, paddle along sandy beaches, check out our island heritage, golf, eat, drink, shop,

paint, run, and take in the fabulous scenery. And if that all gets too much for you, why not calm down by pampering yourself with one of our fabulous relaxing treatments from our many island therapists. We really do have something for everyone!

If you're anxious about accessibility, VisitArran's most up-to-date accessibility audit is available (along with lots of other useful info) on our Downloads page:

www.visitarran.com/info/downloads

Wanting to bring the family pet on holiday too? Many VisitArran partners are dog and pet friendly, whether it's accommodation, eating out, retail or activity – check out our **Pets on Hols (23)** page! Again, we have a Pet Audit and you can access this information on our website www.visitarran.com/info/downloads

Children love the great outdoors, and Arran offers young people the freedom to explore and challenge themselves

The scenery on Arran is a photographer's paradise — and if your skills are not too great, you can brush up with a photography workshop! All of Scotland's Big Five (red deer, golden eagles, common seals, otters and red squirrels) can be seen on Arran - check them off as you spot them! If adventure is your thing then enjoy exciting opportunities to see and enjoy Arran's natural outdoor beauty, either on your own or accompanied by an expert in the field. Arran is great for walkers, cyclists, kayakers and all round adventure-seekers! Check out our **Outdoor (26)** pages.

You'll be in seventh heaven on Arran's seven (yes, seven) courses to play on, so you'll never be stuck for tee-off time! Whether your preferred lie is parkland or

links, you'll find something to suit and challenge your game on Arran. The Arran Golf Pass is a great way to experience all the courses. It's valid for 12 months, and available from most of the clubs or online. Check out our **Golf (32)** pages for more information on the courses.

Children love the great outdoors, and Arran offers young people the freedom to explore and challenge themselves. And if, after that they just want to chill, there's teen zones, outdoor adventure playgrounds, indoor swimming pools and even a play barn for the younger members of the family! Check out our **Families (22)** page for more details.

Arran is almost as famous for its produce as its scenery! World-class, and locally produced goods are available in most villages - luxury toiletries, handmade jewellery, artworks, cheese, mustard, preserves, ice cream, bakery goods, chocolates, Arran Ale and of course Arran Whisky. Most local restaurants and pubs concoct mouth-watering dishes using local ingredients too! Nowhere could be better placed to tempt your taste buds with local delicacies than Arran. Check out our **Food (50)** and **Retail (44)** pages for more details.

So, why wouldn't you come to Arran? To ensure your quality experience, don't forget to look out for the VisitArran 2020 logos on all our partner businesses!







day trip?

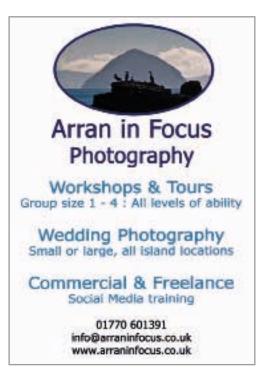
If you can only spend a day on Arran – what should you do? Well, you could try one or two of these ideas:

- Wander along the Fisherman's Walk and spend a day exploring Brodick Castle, Gardens and Country Park. Let the children run off some steam at the amazing Adventure Playground!
- Pop in to the Marine Discovery Centre at Lamlash

 and find out what is under our seas, we bet you
 get some surprises!



- Walk along to Arran Heritage Museum and take in the social history of Arran's people. Follow up with a visit to the Home Farm visitor centre or a walk round Brodick and treat yourself to some goodies from our niche retail outlets.
- How about playing tennis, putting, checking out rock pools, swimming in the sea or just wandering along one of our fine sandy beaches!
- One island; two distilleries! Enjoy the two distinctive aspects of Isle of Arran Distillers - visit award winning Lochranza Distillery in the north and it's sister, contemporary Lagg Distillery in the south!
- There are fantastic forestry trails all over Arran. To make sure of avoiding felling, phone the local office on 01770 302218.
- Find hidden Arran wander up Glen Catacol to Loch Tanna; cycle (or walk!) from Dyemill to Kilmory on the forestry track; explore the Arran Coastal Way in stages!
- Have a Family Mini Golf or Disc Golf competition
 – great fun for all ages and reward the winner
 (and losers) with some lovely Arran Ice Cream.



- Enjoy a gastronomic food experience by eating local produce at lots of different places around the island – check out **Food & Drink** on page 50.
- Head to the west coast and visit the Old Byre Visitor Centre – something for everyone, food, shopping and an amazing outdoor play area – not to mention stunning views, and look out for the famous Druid Stone.
- Mogabout and see how many of Arran's Big Five you can spot in one day. Seals, otters, golden eagles, red squirrels and red deer are all abundant on and around Arran.
- Enjoy a guided tour. Arran has various tour guides and many of them offer transport, from cars up to 16 seats in luxury coaches. Check out page 8.
- Book an adventure day with one of our great providers – check the **Outdoors (26)** pages for more details.
- Climb Goat Fell. At 874m, it's the highest hill in lowland Scotland, and on a clear day you can see for miles and miles.

if you have longer...

 Arran is steeped in heritage – King's Caves, Machrie Standing Stones, Giants' Graves, Lochranza Castle, Brodick Castle, and Arran Heritage Museum are all well known, but what about Aucheleffan or Auchengallon standing stones and Carn Ban or Torrylinn Cairns? From ancient cave drawings and cup & ring markings, to Victorian Cottages and the Hamilton dynasty – they're ripe for you to explore! Download The Coig App for more details.

www.thecoig.com

- Take part in the Goatfell Hill Race, the Arran 10k or Arran Half Marathon – and then relax afterwards by enjoying a peaceful break, and staying in some of our excellent accommodation. Check out our **Events** (18) for less strenuous activities to enjoy.
- Golfer? Well, you'll be in seventh heaven with seven (yes, seven) courses on our stunning island. Get yourself an Arran Golf Pass and see how many of our seven courses you can 'bag' remember it lasts 12 months! Visit our **Golf (32)** page.

- Try something new join one of our adventure providers, and you can sign up for a day or even a week of activities - ideal for family too! Go kayaking, mountain biking, take a wildlife tour, hike up the three beinns, climb North Goatfell, abseil, ride a horse along the beach and lots more – check out our **Outdoors (26)** pages.
- Arran Coastal Way is 67 miles long and it's waiting for you! One of Scotland's Great Trails, the Coastal Way has something to challenge and excite everyone - check out our **Outdoors (26)** pages.
- Check out Arran Art Trail! Our island inspires many arty and crafty individuals. Get yourself the Arts Map and visit the artists in their studios throughout the year.

There's so much to see and do that you could be here for weeks and still never do it all - and we know that you'll make your own Arran adventures. Be sure to share them with us on our social media channels – we'd love to share your experiences!

out of season...

If you fancy something quieter, remember that Arran is not just for summer; we are indeed a 'winter wonderisland'! Autumnal colours wash over the hills, offering spectacular views, and the deer rut in October is amazing to hear – keep your distance though! Many of our accommodation providers, activities and attractions remain open throughout the year and the island's beauty at these quieter times is without comparison.

The build up to Christmas involves Santa's Sparkle, ShopArran treats and party nights, as well as village events like carol concerts and pantomime.

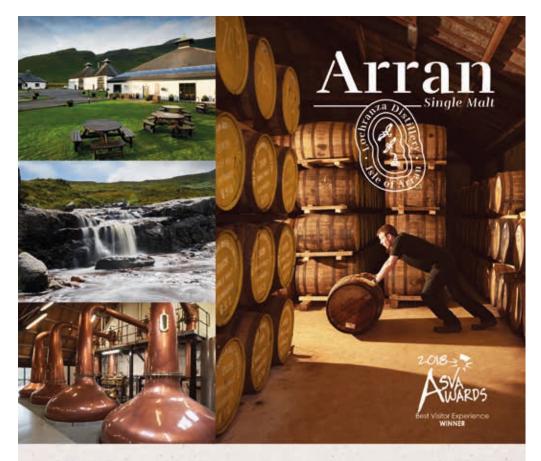
At Hogmanay and New Year, Arran's community spirit (and other spirit!) can be found in abundance in village pubs and halls. Later in January, the hills are often covered with snow, and after a refreshing hike you can enjoy cosy nights that celebrate our national bard Robert Burns, whilst February is half term and drama festival time!

Arran is a natural gem that has something to offer in all seasons. If you choose to come at the quieter times in Spring, you will see the island starting to bloom as the green leaves and buds spring forth after the hard frosts of the winter. We truly are Scotland's winter wonderisland!



Darach, Blackwaterfoot Isle of Arran

01770 860824





For the full range of different tours available, including Tutored Tastings and Whisky & Chocolate pairings please visit:

arranwhisky.com @arranwhisky

Tour the award winning Lochranza Distillery on the Isle of Arran

- Standard Distillery Tours are every hour on the hour 10am - 4pm 7 days a week
- __Tours cost £10 per person and include a free glass

__CASKS Cafe serves delicious local produce and a full selection of Arran Single Malts by the dram









VISIT THE LAGG DISTILLERY ON THE ISLE OF ARRAN



A brand new distillery has been built by Isle of Arran Distillers in the village of Lagg on the southern tip of the island.

Learn how Lagg peated Single Malt Scotch Whisky is made and witness its evolution into one of the world's finest whiskies. TOURS AT 10AM, 11AM, 12PM, 2PM, 3PM, 4PM TIMES MAY VARY DURING WINTER SEASON.

7 DAYS A WEEK AND COST £10 PER PERSON TOURS INCLUDE A FREE GLASS.

THE SHEILING RESTAURANT AND KILMORY CAFE ARE OPEN DAILY FOR MEALS AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS.

PLEASE VISIT LAGGWHISKY.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.

what's on 2020

We have lots of entertainment to offer our visitors - we try and keep our website events listings up to date, but it can be difficult and events can slip through the net, so always check local paper The Arran Banner's "What's On" pages to confirm details and times.

Whilst some of these events are big annual attractions, some are much smaller, but equally worth a wee look!

Some of 2020's key events are listed here, but always check social media and local shops for posters and information about ceilidhs, sales of work and other activities. Arran has an amazing fund-raising culture – for example, most of the village halls are run entirely by the communities. Check out our **Village** pages (21) for more details. Don't be surprised when you pop in to a coffee morning and find that you feel you want to spend more on raffle tickets! That is the Arran Effect!

One Act Drama Festival, Lamlash Community Theatre

DATE: February 27th - 29th

CONTACT: mumandbutton@hotmail.com

90th Isle of Arran Music Festival

DATE: March 25th - 27th

CONTACT: e.kennedy862@btinternet.com

Arran Veg Fest
DATE: March 14th - 15th

CONTACT: www.arranvegfest.com

Ultra Tour of Arran (Rat Race)

DATE: April 4th & 5th

CONTACT: https://ultratourofarran.co.uk/

Isle of Arran Ormidale 10k starting 12pm Ormidale Pavillion

DATE: April 26th

CONTACT: tommygilmore49@gmail.com

Arran Mountain Festival

DATE: May 15th - 18th

CONTACT: www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk

Goatfell Race starting 12pm at Ormidale Pavilion

DATE: May 16th

CONTACT: www.sientries.co.uk

Arran Folk Festival



Ultra Trail Scotland – Arran Skyline and Tarsuinn Trail

DATE: June 20th - 21st

CONTACT: www.ultratrailscotland.com

Arran Skiff Regatta

DATE: June 20th - 21st

CONTACT: www.arrancoastalrowing.co.uk

Vintage and Veteran Motor Cycle Rally at Arran Heritage Museum

DATE: June 21st

CONTACT: www.arranmuseum.co.uk

Malt and Music Festival, the Distillery, Lochranza.

DATE: June 26th – 28th

CONTACT: www.arranwhisky.com

Isle of Arran (Shiskine Valley) 1/2 Marathon, 12pm

DATE: June 28th

CONTACT: www.sientries.co.uk

Lamlash Heather Queen 70th Anniversary

DATE: July 1 Ith

CONTACT: www.facebook.com/LamlashHeatherQueen

Crafts Day at Arran Heritage Museum

DATE: July 12th

CONTACT: www.arranmuseum.co.uk

Kildonan Fun Week

DATE: July 12th – 18th

DATE: July 12th = 16th

CONTACT: www.facebook.com/Kildonan-

Hall-1505072666423067

Whiting Bay Fun Week

DATE: July 12th – 19th

CONTACT: eric.kay@btopenworld.com

Children's Day at Arran Heritage Museum

DATE: July 26th

CONTACT: www.arranmuseum.co.uk

Feis Arainn - Ceilidh Wednesday 29th,

Concert Friday 3 lst

DATE: July 28th – 3 lst

CONTACT: www.feisarainn.com

Arran Farmers Show, Lamlash

DATE: August 5th

CONTACT: www.facebook.com/arranfarmersshow

Brodick Highland Games

DATE: August 8th

CONTACT: mumandbuttonb@hotmail.com

Vintage Tractor Show at Arran Heritage Museum

DATE: August 9th

CONTACT: www.arranmuseum.co.uk

Arran Open Studios, Around Arran

DATE: August 14th – 16th

CONTACT: www.arranopenstudios.com

Blackwaterfoot Beer Festival

DATE: August 22nd

CONTACT: www.bw-kinlochhotel.co.uk

McLellan Festival

DATE: August 29th – September 13th

CONTACT: www.arrantheatreandarts.co.uk/

mclellan-festival

Cycle Sportive, Isle of Arran, Round the Island Cycling Event starting Ormidale Pavillion

DATE: September 5th

CONTACT: www.arransportive.co.uk

Wee Mac Arran Children's

Book Festival

DATE: September 11th - 12th

CONTACT: www.weemacarran.scot

Arran Geofest

DATE: September 11th -13th

CONTACT: www.arrangeopark.co.uk

Primal Events

DATE: September 18th - 19th

CONTACT: matt@primal-adventures.com

Arran Rock 'n' Blues Festival

DATE: September 26th - 27th

CONTACT: www.facebook.com/ArranRocknBlues

Arran Emergency Services Regatta!

DATE: October 18th

CONTACT: www.arrancoastalrowing.co.uk

ShopArran Weekend!

DATE: November 27th - 29th

CONTACT: www.facebook.com/ShopArran/

Arran truly has something for everyone.

Each village on Arran has its own character - and characters! You will find that many village communities and island organisations host their own local events too, so it's always worth checking The Arran Banner and village shops for posters that highlight fêtes, dances, conker championships, hill-billy golf, classic concerts, sales of work, farmers' markets, cookery competitions, craft fairs etc!

If it's peace and quiet you're after why not think about heading over to the south or west coast of the island to enjoy a long lazy walk along Blackwaterfoot, Pirnmill or Kilmory beaches — or if you prefer more hustle and bustle perhaps you'd rather be attending one of the island's annual key events such as the Malt and Music Festival, Arran Farmers' Show, or Brodick Highland Games.

Please remember that whether cycling, walking, horse riding or driving – Arran's roads are unique. We have changeable road surfaces, unexpected livestock on every bend, and of course breathtaking scenery that can act as a great distraction! Remember too that Arran is a working island – farmers need to get beasts moved, and buses run to very strict timetables, so pull in and let that tractor or bus past – that way you'll enjoy your visit more! Check out the information boards at Ardrossan Harbour, Brodick Pier and other sites around the island; by respecting your fellow road users at all times we can all share Arran's roads safely!

Arran has many churches of various denominations, and you'll be very welcome to any service. Some congregations meet outwith traditional church buildings. Check the Arran Banner for details of times and locations for each service.



villages

Arran has no towns. Fact. We have lots of lovely villages though, dotted about our coast!

Each village has its own special character, and each is well worth some further exploration. Most villages run their own community halls voluntarily, with the exception of Brodick (run by the local authority) and Lamlash (which is sited within Arran High School campus) – so be sure and pop in if they have an event on! Let's start our journey clockwise from Brodick:

Brodick is home to the island's main ferry terminal. Arran Heritage Museum is a short walk from the village and Brodick Castle is a very popular visitor attraction. See if you can spot Brodick's standing stones...one is right opposite the school!

The village of **Lamlash** looks across to beautiful Holy Isle, with breathtaking sunrises all year round. Lamlash is the island's administrative hub, with Arran War Memorial Hospital, Arran High School and the local authority offices all sited within the village boundaries. You should also note the Clearances Memorial Monument, in front of lovely Hamilton Terrace.

Whiting Bay spreads south from Sandbraes, and used to boast the longest pier on the Clyde. There are many routes from the village to one of the island's most picturesque walks to Glanashdale Falls. The Giants' Graves can also be accessed from the village. Whiting Bay has traditionally been known as the arts centre for the island.

Kildonan is a quiet little village at the south end of the island, overlooking the tiny island of Pladda. The shores at Kildonan are popular with seals and otters and 'Silver Sands' is one of the island's most beautiful beaches. Passing **Shannochie**, and right at the bottom of the island you will find **Kilmory**, home to the island's newest whisky distillery at Lagg. Kilmory also has a stunning beach — one of our best-kept secrets, so shhhh....

Moving up the west coast, you will come across **Sliddery** and **Corriecravie**. These communities, along with those in Kilmory and Shiskine Valley, form the farming heartland of the island, and you can see rolling pastures alongside the sea cliffs as you travel north.

Blackwaterfoot is the largest community on the west of the island, and part of the area known as Shiskine Valley. The village hosts hotels, riding stables, golf, tennis and various local retailers and producers. Another lovely long beach can be accessed here, and you can walk along the shoreline to King's Caves.

The spread-out community of **Machrie** may be small, but the area is famed for its past history. As well as the famous Standing Stones on Machrie Moor, look out for the lesser known Auchengallon – and also for the Druid Stone up at the Old Byre! There's also a lovely forest and cliff walk to King's Caves.

Moving farther north you will come to **Pirnmill**. This is the closest village to mainland Kintyre and you can see amazing sunsets over Kilbrannan Sound. You will pass through the little village of **Catacol**, with its famed Twelve Apostles, known locally as 'The Row', before coming into **Lochranza**, home to our second ferry terminal and the wonderful Lochranza Distillery (big sister to Lagg Distillery!). Lochranza Castle is also well worth exploring, and you can walk around the coastline here, down to Sannox via the Coastal Way. **Sannox** & **Corrie** are twin villages - they share a village hall, a golf course and lots of community spirit! Look out for the seal on the rock at Corrie...



email: info@heatherlodge.scot_tel: 01770 302 827

family fun

If you want to get the whole family into the holiday spiritthere's no better place than Arran.

Our whole island can be your adventure playground — where you can all let your hair down! We have something to suit everyone, whether you're an adventurous toddler or a granny with attitude! With a wide variety of activities accessible to all ages, every member of the family will find something to suit their needs.

For the little ones and the young at heart, why not try checking out the village putting greens or the fabulous Mini Golf on Brodick seafront? The adventure playground at Brodick Castle is very popular, as are the outdoor play areas at The Old Byre Visitor Centre and the Heritage Museum. For those wet weather days, try out the Playbarn at Auchrannie. Or maybe have a go at the free disc golf in Brodick (something very different!) or try a game of golf, tennis, squash, snooker or a spot of pony trekking along Blackwaterfoot beach or up Glen Sannox.

If you're bringing your baby or toddler and can't find room in the car, why not hire the buggy/cot/car seat on Arran — more room in the cases for all your own gear! And if the fairy rain gets you down, there's indoor leisure facilities at both the Kinloch and the Auchrannie, so you won't be stuck for things to do!



where to play...

Arran Baby Equipment Hire

T: 01770 302288

Arran Heritage Museum

T: 01770 302636

Auchrannie Leisure & Playbarn

T: 01770 302234

COAST Marine Centre

T: 01770 600656

Bellevue Farm Tours

T: 01770 860251 / 07740 986803

Brodick Castle

T: 01770 302202

Cairnhouse Riding Centre

T: 01770 860466

Kinloch Leisure

T: 01770 860444

Mini Golf

T: 01770 302272

North Sannox Pony Trekking

T: 01770 810222

Old Byre Visitor Centre

T: 01770 840227

Shiskine Golf & Tennis

T: 01770 860226

The Parks Disc Golf

Just turn up with a frisbee and play!

The Playbarn

T: 01770 302234

pets on hols!

Here on Arran, we welcome your whole family – and that includes your furry pal!

Sometimes it can be sad to leave your family pet behind whilst you go off gallivanting, and here on Arran, many island businesses recognise this. We want to make Arran a holiday haven for your family pets too! There are lots of tracks and trails that offer a great opportunity for your waggy-tailed pal to run off excess energy.

Many accommodation providers will take dogs (and sometimes other pets) by arrangement. Some of them may even provide bowls and towels! All this information is in our annual Pet Audit, which also covers attractions, activities, places to shop and even places you can enjoy a meal, in the company of your dog.

Of course, we recognise that this might not appeal to everyone, and we do try to cater for all tastes, so please respect that some eateries may offer designated seating areas.

Pet-friendly isn't for everyone, so please be respectful of any conditions that the accommodation provider has – one naughty owner can spoil it for all our doggy pals! And just as a precaution, we hope you don't need it but if you do - Arran Vets number is 01770 3025 I L.

If you're thinking of bringing your horse or pony on holiday, then livery can even be arranged for you at Cairnhouse Riding Centre in Blackwaterfoot!

For the most recent copy of our Pet Audit, and our Island Guide for Dogs please check out the downloads page on our website



Soul to Sole Holistic Therapies

T: 01770 820636 / 07515 669147

let's celebrate!

Arran is a magical island – so where better to celebrate your special occasion.

There's something so special about Arran, and whether it be for birthdays, weddings, or an anniversary, the islanders will help you plan your special event with a little bit of Arran magic!

We've got some fabulous celebration venues, and all can tailor their offering for that personal touch. And if you want to do all the arranging yourself, we have loads of ideas to help put that final touch in place – while you chill out with some pampering or beautifying! Check out our Wellness (25) page for more details.

Get invites, balloons and Arran stationery gifts locally. And what about favours or thank you gifts from Arran Aromatics or perhaps a wee dram of Isle of Arran whisky miniatures, or a special Arran Gin cocktail at the event itself? Use local photographers that can capture the essence of your day and who will know the best spots for fabulous images that offer a true record of your happy event.



Who can help you?

Stationery & Printing etc

Arran Banner

T: 01770 302142

Arran Graphics

T: 01770 303699

Book and Card Centre

T- 01770 302288

The Harbour Shop

T: 01770 860215

Photography

Arran in Focus Photography

T: 01770 601391

Unfolding Moments

T: 07511 658271

Favours/Thank You Gifts

Arran Gift Box Company

T: 0788 3302021

Arran: Sense of Scotland

T: 01770 302595

Isle of Arran Gin Company

T: 01770 302513

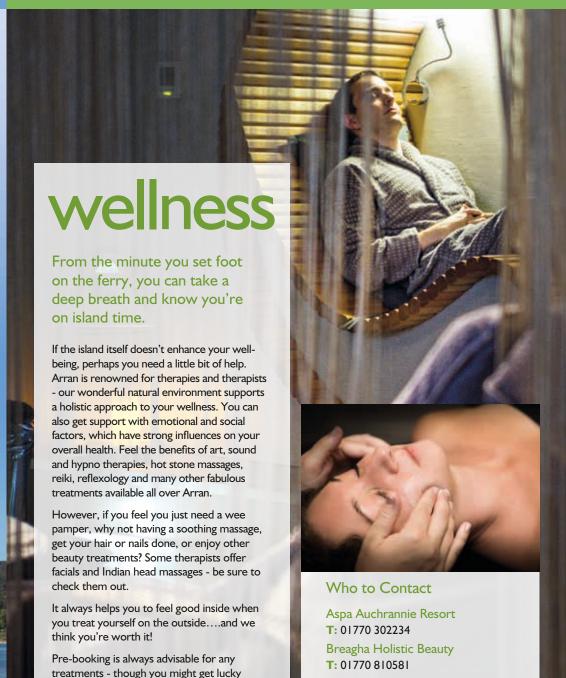
Lochranza Distillery

T: 01770 830264

Lagg Distillery

T: 01770 830264

Be sure and check out our Retail **Therapy** (44) pages for other gift



and get a drop-in appointment - just ask for

availability.

outdoors

Famous for its wonderful landscapes, nowhere else offers an environment quite like Arran.

arran walking in general

Did you know that low level walking is the most popular activity for visitors on Arran? But whether you're an experienced hill walker, taking the kids for a wander, exercising, or just want to get outside in that amazing fresh air — then Arran has walks for you! From a strenuous hill walk in the rugged mountains of the north, to a solitary heathery moorland ramble, or a leisurely stroll with your dog by the sea, whatever takes your fancy, Arran offers you great opportunities to explore exciting and varied landscapes discovering an island rich in wildlife and history.

Although Arran has that special "wild" feeling, the land is all managed. Agriculture is an essential element of Arran's economy and deer stalking, as well as being an important income for the northern estates, helps maintain the ecological balance in the mountains. The continuing goodwill of those who make a living from the land relies on everyone using the countryside for recreation acting responsibly and following the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, and if you are heading into the hills during the deer stalking season, please make use of the Hillphone facility – see inside back cover for details.

Arran is working towards UNESCO recognition as a Geopark, and as part of this, various trails are being developed – to find out more check out

www.arrangeopark.co.uk. Forestry also covers a large part of our island, and there are some great tracks and trails to be found. Remember however, that forestry is a crop, like any other, so just be sure to avoid felling! Contact the local forestry office on 01770 302218 if you're in any doubt.

For more information on short strolls to more challenging hill walks visit - **www.walkhighlands.** co.uk/arran

coastal way

Supported (amongst others) by the Arran Trust, the Coastal Way is a continuous 67 mile route taking in many of the varied habitats that the island has to offer, including stretches of forest track, rugged and gentle coastlines, plus more mountainous terrain.

The Arran Coastal Way is recognised as one of Scotland's Great Trails.

The Arran Coastal Way is recognised as one of Scotland's Great Trails, due in part to all the hard work that has gone on behind the scenes to develop and improve the path.

The route is mapped by waymarkers featuring a gannet. Most of the paths are well-walked and should be easily completed by the average walker. However, there are parts of the Coastal Way that are challenging where paths can be muddy or boulder strewn, and may require clambering over rocks. Others are only safely passable at low tide.

For more info check out www.coastalway.co.uk and if you'd like to support path developments on Arran visit www.arran-access-trust.org.uk, or donate to the **Arran Trust** – **www.arrantrust.org**

be safe

Please remember that sensible walking shoes or boots and appropriate clothing should be worn/taken for all walks. A compass, Ordnance Survey map, whistle and mobile phone (which may not work in all areas) are recommended and essential for more adventurous outings.



cycling

Cycling on Arran is a top visitor activity – so come on and 'get on your bike'! Everyone can remember the carefree joy of cycling as a child, and whilst Arran is good for off and on-road cycling opportunities, we recommend off-road cycling whenever possible. It's important to remember that Arran's roads are unique. We have narrow winding roads, challenging hills, changeable road surfaces and steep descents – not to mention sheep and deer - it's a different road cycling experience!

Some suggested off-road routes can be viewed on the Arran Bike Club website – this includes some shorter family friendly routes of 5-6k. There's a lovely forest road going east to 'Dunfion' - from the top of the hill between Brodick and Lamlash - quite undulating but amazing views. All routes provided courtesy of **www.arranbikeclub.com**, who are also happy for visitors to join them for a ride at their club nights.

If you're coming in a club or group to circumnavigate the island, remember that you should make contact with CalMac Ferries as soon as possible, as bike spaces can be limited on certain sailings, and it's best to avoid disappointment - **www.calmac.co.uk**

Remember also to travel in smaller groups, allowing backlog of traffic to pass whenever possible, which makes your cycle much more pleasant. VisitArran has an Island Guide for Cyclists that you can download from our website www.visitarran.com/info/downloads.

Cycle hire is available in Brodick, and there's even e-bike hire - but do bear in mind that children under 10 years old may find many of Arran's trails and roads quite hard, so you might consider booking a private hire car to take you (and bikes) back if the whole family don't want to cycle home again!

adventure

Arran is an adventure island – you could try abseiling, sea kayaking, para-gliding, mountain biking, alpaca walking or gorge walking!

You can also traverse the island's varied terrain on Mogabout, the ultimate 16 seater 4 x 4 that can provide safe, stress-free access into the most remote mountainous and woodland areas of Arran.

Perhaps you'd rather gallop a horse up a wild and scenic glen, or along a sandy beach with the sea spray in your face?

Not only will it thrill the senses, but will allow you to see the island from one of its best perspectives, the sea!

Whatever your adrenalin rush is – you'll have a great time on our outdoor adventure island!

And for something a little calmer, you might consider a guided wildlife walk.



the adventure providers...

Arran Adventure **T:** 01770 302234 Arran Alpaca **T:** 01770 465095 Arran Bike Hire **T:** 07825 160668

Arran Bushcraft T: 07876 405080

Arran in Focus Photography Workshops
T: 01770 601391

Arran Outdoor Education Centre T: 01770 600532

Arran Ranger Service T: 01770 302462

Auchrannie Leisure T: 01770 302244
Cairnhouse Riding Centre

T: 01770 860466

Dougarie Estate T: 01770 840259

Kayak Arran **T:** 07931 803799

Lochranza Centre T: 01770 830637

Mogabout **T:** 07799 555287

North Sannox Pony Trekking

T: 01770 810222

Otter's Tail Adventures T: 01770 700590

Ride Arran Mountain Bike Guiding
T: 07961505817

Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club T: 01770 860226

Walk Arran T: 07973 531412

Wild Walks on Arran T: 07825 644161

holy isle

Located off the picturesque Lamlash Bay, Holy Isle has an ancient spiritual heritage stretching back to the 6th century. Visitors are welcome all year round.

At the north of the island, there is the Centre for World Peace, where an ongoing retreat and course programme takes place during the season, which lasts from March to October. They also welcome guests to stay at the Centre for personal retreats or holiday breaks. A closed Buddhist retreat takes place at the south of the island.

You can easily visit Holy Isle for the day, and explore by foot. The island is divided into several areas, some of which are reserved for birds and animals, others for our native tree-planting programme. They request visitors to stay on the paths and not to take animals onto the island.

Holy Isle has Eriskay ponies, Soay sheep and Saanen goats all living wild on the island!









coast

From the moment you step aboard the ferry, a trip to Arran inextricably links you to the sea. Whether you are an ocean lover at heart, enjoy coastal walks to view seals and otters, or simply enjoy watching the waves crash onto the shore, Arran is the place to be!

For 25 years, the people of the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) have worked and battled hard to protect and restore the marine environment around Arran and the Firth of Clyde.

In 2008, our community were proud to establish the Lamlash Bay No Take Zone, a small area of the bay where any extraction of marine life is prohibited. It is a living laboratory and testament to how our ecosystem can recover when protected. In 2016, the much larger South Arran Marine Protected Area was enforced, to protect sensitive seabed habitats from the impacts of unsustainable fishing methods. This 280 km² area allows the recovery of valuable habitats, such as maerl beds (a pink, coralline seaweed) and seagrass (a vital carbon sink), that provide shelter, food and reproduction to hundreds of different species.

Today, COAST is recognised worldwide as one of the UK's leading community marine conservation

organisations, enjoying widespread support on Arran and beyond. In 2018, following a huge amount of volunteer work from the local community, COAST opened Scotland's first community-led Marine Protected Area Visitor Centre, the Octopus Centre, at the south end of Lamlash Green.

The Octopus Centre provides a unique opportunity to connect to our seas, through interactive displays, including picture books and videos. Taking centre stage is our catch and release marine tank, filled with creatures from Arran's seas.

Visit us to shop for beautiful marine gifts, book on to a snorkel taster session or hire rock pool explorer backpacks. You can play tennis by the sea, or watch the coastal bird-life whilst relaxing with a blanket and some binoculars. Recharge your batteries at our micro-café, offering hot drinks and Arran ice cream, whilst the children enjoy watching our marine tank feeding sessions.

COAST also run a host of summer events, so come along to find out more about our seas and community.

Check out what's happening and support our work by visiting **www.arrancoast.com**







Arran is Scotland's Golf Island and it's a golfer's paradise; but don't think these courses are all for novice players - they can offer a challenging game to any low handicapper.

With stunning scenery on every fairway – you can be driving a tee shot towards Goatfell, playing up Glen Sannox and down towards Holy Isle, or putting out overlooking Kintyre and Drumadoon Point – the Arran golf experience is one that every golfer can enjoy.

There are seven golf courses on Arran. Most courses are accessible daily throughout the year, and although booking isn't essential it is advisable, especially in the summer months, to ensure you get to make the most of your holiday golf. Club and trolley hire is also available, and some of the clubs have buggies for the less able-bodied - again, best to book beforehand to avoid disappointment.

There are three 18 hole courses in Brodick. Lamlash and Whiting Bay, three nine-hole courses in Corrie, Machrie and Lochranza and one unique 12-hole course in Shiskine. Most of the courses have good facilities, and nearly all provide excellent catering either on-site or nearby. Some courses allow dogs and children may be able to enter for free when accompanied by a playing adult.

The Arran Golf Pass enables play at all the courses at a hugely discounted rate and it's valid for a whole twelve months! Find out more at

www.golfonarran.com

Golf Courses:

Brodick Golf Club T: 01770 302349

Corrie Golf Club T: 01770 600339

Lamlash Golf Club T: 01770 600196

Lochranza Golf and Campsite T: 01770 830273 Machrie Bay Golf Club T: 01770 840329

Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club

T: 01770 860226

Whiting Bay Golf Club T: 01770 700487

Shiskine Golf **₹** Tennis Club

This unique, unspoiled 12-hole links course

Shore Road, Blackwaterfact, Isle of Arran, KA27 8HA

DID YOU KNOW? YOU CAN PLAY ALL SEVEN COURSES ON ARRAN WITH THE ARRAN GOLF PASS CHECK OUT WWW.GOLFONARRAN.COM FOR DETAILS

the island

at a glance

Approx driving times between villages clockwise

Brodick - Lamlash	10 mins
Lamlash - Whiting Bay	10 mins
Whiting Bay - Kildonan	10 mins
Kildonan - Kilmory	20 mins
Kilmory - Blackwaterfoot	20 mins
Blackwaterfoot - Machrie	10 mins
Machrie - Pirnmill	10 mins
Pirnmill - Lochranza	10 mins

Counterclockwise from Brodick

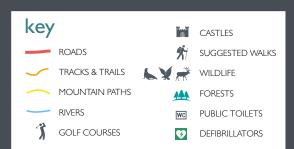
Brodick - Corrie	15 mins
Corrie - Sannox	5 mins
Sannox - Lochranza	15 mins

West-East

Blackwaterfoot - Brodick (via B880 String Road)

From further afield





Standing Stones, Machrie

The Arran Defib Project

The Arran Defib Project was started in 2012 with the aim of getting at least one Community Public Access Defibrillator (CPAD) in every village.

To date CPAD's can be found in the following locations

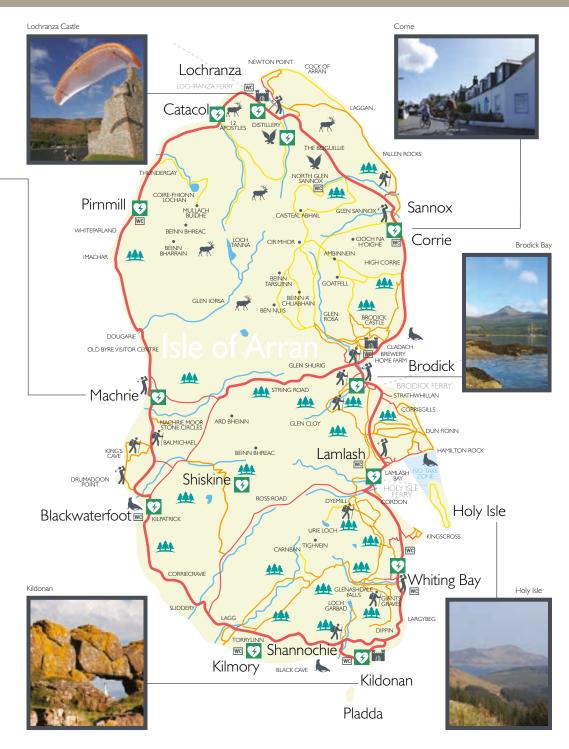
Cochranza

Isle of Arran Distillery Lochranza Pier Catacol Bay Hotel

- Pirnmill Pirnmill Village Shop
- Machrie Machrie Golf Club
- Shiskine
 Shiskine Surgery
 Shiskine Hall
- Blackwaterfoot
 Kinloch Hotel
 Shiskine Golf Club
- Kilmory Kilmory Village Hall
- **Kildonan** Kildonan Village Hall
- Whiting Bay Bay Wool & Crafts
- Lamlash Lifeboat Station
- 3 Brodick

Auchrannie Spa Ormidale Sports Pavilion Arran Active George Leslie construction site

Corrie and Sannox
Corrie and Sannox Village Hall
Corrie Golf Club



arran's natural heritage

Arran is the largest island in the Firth of Clyde, and seventh largest in Scotland. Arran's history dates back as far as the Stone Age, perhaps as far as 7000 BC, and evidence of this can still be seen around the island, which has been inhabited since the early Neolithic period.

Machrie Moor has six stone circles and some of the stones are over 5 meters high – how on earth did they get them there? There's also cup and stone markings and other interesting sites to be visited at Auchengallon, Machrie and the Giant's Graves above Whiting Bay.

In the past, Arran would have had Gaelic speaking inhabitants, and was ruled by Ireland as part of the kingdom of Dalriada. Nowadays, there are no native Arran Gaelic speakers – but many of the island children learn Gaelic at nursery and school – and you will still see many signs in Gaelic about

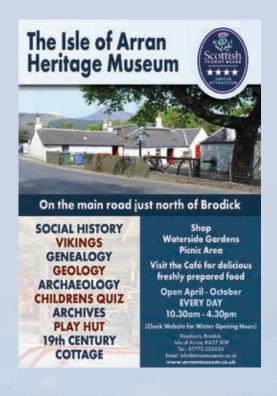
the island. In the 6th century, Christianity arrived on Arran with the founding of a monastery by St Brendan at Kilpatrick.

As the years passed, Arran fell into the hands of Viking invaders, the Celts, the English, and the Stewart and MacDonald Clans. Like so much of Scotland, there is a rich heritage of feuds, battles and complex politics to be found on Arran. Arran was also the seat of the Dukes of Hamilton, most of whom used Brodick Castle for sporting and hunting purposes until the National Trust for Scotland acquired it in 1958.

Arran has always had a small population, but the imposed evictions of the Highland Clearances in the I 800s meant that many islanders had to set sail to North America in search of a better life. You can see the monument to the families that were relocated in Lamlash, in front of Hamilton Terrace, and the grassy mound on the green opposite marks the site of the last sermon before the first 89 islanders set sail for Megantic County on the brig Caledonia.

The introduction of regular ferry sailings meant that Arran gradually began to build a reputation as a holiday destination by the early 20th century. The Isle of Arran Heritage Museum at Rosaburn, Brodick offers an amazing insight into all of Arran's fascinating social history and is not to be missed – you can enjoy a yummy cream tea whilst you're at it!







arty arran

Arran inspires artists from all sectors, whether it be visual, music or drama orientate.

Have a good look for local artisan products and displays – and check out some of the live performances on in local halls and pubs. Posters are usually in local shops and the Arran Banner (our local paper) is a good source for information!

visual arts

Arran is renowned for its vibrant artistic culture. For generations, craftspeople and artists have been working away, inspired by the island and her people, to produce outstanding creative delights for you to enjoy. Beautiful turned wooden bowls and furniture, pottery, fine porcelain, silk painting, sculptures, and quite literally works of art in every medium conceivable — oil, acrylic, pastel, watercolour, mixed media and of course photography — can all be found on Arran.

Most craftspeople display their works locally – either in Arran Art Gallery, or in village gift shops, tearooms and local hotels. As well as the local gallery in Whiting Bay - Corrie, Lochranza and Kilmory Halls all host exhibitions. Arran Open Studios in August allows you to meet and greet the artists, but you can also do this throughout the year by following the Arran Art Trail. This enables you to see artists' works, chat about technique and for those that fancy themselves as a budding artist – there may be classes available too – well worth asking about if you get to meet the artists.

lust some of our talented Artists....

Angela Elliott-Walker, Artist T: 01770 303906

Ann Hume, Jewellery T: 07975 589432

Arran Art Gallery T: 01770 700250

Arran Art Trail Contact individual artists

Arran Studio Shop T: 01770 700599

Bay Wool & Crafts T: 01770 700481

Island Porcelain **T:** 01770 600919

Jackie Newman - Arran in Focus,
Photography & Workshops T: 01770 601391

Jim Mackintosh, Artist **T:** 01770 860711 Unfolding Moments Photography **T:** 07511 658271

drama and music

There are always loads of musical activities going on all over the island – from folk performances in pubs, to classic music concerts and the renowned Arran Soul Choir in the community theatre. Arran has many local performers who can sing and play with the best of them – everything from hard rock, to soulful ballads.

Whilst young (and not-so-young) people might enjoy dancing to live music or discos in the local pubs and halls, families can enjoy ceilidhs where you can learn to Strip the Willow or Dash the White Sergeant with live pipes and fiddles!

There are also various one-off music and drama events that attract quality bands to play gigs on the island, and although we encourage our partners to put all their events on The List, it's always worth checking the Arran Banner for details of times and events.

Check out dates for all the main festivals, such as Arran Folk Festival, Arran Drama Festival and McLellan Festival (to name but a few) on their websites or on The List.

Life is often unpredictable and artists may take the opportunity to get out and create 'en plein air'!

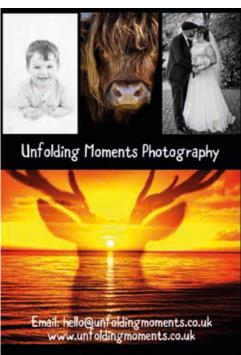
For more Arran Art Trail and Arran Open Studios details, check their website

www.arranopenstudios.com, or like their Facebook page facebook/arranarttrail













An ever-changing mixed exhibition of quality original art, artist prints, photography, glasswork, ceramics, sculpture, textiles and jewellery from over 80 established and emerging artists.



Angela Elliott-Walker



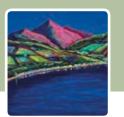
Dorte Pape



Gordon Wilson



Helen Acklam



Nick Giles



Nick Giles



Pam Carter



Pauline Montgomery





Visit
Shore Road, Whiting Bay
(200m south of the village shops)
We look forward to seeing you!



Opening hours 10am-5pm, 7 days a week, all year round.

Keep in touch
w: arranartgallery.com
e: info@arranartgallery.com
t. 01770 700250



Kevin Fleming



Lin Pattullo



Nancy Turnbull



Nick Giles



Philip Raskin



Senja Brendon



Sheila Fowler



Will Shakespeare

mainland 5 getaways

explore argyll

Kintyre is our 'mainland island' neighbour, and takes only 30 minutes to reach via the 'wee boat' that sails to Claonaig from Lochranza in the summer months. As a base this is a great way to explore Argyll by car – but remember that ferries can be busy during summer months! You might choose to head south to Campbeltown, either by the rural mainly single-track coast road which runs through Carradale, or the more direct A83 via Tayinloan. Or why not head north for a day out in Oban, the key port for many of our neighbouring islands. If golf is your thing, there's loads of fabulous courses in Kintyre - and equally lovely scenery.

If you fancy a nice wee jaunt by foot, why not wander right at Claonaig towards Skipness Castle? Like Lochranza Castle, this is a hall house style, built around 1300 – understandable as both were built by the Clan McSween. It's well worth exploring all the nooks and crannies of both the castle and the chapel. It's about two miles to walk – or instead catch the Lochranza ferry with bikes and cycle down to Skipness castle and seafood shack - and if you go between May and September, you might just be lucky enough to visit the famous seafood cabin, where you can enjoy freshly caught fish and shellfish – delicious!

jaunt with the coig?

The Coig is a digital app and website that offers five touring routes, of which #TheArran is one! The other routes include The Bute, The Cumbrae, The Shire and The Shiel, offering scope to explore Ayrshire with a little bit of Inverclyde and Argyll too!

Our 'little cousin', the lovely Isle of Cumbrae (#TheCumbrae), is a delight to visit, with regular ferries from Largs and a popular family pastime is to hire bikes over there and cycle round its 10 mile circumference!

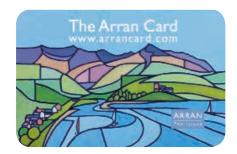
The trains run from Ardrossan Harbour into Ayrshire – and you can travel both north and south with ease. En route, you might like to sample some Ayrshire hospitality by visiting some of the finest golf courses in the world. Of course they offer the finest views too – where you can look over to the Arran hills as you hole out!

Perhaps you might enjoy a cultural visit to Brodick Castle's sister National Trust for Scotland property – Culzean Castle & Country Park. Dean Castle in Kilmarnock and Kelburn up at Largs are also well worth a visit. Ayrshire is also home to the fabulous Scottish Maritime Museum in Irvine – lots to see and do down there! Check out **www.thecoig.com** for lots of inspiration.



did you know?

- From the top of Goatfell on a clear day you can see right down to Snowdonia!
- If you buy an Arran Card, you can use this at nearly 60 outlets, including accommodation, retail, activity and attractions! www.arrancard.com



- Arran has seven primary schools and just one secondary school. See if you can spot them as you travel around the island.
- All of Scotland's Big Five can been seen on Arran, and in some villages, all within the one walk! So look out for red deer, golden eagles, harbour seals, otters and red squirrels – but you might also spot basking sharks, dolphins, porpoises, and minke whales at certain times of the year too!
- Red deer are abundant on Arran, and we also have a couple of white deer! If a white deer appeared it was supposed to signal a death in the Hamilton dynasty. The white deer of Arran are actually red deer that are white - the result of a genetic

- condition which makes them very unique. Keep your eyes peeled and see if you can spot one!
- We love our swings on Arran you might spot some as you travel around, particularly up the West Coast
- The twelve apostles has thirteen chimneys! Decoration? Or just one lucky house?!
- You can play 93 holes of golf on just one ticket! Check out www.golfonarran.com for details.
- The Arran Coastal Way is 67 miles long – but the road around the island is only 56 miles – even with all the twists and turns!
- Arran has loads of geocaches all you need is a GPS tracker on your phone, a good understanding of the clues and you can head off on your own island treasure hunt!
 Check out www.geocaching.com



retail therapy

You won't find any high street chains or shopping centres on Arran - but you will find some acclaimed international businesses.

Arran's niche independent outlets offer a variety of products ranging from fresh local produce to locally made jewellery and crafts, homeware and gifts and even some designer labels. Ideal to take home as a souvenir or to treat yourself! But it's not all about fancy goods — check out our local butcher and grab yourself an Arran Haggis or visit our bakery and cheese shops for some lovely edible produce whilst here, and get yourself kitted out in the best practical summer or winter outdoor gear too - you'll need that for your return visit.

To make it even easier to shop, we've got the ArranCard, a prepaid gift card that can be used at almost 60 businesses island-wide! So no need for paper vouchers anymore – just check out www.arrancard.com for more details. Enjoy!

where to Shop

■ Island-Wide

Arran Gift Box Company

T: 07883 302021

Unfolding Moments Photography

T: 07511 658271

■ Blackwaterfoot

Arran Butcher T: 01770 860354

Blackwaterfoot Post Office T: 01770 860220

The Harbour Shop T: 01770 860215

Brodick

Ann Hume Jewellery T: 07975 589432 Angela Elliot Walker Art T: 01770 303906

Arran Active T: 01770 302113 Arran Brewery T: 01770 302353

Arran's Cheese Shop T: 01770 302788

Isle of Arran Gin Co T: 01770 302513

Arran Graphics T: 01770 303968

Arran: Sense of Scotland T: 01770 303003

Auchrannie Shop T: 01770 302234 Bell's of Arran T: 01770 303787

Book & Card Centre T: 01770 302288

Brodick Castle Gift Shop T: 01770 302202

Ad Astra T: 01770 302400

Driftwood Gift Shop Arran T: 01770 303970

Red Door T: 01770 303549 Taste of Arran Shop & Mini Golf

T: 01770 302272

The Boathouse T: 01770 302868

Book & Card Centre T: 01770 302288 The Byre at Brodick T: 01770 840227

Wooleys of Arran T: 01770 302280

Kilmory

Lagg Distillery T: 01770 870565

Lamlash

Chameleon Ladies Boutique T: 01770 600201

Island Porcelain T: 01770 600919

lanelles T: 01770 600723

Lochranza

Lochranza Distillery T: 01770 830264

Machrie

Old Byre Showroom T: 01770 840227

Shiskine

Arran Art Studio T: 01770 860711

■ Whiting Bay

Arran Art Gallery **T**: 01770 700250 Arran Studio Shop T: 01770 700599 Bay Wool & Crafts T: 01770 700481

The Bay Kitchen & Stores T: 01770 700229

Old Byre Visitor Centre
Proud to be a family business since 1967

Machrie, Isle of Arran KA27 8EB

101770 840227 Www.oldbyre.co.uk









Quality knitwear, sustainable clothing and accessories leather and sheepskin.

NEW SHOE SHOP OPENING SPRING 2020



SEASALT thought WHILE





Café Thyme is fully licensed, serving teas, coffees, home baking, delicious lunches, home grown salads homemade bread & pides from our wood burning oven.









You will find us situated approximately half a mile north of Machrie golf course . . . shop in the Old Byre Showroom, eat in Cafe Thyme,



play in Archie & Gregor's outdoor play area ... stunning views and a warm welcome ...



Visit our satellite shop, The Byre at Brodick, offering a wee taster of our Showroom stock

Tel: 01770 302113 Arran Active facebook.com/arranactive.co.uk

More than an Outdoor Shop

Arran Active is the island's largest independent shop, just a few minutes' stroll from the ferry. We specialise in outdoor gear, with a wide range of footwear & clothing for all ages and budgets, as well as camping gear and accessories and swimwear. But there is much more besides outdoor gear, including fashion clothing and footwear, organic cottonwear, Arran whisky & gin and Arran-branded merchandise. Arran Active staff always offer a friendly and expert service!



Open throughout the year, 7 days a week Shore Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran. KA27 8AJ























At Home Farm Visitors Centre Beside Arran Aromatics

Buy cheese & hampers online at www.ARRANCHEESE.com





Bay Wool & Crafts in Whiting Bay have the largest selection of Arran-themed, handmade goods produced by local craftspeople.

Also a wide selection of wool, plus knitting, embroidery and crochet accessories, buttons, threads, ribbon and haberdashery.

Tel: 01770 700481



Search Bay Wool & Crafts on Facebook and Instagram for more info and upcoming events













ble of Arran KA27 8EZ





Award winning family run butchers

ly reared beef, pork and lamb. We also have a fantastic selection of fresh fish and an ever-growing range of homemade produce including









www.thearranbutcher.com







We want also to praise our front of house staff – all you need to do is enter the competition online, listing what business offered you great customer service, and what date you experienced this!

You must remember to tell us what you felt was the best thing about the customer service offered – was it the assistance offered, their manner in general or were they able to go that extra mile for you?

By entering, you could win a prize hamper of Arran goodies! What have you got to lose?

YOU CAN ENTER ONLINE AT:

www.visitarran.com/competitions

* Terms and conditions apply





50 www.visitarran.com 51

for foodie fans

What can we say about Arran's amazing produce that hasn't already been said? If Arran is "Scotland in Miniature", then it goes without saying that we're Scotland's food & drink in miniature too!

No visit to Arran would be complete without experiencing a 'Taste of Arran'. All the island's key food producers have come together to encourage you to experience the quality of their products, and as a result there is an abundance of excellent island produce available for you to tempt your taste buds. Arran food and drink is known and recognised worldwide for its quality – whether in America, Taiwan or New Zealand. Did you know you can even get Arran Ice Cream in Dubai?

As a result, eating out on our island is a truly mouth-watering experience. Whether you're looking for some delicious home baking to accompany your morning coffee, or you fancy splashing out on a five-course gourmet dinner — Arran can provide delicious foods to suit your palate and your purse! Arran also has lots of fabulous cafes and tearooms, with some of the most delicious (and award-winning) home-baking.



Sit back and enjoy some local banter, sipping lovely coffee with a choice of freshly baked scones, bread and cakes – oh, Paul Hollywood and Prue Leith, eat yer hearts oot!

If you want to enjoy a special meal, then look no further - talented chefs in the island's top restaurants have a real enthusiasm for using seasonal home grown ingredients in their delicious creative menus. Look for island produce on the menu!

If you fancy eating out but can't be bothered leaving your lovely holiday home, then you can even invite a chef to prepare a meal in your accommodation. Remember also that many establishments offer a takeaway menu and some even deliver to your door.

So, in short, there is no better way to sample the delights of the Arran larder than on our lovely island itself!

No visit to Arran would be complete without experiencing a 'Taste of Arran'.

where to eat

Arran-wide

Dining In – Dining at Home
T: 07720 548281
TJs Ices
T: 01770 600138

■ Blackwaterfoot/Shiskine

Blackwaterfoot Lodge T: 01770 860202 Clubhouse Tee Room and Grill T: 01770 860777 Kinloch Hotel T: 01770 860444 On A Roll Takeaway T: 01770 860220

Brodick

Arran Gin Cladach Beach House T: 01770 302513 Brambles Seafood & Grill T: 01770 302234 Brodick Bar and Brasserie T: 01770 302169 Brodick Castle Woodland Café T: 01770 302202 Café Rosaburn T: 01770 302636 Crofters Music Bar & Bistro T: 01770 302579 Cruize Bar Brasserie T: 01770 302234 eighteen69 Scottish Tapas T: 01770 302234 Hunters B&B T: 01770 302211 Isle of Arran Gin Co T: 01770 302513 lanie's T: 01770 302874 Little Rock T: 01770 303886 Ormidale Hotel T: 01770 302293 The Douglas Hotel T: 01770 302968 The Parlour T: 01770 303823 The Wineport **T**: 01770 302101

Wooleys of Arran Takeaway T: 01770 302280

Corrie

Fran's Tearoom at Corrie Golf Club **T:** 01770 810223

Mara Fish Bar & Deli T: 01770 810555

Kildonan

Kildonan Hotel T: 01770 820207

■ Kilmory

Lagg Distillery **T**: 01770 870565 Lagg Hotel **T**: 01770 870205 Velo Café **T**: 01770 870205

Lamlash

Glenisle Bistro **T:** 01770 600559
Indian Garden Takeaway **T:** 01770 600888
Lamlash Bay Hotel **T:** 01770 600844
Old Pier Café **T:** 01770 600249
The Drift Inn **T:** 01770 600608
The Pierhead Tavern **T:** 01770 600418
Wooleys of Arran Takeaway **T:** 01770 600676

Lochranza

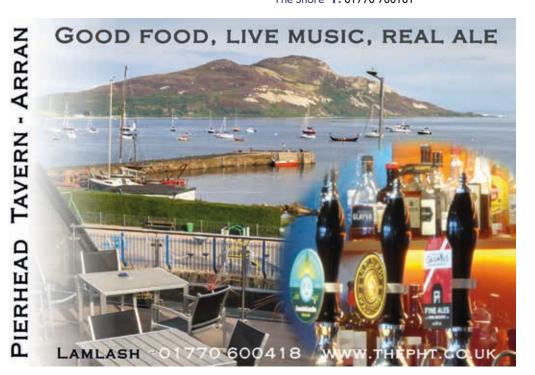
Lochranza Distillery **T**: 01770 830264 Lochranza Hotel **T**: 01770 830223

Machrie

Café Thyme **T:** 01770 840227

■ Whiting Bay

The Bay Kitchen & Stores T: 01770 700229 Felicitys @ Eden Lodge T: 01770 700357 The Shore T: 01770 700161













Proud to be rated in the top 5 Scottish island restaurants. We cook fresh using premium local produce. We bake our own bread, cure our own salmon and all our delicious desserts are made by our pastry chef.

Open 7 days. Arran beer on draft. Fine range of malt whisky. Stunning cocktails. A warm family welcome awaits.





where to stay...

Arran has a choice of accommodation to suit every budget.

From boutique hotels to welcoming guesthouses, cosy cottages and great campsites, whatever the size of your group, you're sure to find the perfect place. Choose from one of the island's lovely villages, where you can do your shopping in traditional village shops and get a taste of village life, or if you prefer something a little more remote... you'll be spoilt for choice!

VisitArran also conducts an accessibility audit, so if you have accessibility difficulties and are concerned about coming on holiday please do check the downloads page of our website for the latest accessibility audit. You will also find more information if you want to bring your four legged friend on holiday on the same webpage: www.visitarran.com/info/downloads

Around Arran

Arran Castaways S/C T: 07775 591325

Arran Holiday Retreats S/C W: arranholidayretreats.co.uk

Arran Island Cottages S/C T: 01770 302813

Cottages & Castles S/C T: 01738 503601

Cottages on Arran S/C

T: 01770 302064 /07787 226007

The Arran Team S/C T: 01770 303113

Blackwaterfoot/

T: 01770 860251/ 07740 986803

T: 01770 860202

Bridgend Campsite & Cottage S/C

T: 01770 860597

T: 01770 840259

Gilleghagaich Cottage S/C

T: 07836 346902

T: 07393 403072

T: 07766 220278

T: 01770 860444

Laggmore S/C T: 01770 302389

Lochside S/C

The Greannan B&B

T: 01770 860220

Brodick

T: 01770 302234

Belvedere B&B & S/C

T: 01770 302397

Brodick Bunkhouse

Brodick Castle Shore Lodge

T: 01770 302202

T: 07976 943409

T: 01770 302811

Glenartney Guest House B&B

T: 01770 302220

Gran's Cottage, Glen Rosa S/C

T: 07789 537236

Hunters B&B

Ormidale Hotel

Shorehouse S/C

Lagg Hotel

T: 01770 870255

& Caravan S/C

T: 01770 870256

T: 01770 870515

Shannochie & Kilbride

Cottages S/C T: 01770 820291

T: 01770 600329

Arran Lodge S/C

T: 01770 600468

T: 01770 600468

T: 01770 600081

T: 01770 600419

Glenisle Hotel

T: 01770 600559

Lamlash Bay Hotel

T: 01770 600844

Lilybank B&B

T: 01770 600230

Linkfield S/C

T: 07825 232215

Monamore B&B T: 01770 600621

Oakbank Farm S/C

T: 01770 600404

Stonewater House Vegan B&B

T: 01770 601259

■ Lochranza/Catacol

Catacol Cottages T: 01770 830354

Lochranza Campsite

T: 01770 830273

Lochranza Centre T: 01770 830637

Lochranza Hotel

T: 01770 830223

Lochranza Youth Hostel

T: 01770 830631 Lodge Farm S/C

T: 0031 622558952

The Sheiling S/C T: 01770 830349

■ Pirnmill

Sandford S/C T: 07817 444335 Westfield House S/C T: 07975 523067

■ Whiting Bay

Cruickshanks Boutique B&B

T: 01770 700190

Glenashdale Properties S/C

T: 01770 302121/700257

Valhalla S/C

T: 01294 471069

Viewbank Guest House

T: 01770 700326

Whitefield Farm Cottage S/C

T: 01770 700291

■ Buy / Build Your Own

T: 01770 600242



Machrie/Shiskine

Balmichael Glamping S/C

T: 01770 465095 Bellevue Farm Cottages S/C

Blackwaterfoot Lodge B&B

Dougarie Estate

Greenbrae S/C

Hamilton Cottages

Kinloch Hotel

T: 01770 860276

Auchrannie Resort

T: 01770 302897

Carrick Lodge B&B

T: 01770 302550

Clan Hamilton Flat S/C

Dunvegan House B&B

Glen Rosa Campsite

T: 01770 302342

T: 01770 302211

T: 01770 302293

T: 01770 302046

Smugglers' Den S/C

T: 01294 823652 Strathwhillan Cottage S/C

T: 07747 863257 / 01284 789013 The Douglas Hotel

T: 01770 302968 West Knowe Farm Cottages S/C

T: 01770 302365

Woodlea S/C T: 01770 303906

■ Corrie/Sannox

Ferghan Mhor Vegan B&B

T: 01770 810507 Seawinds Holiday Cottages

T: 01770 810248

■ Kildonan

Kildonan Farm Cottages S/C T: 01770 820324

Kildonan Hotel

T: 01770 820207 Seal Shore Campsite

T: 01770 820320 Springbank S/C

T: 01770 820226

■ Shannochie/Kilmory/ Sliddery

Clachaig & Bosolo Farm Cottages T: 01770 870526

Far Horizons Holiday Cottages S/C T: 01770 870295 Kilmory Hall & Bunkhouse

T: 01770 870345

Millrink Cottages, Cabin

Runach Arainn Glamping Yurts

Lamlash

Alice's Wonderland Vegetarian B&B

Arran Sleep Huts

Carraig Mhòr B&B

Dyemill Lodges S/C

Arran Estate Agents T: 01770 302213 John Thomson Construction















LOCHSIDE SELE CATERING

Lochside is a self catering holiday let for 6-10 people and can be booked as a single house with either 3, 4 or 5 ensuite bedrooms. Situated in a beautiful peaceful location with stunning views over the Kilbrannan Sound toward the Kintyre Peninsula and walking distance to the village of Blackwaterfoot.

Lochside Self Catering, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, Isle of Arran, KA27 8EY T: 01770 860 276 E: lochsidearran@yahoo.com

www.lochside-arran.co.uk



the shorefront, close to the ferry terminal, shops and restaurants. Choose from our 6 en-suite rooms; two of which have fabulous sea views across to Brodick Castle and Goatfell

We have a ground floor bedroom and 'whole house rental' as an option!

BOOK DIRECT ON 07557 638 501

COME AND TRY OUR SPECIALIST COFFEE SHOP



The Ormidale is 5 minutes from the centre of Brodick, serving home cooked bar meals.

CAMRA recommended

Beer Garden with Children's Play Area Regular Quiz Nights, Live Music and Discos.



Telephone 01770 302293 www.ormidale-hotel.co.uk





BELLEVUE FARM TOURS

Come and visit our farm, say hello to our animals, see our machines and hear what we do. You might even get a job!

We also offer self catering accommodation.

Bellevue Farm

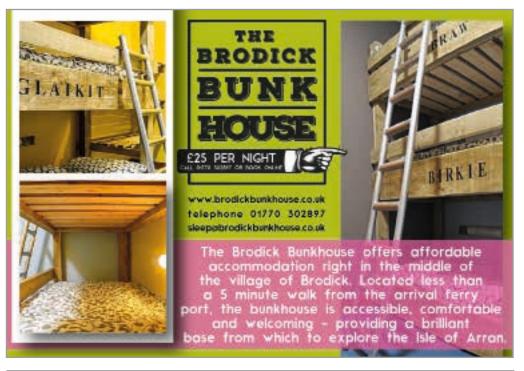
Blackwaterfoot

Isle of Arran, KA27 8EX

Email: bellevuefarmcottages@btinternet.com

Tel: 01770 860251 Mobile: 07740 986803 www.facebook.com/BellevueFarmCottages/







STRATHWHILLAN COTTAGE, BRODICK

Comfortably sleeping 10 in 5 double or twin bedded rooms, with 5 bathrooms the saviour of many a family holiday!

A lovingly restored and enlarged crofters' cottage with well-equipped kitchen and large sitting and dining room overlooking Brodick Bay. TV room with log burner and a spacious utility room.

The cottage sits in the middle of its mature, fenced garden. Approximately 200m from the ferry and Douglas Hotel.

Pets by arrangement.

Please enquire through our website www.holidayhousearran.co.uk







Family run guesthouse in Brodick
Freshly cooked breakfast using local produce
Guest lounges, Wi-Fi, home baking, cycle/golf storage & drying room

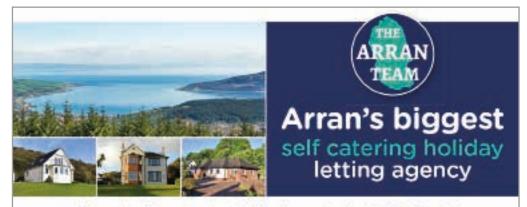








Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8BX www.glenartney-arran.co.uk info@glenartney-arran.co.uk 01770 302220



- We are a local team based on the island, operating from the Brodick office
- Property management services available
- Arran specialists We don't take properties anywhere else
- Listed on cottages.com The UK's no.1 holiday cottage website

Speak to the team at our Brodick office or call 01770 303 113.



Owner Emily welcomes guests to enjoy a hidden escape at Monamore (open March to November), set a 7 minute drive from Brodick ferry terminal, a 2 minute walk from the sea and a 5 minute stroll from the centre of the bustling village of Lamlash. Nestled among three acres of natural woodland, lawn and wildlife garden, which attracts a wide range of birds and other animals.

Monamore displays many eco-conscious practises throughout the house without compromising on quality and all rooms are ensuite, include comfortable armchairs, tea and coffee making facilities, homemade treats, complimentary toiletries, TV and DVD player and much, much more!

Well behaved dogs are welcome in the bedrooms, garden and breakfast room.

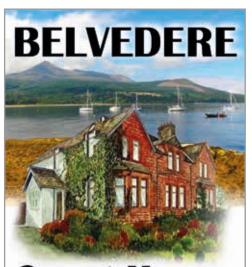
Scottish TOURIST BOARD

taste
OUR BEST
STORMAL AND TO

W: www.monamore-arran.co.uk E: info@monamore-arran.co.uk T: 01770 600621 A: Cordon, Lamlash, KA27 8NO







Guest House & Self Catering Cottage



Close to Brodick ferry terminal and all local amenities, with a wonderful view. Room & breakfast £50-£110 per night. Book direct using 'D10' for best prices. Self-catering for 4/5 £550/week. www.belvedere-guesthouse.co.uk

☎ 01770 302 397

Alma Road, Brodick KA27 8AZ







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visitarran partners

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further tourist information

For new (and old) visitors to Arran, the first stop might be the VisitArran ferry desk on the MV Caledonian Isles. As well as extra copies of this Island Guide magazine, you can get lots of free information on accommodation providers, retailers, attractions and activities. You can also take your pick of free island maps and leaflets/guides to some of the island villages. If you have any queries, then contact us and we will do our utmost to assist - and if we don't know, we'll know someone who will!

At VisitArran, we work closely with our colleagues in VisitScotland. The VisitScotland iCentre is located at Brodick Pier - you can't miss the unusual 'peaked hat' roof of the building! Throughout the summer, the office is usually open 7 days a week, 9am-5pm (with a one hour closure for lunch variable around boat times). During the winter months the office is closed on Sundays, and is open reduced hours. The friendly local staff will be able to assist with any queries you may have relating to your holiday.

visitarran board

Kenneth Bone, Chair lude King lared Bowers Lorna Mansfield Robbie Crawford Gerard Tattersfield Alastair Dobson Tom Tracey

Cameron Bruce.

Business Development Manager

Sheila Gilmore. Executive Director

useful numbers

Emergency:

Linda Johnston

Fire, Police, Ambulance, Coastguard, Mountain Rescue) 999 **Local Police** (non-emergency) 101 111**NHS 24** 01770 600777 Arran War Memorial Hospital 01770 601067 Dentist **Doctors - Arran Medical Group** 01770 600516 Hillphone 01770 302363 **North Ayrshire Council** 01770 600338 Vet 01770 302511

Travel:

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contact us

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