island guide
2018-19

the only Arran guide you’ll ever need
www.visitarran.com

ARRAN TIME
your time

island map
Arran in a day
where to shop, eat & stay
family fun
activities & adventures
entertainment & events
competition
Discover what Arran is all about

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.

Relaxing in our Favourite Spot by Gwen McNicol

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Design by: www.r-evolution.co.uk

The Glenisle Hotel has been at the heart of the charming village of Lamlash since 1849. The hotel looks directly across the sea to the majestic Holy Isle in certainly one of the most spectacular settings on this beautiful island. Since major refurbishment the Glenisle Hotel & Restaurant has established a reputation throughout Scotland for its warm stylish ambiance and its great, relaxed atmosphere.

For all reservations call 01770 600559
www.glenislehotel.com
Shore Road, Lamlash, Isle of Arran, Scotland, KA27 8LY

www.visitarran.com

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07775 591 325
01770 302 485
or email arrancastaways@yahoo.co.uk

arrancastaways.com
Quality self-catering accommodation
welcome

... a warm Arran welcome to the 10th edition of the VisitArran magazine! It seems crazy that we’re in our tenth year of production of the definitive visitor guide to our lovely island!

VisitArran brings together local business and community, to work together to provide visitors with a quality experience and that unique ‘Arran feel’ to your visit. This collaborative approach was celebrated when we won a Regional Thistle Award for Working Together in Tourism – because on Arran tourism really is everyone’s business.

2018 is the Year of Young people, and on Arran we’re justifiably proud of our next generation! We recognise we are but stewards of Arran and so their involvement is crucial to the sustainability of Arran, The Island.

We are proud to work closely with all of Arran’s seven primary schools, Arran High School and community groups such as Arran Youth Foundations who create some very memorable marketing videos for us. For young people, Arran has loads to offer: open beaches to run freely, playparks, crazy golf, swimming, horse-riding – and for teenagers you might want to consider Segway, canyoning, golf or watersports!

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 on 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 further whilst you’re here!

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

Kenneth Bone
Chairman, VisitArran
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. 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 mins, so all in all your travel time from Glasgow to Arran can be less than 2 hrs!

If you’re travelling from North or West, then perhaps the Lochranza – Claonaig ferry is for you. This link connects Arran directly with Argyll in summer months and is also run by CalMac Ferries, and takes only 30 mins. 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!

DID YOU KNOW?

THERE ARE NO MOLES, FOXES OR GREY SQUIRRELS ON ARRAN!
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 from Glasgow Central to Ardrossan Harbour. For more info contact www.scotrail.co.uk

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) & M77/A77 (from Glasgow to Ardrossan). Remember if you are bringing a car over to the island, 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 mins
- Inverness – about 4 hours

Build your own home
John Thomson Construction Ltd
T: 01770 600242  Contact for more information

Buy your own home
Arran Estate Agents
T: 01770 302313  Contact for more information

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 (but not all) of these coincide with the ferry times from Brodick, so it’s best to get a timetable when you arrive. Or checkout the latest timetable for the Arran Area Guide, from SPT, who subsidises the bus service on Arran:

www.spt.co.uk/bus/timetables

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 also 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 and Corrie Cabs.

Private hire/Taxi/Tours
Arran Taxi
T: 01770 700345

Corrie Cabs/Arran Tours
T: 07517 356985

Garages
Angus Lambie Motor Engineers Ltd
T: 01770 302677

Bay Garage
T: 01770 700345

Blackwaterfoot Garage
T: 01770 860277

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

Arran Haulage
For all your delivery needs, and much more
T: 01770 302777

Arran Shand (business services)
T: 01770 302676

Andrew Surridge Photography
T: 01770 860824/07968 277248

Arran in Focus
T: 01770 601391
VISIT THE AWARD WINNING VISITOR CENTRE AT THE ISLE OF ARRAN DISTILLERY

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              NOV - FEB 10.00 - 16.00

FOR TOUR TIMES AND INFORMATION PLEASE CHECK OUR WEB SITE
THE ISLE OF ARRAN DISTILLERY AND VISITOR CENTRE, LOCHRANZA, KA27 8HJ
TEL: 01770 830 266
EMAIL: BOOKINGS@ARRANWHISKY.COM

www.arranwhisky.com

The Arran Malt & Music Festival 2018

Events Held 29th June - 1st July
Festival Day
Saturday 30th June
www.arranevents.com

Distillery Tours & Tutored Tastings

Lochranza Distillery Tours
£8.00 45mins & 2 tastings
Sundays 10am and student concession £7.00,
children 8 to 17 Free. On the hour at 10am, 11am,
12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm & 4pm

‘Drop Inn’ Tour
£4.00
15mins duration including a short film and a
drink in our Bothy. Ideal if you’re short of time
and for young families with children under 8
years old. Subject to availability between tours,
please ask for details.

Tutored Whisky Tastings
£15.00 45mins including
a choice of 4 whiskies
Over 18’s only. Also includes a £5 off Malt
Whisky Voucher. Tastings at 12pm, 2pm and 3pm

Whisky Tasting ‘Flights’
5 different ‘Flights’ of 4 Arran Malt Whiskies
are always available to taste in Casks Café Bar.
These are presented with tasting notes, water
and Arran oatcakes. Various prices, please ask
for details.

Combined Tour & Tasting Discount Ticket £20.00

www.arranwhisky.com
essential arran

So what is it that makes the Isle of Arran (Eilean Arainn) so special? Where do we start? Is it our stunning scenery, amazing wildlife and world class produce? Or is it the character of our island and its people? We can’t really say but whatever it is, 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 splits the island into two very different sections, and the String Road follows this route, dividing 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’s 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 Great and Little Cumbrae, we are part of the Highlands & Islands Enterprise area too.

Arran covers an area of 432 square kilometres (167 square miles) and is only 56 miles in circumference, so 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 our residents, 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 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 just calm down by pampering yourself with one of our fabulous relaxing treatments from many island therapists. We have something for everyone!

If you’re anxious about accessibility, then please email us (info@visitarran.com) for VisitArran’s most up-to-date accessibility audit. 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 page! We also have information available to download 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 and all-round adventure-seekers! Check out our Outdoor pages.

Arran truly is Scotland’s Golf Island. With seven (yes, seven) courses to play on, you’ll never be stuck for a 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 – valid for 12 months, it only costs £110, and is available from most of the clubs or online. Check out our Golf 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 burn off that endless energy that youngsters have. And if after that they just want to chill, there’s teen zones, outdoor adventure playgrounds, indoor swimming pools and even a playbarn for the younger members of the family! Check out our Families page for more details.

Arran is almost as famous for its produce as it’s scenery! World class 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 and Retail pages for more details.

So - why wouldn’t you come to Arran? To ensure your quality experience, look out for the VisitArran 2018 logos on all our partner businesses!
only got a day?

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

• 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.
• Have a fun day playing ‘disc golf’ in and around Brodick with a Frisbee! It’s community run and free!
• Pop down to Kilmory and visit Torrylinn Cairn via Lover’s Lane at the side of the hall and come back up to join the main road near the Creamery… reward yourself with some Arran cheese!
• See Arran from the skies with a paragliding session….or let someone else do the work and head off on a Mogabout adventure!
• Use the south of Arran forest road to cycle (or walk) from Dyemill to Kilmory – visit Aucheleffan standing stones and Carn Ban chambered cairn en route.
• Take the family to Isle Be Wild at Brodick Castle – an adventure playground they’ll never forget!

• Swim in the lovely warm sea waters around Arran, build a sandcastle and reward yourself with an Arran Dairy Ice Cream afterwards.
• Feeling strenuous? Climb through the forest past lovely Eas Mor waterfall to find hidden Loch Garbhaid.
• Climb Goatfell and enjoy a well earned pint of Arran Ale afterwards….ahhh.
• Cycle along Arran’s quieter West Coast and take in stunning views to Kintyre, and down to Ailsa Craig.
• Revisit your childhood with a game of tennis, putting or crazy golf – winner buys dinner at one of our fabulous eateries!
• Visit fabulous Arran Heritage Museum and follow up your heritage trip with a stroll up to Brodick Castle & Gardens.
• Start your Christmas shopping early with some purchases from Arran’s unique shops…!
• Head for the Giants’ Graves and come back via the spectacular Glenashdale Falls.

We can’t list everything that our amazing island has to offer the day visitor – and you will discover lots of things that aren’t listed here. So much in fact, a day just isn’t enough!

if you have longer…

• Enjoy a week’s adventure by walking Arran’s Coastal Way. This is now one of Scotland’s Great trails - check out our Outdoors pages.
• Get yourself a Golf Pass and see how many of our seven courses you can ‘bag’ – remember it lasts 12 months! Visit our Golf page.
• Arran is all about outdoors – you can sign up for a week of activities from one of our adventure providers, ideal for the family. Mountain biking, or fancy a wildlife tour, a hike up the three beins, climbing North Goatfell, an exciting RIB experience, abseiling, sea kayaking, galloping a horse along the beach, paragliding – check out our Outdoors pages.
• Enjoy your own cultural tour – King’s Caves, Machrie Standing Stones, Giants’ Graves, Lochanra 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 – all just ripe for you to explore!

out of season…

There’s always a #WelcomeOnArran in the winter months, so don’t be afraid to visit Arran outwith the summer season. Many of our 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 pantomimes! In January, you can enjoy Burns nights and February is 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, such as April, you will see the island starting to bloom as the green leaves and buds spring forth after the hard frosts of the winter. The same can be said of the Autumn where the yellow, orange and gold of the hills is stunning – and you might also get to hear (and see!) the red deer rut!
what’s on 2018

There are loads of events happening on Arran – some local, some national and some even international, like the Grinduro! We do try and keep our website up to date, but some events do slip through the net, so it’s always best to 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 check out!

Some of 2018’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 Villages pages for more details. Don’t be surprised when you turn up to a coffee morning and find that you feel you want to spend more on raffle tickets!! That is the Arran effect!

Our friends at Arran Events may be selling tickets for some events and their website is also well worth a wee look-see www.arranevents.com

Arran Music Festival
DATE: March 22-24th
CONTACT: e.kennedy862@btinternet.com

Rat Race Ultra Tour of Arran
DATE: April 14-15th
CONTACT: http://ratrace.com/uta/#

Isle of Arran Ormidale 10K
DATE: April 22nd starting 12pm Ormidale Pavilion
CONTACT: reception@ormidale-hotel.co.uk

Arran Mountain Festival
DATE: May 18-21st
CONTACT: www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk

Goatfell Race
DATE: May 19th starting 12pm at Ormidale Pavilion
CONTACT: www.sientries.co.uk

Island-2-Island Triathlon Festival
DATE: June 2nd
CONTACT: www.arrantriathlonfestival.com

Arran Folk Festival
DATE: June 8-10th
CONTACT: info@arranevents.com

Arran Golf Pass Challenge
DATE: June 16th
CONTACT: info@visitarran.com

Ultra Trail Scotland
DATE: June 16
CONTACT: www.ultratrailscotland.com

Arran Skiff Regatta
DATE: June 16-17th
CONTACT: secretary@arrancoastalrowing.co.uk

Craft Day at Arran Heritage Museum
DATE: June 17th
CONTACT: www.arranmuseum.co.uk

Malt and Music Festival
DATE: June 29th- July 1st
CONTACT: www.arranwhisky.com

Arran’s Classic Motorbike Show
DATE: July 1st
CONTACT: www.arranmuseum.co.uk

Shiskine Valley Half Marathon
DATE: TBC
CONTACT: https://www.sientries.co.uk/

Grinduro Off-Road Cycling Event
DATE: July 14-15th
CONTACT: contact@focal.events

Whiting Bay Funweek
DATE: July 16-23rd
CONTACT: bianson411@gmail.com

Children’s Day, Arran Heritage Museum
DATE: July 22nd
CONTACT: www.arranmuseum.co.uk

Texas Scramble, in aid of The Arran Trust
DATE: July 29th
CONTACT: info@arrantrust.org or 01770 860227

Arran Farmers Show, Lamlash
DATE: August 1st
CONTACT: christine@shannochiearran.com

Lamlash Golf Club Open Weekend
DATE: August 3rd
CONTACT: https://lamlashgolfclub.com/

Brodick Highland Games
DATE: August 4th
CONTACT: mumandbuttons@hotmail.com

Tractor Show, Arran Heritage Museum
DATE: August 5th
CONTACT: www.arranmuseum.co.uk

Arran Open Studios, Around Arran
DATE: August 10-13th
CONTACT: ruthmae.nagare@gmail.com

Real Ale Event,
Best Western Kinloch Hotel
DATE: August 25th
CONTACT: www.bw-kinlochhotel.co.uk

McLellan Festival
DATE: August 25th-September 2nd
CONTACT: gough.carlo@btinternet.com

Arran Geofest Weekend
DATE: September 7-9th
CONTACT: info@arrangeopark.co.uk

Cycle Sportive
DATE: September 15th
CONTACT: Christie@oytscotland.org.uk

MG Sports Car Show, Arran Heritage Museum
DATE: September 15th
CONTACT: www.arranmuseum.co.uk

ArranMan Triathlon
DATE: Sept 23rd
CONTACT: https://arrantriathlon.wordpress.com/

Santa’s Sparkle
DATE: November 24th
CONTACT: www.santassparkle.co.uk

ShopArran
DATE: December 1-3rd
CONTACT: enquiries@oldbyre.co.uk
DID YOU KNOW?
THERE ARE LOADS OF GECACHES ON ARRAN!
CHECK OUT WWW.GECACHING.COM

Arran truly has something for everyone.

Whether it’s wildlife, scenery, amazing food or just the opportunity to relax and chill out, Arran has something for you to enjoy. The island’s south end and west coast are quieter areas perhaps to cycle, walk or picnic, and Kilmory, Pirnmill & Blackwaterfoot beaches are beautiful to wander along and take in the sea air. If you’re looking for more buzz you might find it at a pub quiz or a live gig in the busier villages on the east side.

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 fetes, dances, conker championships, chutney competitions, hill-billy golf, classic concerts, sales of work, farmers’ markets, craft fairs etc!

A good starting point for any larger events is www.arranevents.com

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…. By respecting your fellow road users at all times, we can all share Arran’s roads safely!

Our island is made up from lots of villages dotted mostly around the coastline.

Each village has its own special character and each is well worth some further exploration. Most villages run their own village 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! Our village list travels clockwise:

**Brodick** is home to the island’s main ferry terminal, and lots of niche retail outlets, so definitely worth a gander. Arran Heritage Museum is a short walk from the village and is a very popular visitor attraction. Brodick Castle reopens in Summer 2018 and the Castle Gardens are also well worth exploring. Visit their new adventure play area – Isle Be Wild – it’s amazing!

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. Check out the Clearances Memorial Monument, in front of lovely Hamilton Terrace, before enjoying some of the local fare at one of the village’s many excellent eateries.

**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 Glenashdale Falls. The Giants’ Graves can also be accessed from the village and has a variety of other activities, and also hosts a Fun Week every July. The beach at Sandbraes is lovely.

**Kildonan** is a quaint 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 – they also hold a Fun Week of activities in July. Right at the bottom of the island you will find **Kilmory**, home to the island’s creamery. You can pop in to the shop and see the famous Arran Cheddar cheese being made through enormous viewing windows. There’s a fabulous beach at Kilmory, and there’s even a great cycle path to Dyemill in Lamlash! Kilmory is the site of the second distillery on the island, due to open in 2019.

Moving up the west coast, you will come across **Sliddery** and Corrie. 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 seacilfs as you travel north. If you look closely, at Corrie you might be able to spot the green of the old golf course, now grazed by cattle.

**Blackwaterfoot** is the largest community on the west of the island, and part of the area known as Shiskine Valley. The village has lots of amenities within a short distance such as riding stables, golf, tennis, putting, bowls and various local retailers such as the island’s only butcher. 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 history. As well as the famous Standing Stones on Machrie Moor, look out for the lesser known Auchengallon Circles – and for the Druid Stone up at the Old Byre! There’s also a lovely forest and cliff walk to King’s Caves.

Moving further 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 Arran water (Arran whisky!). 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 sheep on the villages’ piers, and also see if you can find the Doctor’s Bath, carved out of the sandstone on the shore…
family fun

This is the Year of Young People and if you want to get the whole family into the holiday spirit – there’s no better place than Arran.

Our lovely island can be your adventure playground – where you can all let your hair down! 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 there’s crazy golf on Brodick sea front, the adventure playgrounds at The Old Byre Visitor Centre or Brodick Castle, and the fabulous Playbarn at Auchrannie. Why not have a putting competition? There’s putting greens in many villages. Try a game of Disc Golf, tennis, squash, snooker, or even a spot of pony trekking along Blackwaterfoot beach or up Glen Sannox! Some of our adventure providers offer amazing family activity packages – check out our Outdoors pages.

And if the fairy rain gets you down, you could visit Arran Heritage Museum or there’s also indoor leisure facilities at Auchrannie, Kinloch and KA Leisure in Lamlash, so you won’t be stuck for things to do!

where to play...

Arran Heritage Museum
T: 01770 302636
Auchrannie Leisure
T: 01770 302234
Crazy Golf
T: 01770 302272
Brodick Castle
T: 01770 302202
Cairnhouse Stables
T: 01770 860466
Isle Be Wild Adventure Playground
T: 01770 302202
KA Campus, Lamlash
T: 01770 600849
Kinloch Leisure
T: 01770 860444
North Sannox Pony Trekking
T: 01770 810222
Old Byre Visitor Centre
T: 01770 840227
Shiskine Golf & Tennis
T: 01770 860226
The Playbarn
T: 01770 302234
let’s celebrate!

Arran is a magical place – where better to celebrate your special occasion!

There’s something special about Arran and we can share that with you for your special event. Birthdays, weddings, anniversaries – whatever the occasion we want to make sure that you have a day to remember, and you can be assured there are loads of people just waiting to assist you.

We’ve got some fabulous celebration venues, and all can tailor their offering for that personal touch. Contact us for suggestions if you need help! 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 Pamper Time pages for details!

Who can help you?

Stationery/Printing/Balloons
Arran Banner
T: 01770 302142
Arran Graphics
T: 01770 303699
Bay News
T: 01770 700481
Book & Card Centre
T: 01770 302288
Harbour Shop
T: 01770 860215

Photography
Andrew Surridge Photography
T: 01770 860824
Arran in Focus Photography
T: 01770 601391

Favours/Thank You Gifts
Arran Aromatics
T: 01770 302595
Lochranza Arran Distillery
T: 01770 830264
outdoors

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

walking

Did you know that low level walking is the most popular activity for visitors on Arran? But whether you’re an experienced hillwalker, 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, whilst discovering an island rich in wildlife and history!

The island is working towards becoming a UNESCO recognised global Geopark, which is very exciting! As part of this various trails will be developed in partnership with other agencies on and off Arran. Watch this space, and in the meantime, check out the website: www.arrangeopark.co.uk

Forestry covers large swathes of the island, and there are some great tracks and trails within – just be sure to avoid felling, and if you’re in any doubt, contact the local forestry office on 01770 30 2218. It’s worth remembering that 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 island 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 Hilphone facility – see inside back cover for details.

For more information on short strolls to more challenging hillwalks - www.walkhighlands.co.uk/arran

coastal way

Arran Coastal Way is recognised as one of Scotland’s Great Trails. This is due in part to all the hard work that has gone on behind the scenes to develop and improve pathworks for the pleasure of walkers, and much of this is undertaken by community volunteers! Major work has been done to reconstruct some areas of the route entirely, whilst maintaining other parts of the existing walk - building and clearing drains, placing stepping stones through muddy areas and re-surfacing paths. The whole of the Coastal Way route has also been re-signed using new waymarkers, featuring a gannet!

Supported (among others) by the Arran Trust and the Geopark, 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. 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 or are only safely passable at low tide.

Visit the website www.coastalway.co.uk or Arran Coastal Way Facebook Page to find out more and if you would like to support the path developments taking place, please consider becoming a member of the Arran Access Trust www.arran-access-trust.org.uk or give generously to The Arran Trust - see page 51.

Check out Arran Mountain Festival 18-21st May 2018 www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk for details.

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.

Also remember that adders can be lurking in grass. Whilst venomous, they are not generally aggressive and only use venom as a last means of defence, usually if caught or trodden on. So if you do see an adder – don’t pick it up, treat it with respect and leave it alone.

who to walk with...

Arran Adventure Company
T: 01770 302234

Arran Outdoor Education Centre
T: 01770 600532

Lochranza Centre
T: 01770 830637

Lucy Wallace, Wild Walks on Arran
T: 07825 644161

NTS Ranger Service at Brodick Castle
T: 01770 302462
Cycling
Cycling on Arran is as popular as ever. Barely a weekend goes by without a group of lycra-clad cyclists navigating the coastal route, often for charity! We have various cycling events throughout the year – see our What’s On page for details!

If you are cycling in a group, always remember to let CalMac Ferries (www.calmac.co.uk) know of your intention to travel – space on the ferries can be limited. VisitArran can also provide you with some tips and tricks to make your group visits more enjoyable – info@visitarran.com

Arran is also ideal for family cycling. However, beware of narrow winding roads, challenging hills, changeable road surfaces and steep descents – not to mention sheep and deer; it’s a different road cycling experience! As such we recommend off-road cycling whenever possible, though always be considerate to other path users. Some suggested off-road routes are available on the Arran Bike Club website – www.arranbikeclub.com. The club enjoy sharing their experiences and are happy for visitors to join them for a ride.

Cycle hire is available in Brodick, 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 taxi to take you (and bikes) back if the whole family don’t want to cycle home!

adventure

There is so much adventure to experience on Arran! Try abseiling, sea kayaking, paragliding, mountain biking or gorge walking with one of our activity providers. 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 enjoy a bushcraft session, or gallop a horse up a wild and scenic glen, or along a sandy beach with the sea spray in your face? Or why not take an adrenaline-fuelled power boat trip? 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 adrenaline rush is – you’ll have a great time on our outdoor adventure island!

the adventure providers...

- Arran Adventure T: 01770 302234
- Arran Bike Hire T: 07825 160668
- Arran Bushcraft T: 07876 405080
- Arran Mountain Festival T: 01770 302462/303753
- Arran Outdoor Education Centre T: 01770 600532
- Cairnhouse Riding Centre T: 01770 860466
- Flying Fever T: 01770 303899
- Forestry Commission Scotland T: 01770 302218
- Lochranza Centre T: 01770 830637
- Mogabout T: 07799 555287
- North Sannox Pony Trekking T: 01770 810222
- Ocean Breeze Rib Tours T: 07771 463567
- NTS Ranger Service T: 01770 302462
- Wild Walks on Arran T: 01770 601339/07825 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 is the Buddhist Centre for World Peace where an ongoing retreat and course programme takes place from March till October. Guests are welcome 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, taking the aptly named Holy Isle Ferry from Lamlash. The island is divided into several areas, some of which are reserved for birds and animals, others for our native tree planting programme. Visitors are requested not to take animals onto the island, as at present, there are wild Eriskay ponies, Soay sheep and Saanen goats living on Holy Isle!
DID YOU KNOW?
COAST PLAN TO DEVELOP A MARINE INTERPRETATION CENTRE IN LAMLASH!

Several images of dogs on the beach are visible, including a black and white dog, a black dog, and a brown and white dog. The dogs appear to be enjoying the beach environment.
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 the most out 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. Courses generally have good facilities, and nearly all provide excellent catering either on-site or nearby. Some courses allow dogs, and children may be able to play for free when accompanied by a playing adult!

There are seven golf courses to enjoy on Arran

The Arran Golf Pass enables play at all the courses at a hugely discounted rate (£110 at time of print) and it’s valid for a whole twelve months!
Find out more at www.golfonarran.com

**DID YOU KNOW?**

YOU CAN PLAY ALL SEVEN GOLF COURSES ON ARRAN FOR JUST £110! CHECK OUT WWW.GOLFONARRAN.COM FOR DETAILS
Aaaand... relax!

Life can get so busy that we all need time to chillax and recharge those batteries. So just sit back, switch off and let the island deliver its soothing relaxing charm. From the minute you set foot on the ferry, you can take a deep breath and know you’re on island time. To help you along the way, why not consider pampering yourself by perhaps having a massage, getting your hair done, or enjoying a manicure.

You could really spoil yourself and enjoy a whole day of treats at the Aspa, with lunch (and even a wee glass of bubbly) or perhaps book a treatment from one of our independent therapists. If you’re going out for the night – treat yourself to a makeover. Beauty therapists can offer facials and Indian head massages – as well as nails and make-up. Perhaps you’d rather indulge yourself by enjoying a soothing manicure, and arm massage. Whatever your choice - you deserve it!

There are also plenty of hairdressers available to suit ladies, gents and children – we even have a barber! So if you’ve got a nice evening planned, why not ensure you look the part by visiting one of the island’s hair salons. It always helps you to feel good inside when you treat yourself on the outside… and we think you’re worth it!

Pre-booking is always advisable for any beauty or hair treatments - but sometimes you might get lucky and get a drop-in appointment - just ask for availability!

Where to Relax
Angels Touch Therapies
T: 07502 541203
Aspa Auchrannie Resort
T: 01770 302234
Bewitching Holistic Beauty
T: 07787 343287
Breagha Holistic Beauty & Barber
T: 07854 422790
Island Hair & Beauty
T: 01770 302727
Natalia Hair & Style
T: 07572 668696
Perfectly Polished Nails By Liz
T: 07979 856616
Soul to Sole Holistic Therapies
T: 01770 820636/07515 669147
the island at a glance

Approx driving times between villages clockwise
- Brodick - Lamlass 10 mins
- Lamlass - 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) 20 mins

From further afield

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:
- Lochranza
- Isle of Arran Distillery
- Lochranza Pier
- Catacol Bay Hotel
- Pirnmill
- Pirnmill Village Shop
- Machrie
- Machrie Golf Club
- Shiskine
- Shiskine Surgery
- Shiskine Hall
- Blackwaterfoot
- Kinlach Hotel
- Shiskine Golf Club
- Kilmory
- Kilmory Village Hall
- Kildonan
- Kildonan Village Hall
- Whiting Bay
- Whiting Bay Lifeboat Station
- Lamlass
- Lamlass Lifeboat Station
- Brodick
- Auchrannie Spa
- Arran Active
- Corrie
- Corrie and Sannox Village Hall
- Corrie and Sannox Golf Club

key
- Castles
- Suggested Walks
- Wildlife
- Forests
- Public Toilets
- Defibrillators
- Roads
- Tracks & Trails
- Mountains
- Rivers
- Golf Courses
arran’s natural heritage

Whilst the introduction of regular ferry sailings meant that Arran gradually began to build a reputation as a holiday destination by the early 20th century, our island’s history dates back as far as the Stone Age, perhaps as far as 7000BC, and evidence of this can still be seen around the island.

Machrie Moor has six stone circles and some of the stones are over 5 metres high - so how on earth did they get them there? There’s also cup and stone markings and other interesting sites to be visited at Auchengallon, Aucheleffan, Torrylinn, Carn Ban and the Giants’ Graves among others.

In the past, Arran would have had Gaelic speaking inhabitants and been 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 signs in Gaelic dotted 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 the property in 1958. After a period of almost 20 months, Brodick Castle reopens in Summer 2018, and the beautiful gardens are well worth a visit, and the external walls of the castle itself demonstrate the history of the site through the centuries. The 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 partake of a yummy cream tea at Café Rosaburn whilst you’re at it! There are various events run at the Museum throughout the year, and these are very well supported, so get there early to get the most out of the day!

Arran has always had a small population, but the imposed evictions of the Highland Clearances in the 1800s 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.

...our island’s history dates back as far as the Stone Age, perhaps as far as 7000BC...

DID YOU KNOW?
WE HAVE AT LEAST TWO WHITE DEER ON ARRAN - THEY’RE VERY SPECIAL
arts on arran

Interested in the arts - where better to be than on Arran?

The beauty of our island inspires artists from all sectors, whether it be visual, music or drama orientated. When on Arran have a good look for local artisan products and displays – and check out some of the live performances on our website www.visitarran.com/whats-on

visual arts

Arran is renowned for its vibrant artistic culture. For generations now, craftspeople and artists have been working away, inspired by the island and its 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 – perhaps in Arran Art Gallery, or in village gift shops, tearooms and local hotels. As well as the local gallery in Whiting Bay, village halls in Corrie, Lochranza and Kilmory all host exhibitions.

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arran art trail

Whilst Arran Open Studios (August 10-13th) allows you to meet and greet the artists over a magical weekend, the Arran Art Trail provides ongoing opportunity to seek out Arran’s wealth of hidden creative talent. Venues are situated all over the island and include furniture makers, pottery, jewellers, painters and sculptors, all demonstrating unique arts and crafts. What a lovely opportunity to meet artists and makers who live and create their work on Arran!

Studio signs direct visitors up winding tracks to undiscovered places and spectacular views however, if you are travelling especially to visit a studio, it would be best to call ahead to check it is open as daily island 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

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drama and music

There are always loads of musical activities going on all over the island – from folk performances in pubs to classical music concerts 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 people might enjoy dancing to live music in the local 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. Although we do have an online calendar, it’s always worth checking the Arran Banner for details of times and events.

Check out for dates of all the main festivals, such as Arran Folk Festival, Arran Drama Festival and McLellan Festival (to name but a few) on our website or at www.arranevents.com

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An ever-changing mixed exhibition of original paintings, artists prints, photography, glassworks, ceramics, sculpture and jewellery from over 80 artists are exhibited at Arran Art Gallery including Pam Carter, Tim Pomeroy, James Fraser, Moy McKay, Martin Oates, Ed Hunter, Ron Lawson, Senja Brendon and Nick Giles (the Gallery owner), to name but a few.

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

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

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

Arran’s super retail outlets offer a unique experience! You won’t find any high street chains or shopping centres – but you will find some acclaimed international businesses.

To make it even easier to shop, we’ve designed the ArranCard, an all-in-one gift voucher that can be used at over 50 businesses island-wide. No need for paper vouchers any more – just check out www.arrancard.com for more details!

Arran’s niche independent outlets offer a variety of products ranging from fresh local produce, locally made toiletries, jewellery & crafts, homeware & 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 – have a dram at our distillery, or grab yourself an Arran Haggis at the local butcher, 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, I’m sure!

Where to Shop

■ Arran-wide
  Arran Fairtrade Association  T: 01770 700249
  Creelers  T: 01770 302810

■ Blackwaterfoot/Shiskine
  Arran Butcher  T: 01770 860354
  Also a mobile shop – contact them for details.
  Blackwaterfoot Post Office  T: 01770 860220
  Harbour Shop  T: 01770 860215
  Isle of Arran Art  T: 01770 860711

■ Brodick
  Ann Hume Jewellery  T: 07975 589432
  ArCas  T: 01770 302928
  Arran Active  T: 01770 302113
  Arran Aromatics  T: 01770 303003
  Arran Brewery  T: 0141 572 1580/ 07765 396 036
  Arran’s Cheese Shop  T: 01770 302788
  Arran Dairies  T: 01770 303274
  Arran Graphics  T: 01770 303698
  Arran Tattoo Studio  T: 07760 690972
  Auchrannie Shop  T: 01770 302234
  Belle’s Boutique  T: 01770 303787
  Book & Card Centre  T: 01770 302288
  Castle Bay Studios  T: 01770 302400
  Jolly Molly  T: 01770 302162
  Red Door  T: 01770 302549
  The Boathouse  T: 01770 302868
  The Byre at Brodick  T: 01770 840227
  Wooleys of Arran  T: 01770 302280

■ Kilmory
  Arran Creamery Cheese Shop  T: 01770 870240

■ Lamlash
  Chameleon  T: 01770 600201
  Janelles (formerly The Curtain House)  T: 01770 600723

■ Lochranza
  Isle of Arran Distillery  T: 01770 830264

■ Machrie
  Old Byre Showroom  T: 01770 840227

■ Whiting Bay
  Arran Art Gallery  T: 01770 700250
  Arran Landowners  T: 01770 700488
  Bay Kitchen & Stores  T: 01770 700229
  Bay News, Whiting Bay  T: 01770 700481
  Eco Savvy  T: 01770 700417
  The Shore  T: 01770 700808

Award winning family run butcher serving the people of Arran since 1964.
Quality locally sourced and homemade produce including our own exclusive Black Pudding and traditional Haggis.
Free deliveries available island wide.

Harbour View, Blackwaterfoot, Isle of Arran KA27 8EZ
T: 01770 860354
E: info@thearranbutcher.com
www.thearranbutcher.com

Buy cheese & hampers online at www.ARRANCHEESE.com
Enjoy BIG Tastes from a Small Island...

Arran really is Scotland’s favourite foodie island – with everything from single malt whisky to traditional dairy ice cream! Look out for our great range of locally produced food and drink in island shops and restaurant menus. With an island packed full of artisan food and drink producers, there’s no shortage of great gifts to take home – if you’ve no room in your luggage just shop online and we’ll deliver a ‘Taste of Arran’ direct to your door.

Market Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8AU
Tel: 01770 302374
Email: info@taste-of-arran.co.uk
www.taste-of-arran.co.uk
facebook.com/tasteofarran
twitter: @tasteofarran

THE SHORE

On the shore front at Whiting Bay we offer appetising breakfasts and lunches everyday. Try our delicious home baking. Our freshly cooked takeaway menu is available throughout the summer, including rotisserie chickens.

Shore Road, Whiting Bay, KA27 8PR
T: 01770 700808
OLD BYRE VISITOR CENTRE
Machrie
Isle of Arran KA27 8EB
Tel: 01770 840227
www.oldbyre.co.uk

Quality knitwear, clothing & accessories, leather and sheepskin.

Teas, coffees, delicious lunches, homemade bread and pides from our wood burning oven. Home grown salads & fully licensed.

01770 840608

Situated approximately half a mile north of Machrie golf course...you will find the Old Byre Showroom, Cafe Thyme, a fabulous children’s play area and stunning views
for foodie fans

As a result, eating out on our island is a truly mouth-watering experience. During the daytime, Arran has lots of fabulous cafés 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’. All the island’s key food producers have come together to invite 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 Dairy Ice Cream in Dubai!

No visit to Arran would be complete without experiencing a Taste of Arran...
On Arran we want to provide the very best customer service at all times! As such, we are delivering a suite of customer service training across all sectors. We’d like you to tell us about the best customer service experience you have had on Arran during your stay with us!

All you need to do is enter the competition online, listing where you got the best customer service — it could be a café, a shop, or your activity or accommodation provider! And remember to tell us what you felt was the best thing about your experience…

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

what is the arran trust?

The Arran Trust is our visitor gifting charity. All monies raised go back into Arran to help look after the island that you love.

Community groups can apply for funding for anything environmental or conservational - examples are support given to Arran Coastal Way, the Arran Geopark, or Arran Access Trust. There’s lots of ways to help - by donating online direct from our website, by donating through your accommodation provider, or by dropping some loose change into one of our collecting cans.

With your help, the Arran Trust can work alongside businesses and community groups to improve sustainable practice, and help safeguard this wonderful island. We haven’t inherited Arran from our ancestors; we’re only stewards of this island because we’ve borrowed it from our children. So go on, give us a £1 - if all our visitors did that, do you know we’d have £250K to help keep Arran beautiful!

The Arran Trust - tourism and conservation, working in partnership

donate www.arrantrust.org/donate
mainland getaways

explore argyll

If you fancy a nice wee jaunt by foot, Kintyre is our ‘mainland island’ neighbour, and takes only 30mins to reach via the ‘wee boat’ that sails to Claonaig from Lochranza in the summer months. Just 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. 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 - if you go between May and September, you might just be lucky enough to visit the famous seafood cabin & Creelers Smokehouse, where you can enjoy freshly caught fish and shellfish – delicious!

As a base Claonaig is a great way to explore Argyll by car – but remember that ferries can be busy in 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 Taynloan. 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.

ayrshire jaunt?

Whether coming or going, for many Ayrshire is the gateway to Arran. Overnight stays either way offer plenty of opportunity to sample Ayrshire’s best hospitality, whether in a bed and breakfast or in one of Ayrshire’s lovely hotels – and if you can get a view across to Arran too, then so much the better! Our ‘little cousin’, the lovely Isle of Cumbrae, is a delight to visit, with regular ferries from the lovely seaside town of Largs and a popular family pastime is to cycle around its 10 mile circumference!

The train line runs directly to and from the harbour from Glasgow 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!
where to stay...

Arran has a choice of accommodation to suit every budget. From award winning 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 contact us for a copy of the most recent information. Similarly, you can contact us for more information if you want to bring your four legged friend on holiday!

For a copy of the most recent information. Similarly, you can contact us for more information if you want to bring your four legged friend on holiday!
The Arran Lodge

Arran’s Largest Self Catering House
Perfect for Group Accommodation
Walking / Golf Parties
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Self Catering for 22 people from £1500
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Isle of Arran
KA27 8LQ
www.arransleephuts.com
info@arransleephuts.com
01770 600468
Only a 7 minute drive from Brodick you will discover a great selection of delicious food and drink at the Pet Friendly, family run Lamlash Bay Hotel. Relax and take in the beautiful views of The Holy Isle and bay.

www.lamlashbayhotel.co.uk
01770 600844

HOTEL • BAR LOUNGE • RESTAURANT

BELVEDERE

Guest House & Self Catering Cottage

Close to Brodick ferry terminal and all local amenities, with a wonderful view, room & breakfast £50-£100 per night. Self-catering for 4/5 £550/week.
www.belvedere-guesthouse.co.uk
01770 302 397
Alma Road, Brodick KA27 8AZ
LOCHSIDE B & B

Family run B&B situated in a beautiful peaceful location with stunning views over the Kilbrannan Sound towards the Kintyre Peninsula. Walking distance to the village of Blackwaterfoot.

Lochside B&B, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot
Isle of Arran, KA27 8EY
T: 01770 860 276
E: info@lochside-arran.co.uk
www.lochside-arran.co.uk

BELLEVUE FARM COTTAGES

Situated on a traditional Arran farm approximately 10 minutes walk from Blackwaterfoot. Modern accommodation with spectacular views and lovely surroundings.

Bellevue Farm, Shiskine, Isle of Arran, KA27 8EX
T: 01770 860251
E: bellevuefarmcottages@btinternet.com
www.bellevue-arran.co.uk

OAKBANK FARM SELF CATERING

5 individual properties including: a luxury wooden lodge, 2 stone cottages, one bungalow and a ground floor apartment. All set on the edge of Lamlash Village, we are just a short walk from the coast. We offer spectacular views and a relaxed atmosphere.

Oakbank Farm, Lamlash, Isle of Arran
KA27 8LH
T: 01770 600404
E: teresa@oakbankfarm.co.uk
www.oakbankfarm.com
did you know?

• The new ArranCard can be used at a variety of accommodation, retail, eateries, activities and attractions! For more info check out www.arrancard.com

• Arran has its own cottage hospital – Arran War Memorial Hospital in Lamlash! It’s lovely, though we hope you don’t have cause to visit it…

• All of Scotland’s Big Five can be seen on Arran, and in some villages, such as Lochranza, all within the one walk! Look out for red deer, golden eagles, harbour seals, otters and red squirrels – but you might also spot basking sharks, dolphins and porpoises at certain times of the year too!

• Arran has two red deer (one stag and one hind) that are white! The white deer of Arran aren’t albino and are the result of a genetic condition which makes them very unique. They’re in two different parts of the island so keep your eyes peeled and see if you can spy one!

• Public toilets on Arran are generally run by communities – check out our map on the centre pages!

• We have a Fairy Dell, a Fairy Glen, and we get Fairy Rain (it’s just that sometimes it’s very big fairies we’re talking about!). We always knew Arran was a magical place…

• You can play all seven golf courses for only £110! Check out www.golfonarran.com for details

• The Arran Coastal way is over 67 miles long – yet the road around the island is only 56 miles – even with all the twists and turns!

• Eriskay ponies, Soay sheep and Saanen goats all roam wild on Holy Isle…

• Arran has loads of geocaches – all you need is a GPS tracker on your phone, a good understanding of the clues and you can be offski on your own island treasure hunt! Check out www.geocaching.com
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.

Kenneth Bone, Chair
Elaine Campbell
Robbie Crawford
Alastair Dobson
Angela Elliott-Walker
Linda Johnston
Lorna Mansfield
Tom Tracey
Sheila Gilmore, Executive Director

useful numbers

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

Travel:
CalMac (Brodick) 01770 460361
Stagecoach Buses (Arran) 01770 302000
Rail Enquiries 08457 48 49 50

To stay up-to-date with special offers and Arran events simply sign up for our monthly ezine at: www.visitarran.com

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 22 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 £85, including breakfast for two and VAT.

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

Follow us on social media for regular updates and offers.
At the heart of the beautiful Isle of Arran lies the multi-award winning Auchrannie Resort.

With 2 four star hotels, 30 luxury lodges and 6 brand new couples retreats, Auchrannie is ideal for families as well as couples and solo travellers.

You are spoilt for choice at Auchrannie with 3 distinct dining experiences, offering freshly prepared food from locally sourced ingredients.

Facilities include 2 full sized swimming pools, gyms and a destination spa.

For adventure seekers, we have a variety of activities for you to try.

Whether you want to relax or be active - there’s something for everyone.

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Call us on 01770 302234 to find out more or go online to www.auchrannie.co.uk