

CASTLES & MONUMENTS



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Track time and history by visiting the wealth of prehistoric monuments and medieval forts and castles located throughout Argyll and the Isles. Learn about our predecessors and adversaries – and how our built heritage shaped the west coast and our connections with the rest of the world. The richest of history to be enjoyed today.

Argyll and the Isles is unbelievably rich in prehistoric sites with Kilmartin Glen in the heart of Argyll having one of the densest concentrations in the UK with over 800 sites within 6 miles! Also, many of these prehistoric sites across Argyll & the Isles have no visible remains above ground with some having been excavated and others still to be. Here are just some of the more important ones that you can visit.

Please note listed sites are protected by law, please respect these treasured places when you visit by adhering to any signs you see and follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.



OUR PREHISTORIC SITES TO VISIT

- Shell Middens, Mesolithic rubbish heaps perhaps 9,000 years old, Isle of Oronsay
- Glecknabae, Mesolithic shell midden and Neolithic chambered cairn, Isle of Bute
- Brackley, Neolithic chambered cairn, Kintyre
- Beacharra Neolithic chambered cairn, Kintyre
- Lochbuie, Neolithic/Bronze Age stone circle, Mull
- Cultoon, Bronze Age, standing stones circle, Islay
- Strontoiller, Neolithic/Bronze Age standing stone/cairns, Lorn
- Dunagoil, Late Bronze Age/Iron Age Vitrified Fort, Isle of Bute
- Kildonan, Iron Age Dun, Kintyre
- Tirefour, Iron Age Broch, Isle of Lismore
- Druim an Dun, Iron Age and Early Historic Dun, Knapdale
- Dun Eibhinn, Iron Age Dun, Isle of Colonsay
- Dun Nosebridge, Iron Age Fort, Isle of Islay
- Dun Mor Vaul, Iron Age Broch, Isle of Tiree
- Castle Dounie, Iron Age Dun, Knapdale
- Kilmartin Glen
 - Neolithic-Bronze Age cairns/standing stones
 - Nether Largie South chambered cairn
 - Templewood stone circles
 - Kilmartin Glen Linear Cemetery

- Dunchraigaig, Neolithic - Bronze Age, standing stones/henge/cairn/cup markings
- Achhabreck, Neolithic Rock Art Site
- Cairnbaan, Neolithic Rock Art Site
- Dunadd Hill Fort, Kilmartin Glen, Iron Age Early Historic seat of the Kingdom of Dál Riata



OUR MAJESTIC CASTLES

The many Forts and Castles of Argyll & the Isles are testament to the often turbulent story of the people who inhabited this beautiful and now peaceful landscape in Early Historic and Medieval times. The building of stone structures in Argyll & the Isles has a long tradition, beginning in the Iron Age around 800 BC.

There are more than 60 medieval castles and forts in Argyll & The Isles – some of which you can readily visit and explore, and others, which you cannot currently enter, but will still make exceptional backdrops for your travels and adventure and perfectly composed photos.

For a list of our majestic castles to visit, go to wildaboutargyll.co.uk/castles

- **Castle Stalker**¹ near Appin - a private residence on Loch Linnhe
- **Dunstaffnage Castle**² north of Oban - normally open to the public but closed for now
- **Kilchurn Castle**³ a ruin on the banks of Loch Awe accessible to the public
- **Carnassarie Castle**⁴, Kilmartin Glen - a well preserved ruin accessible by foot
- **Skipness Castle**⁵ in Kintyre - a well preserved ruin accessible to the public
- **Inveraray Castle**⁶ the seat of the Dukes of Argyll built in the 18th century. Castle and Gardens open to the public. Entry fee.

Historic Environment Scotland manage many of the historic properties in Argyll. Find out more about access and opening times post Covid on www.historicenvironment.scot



ARGYLL & THE ISLES

SCOTLAND'S ADVENTURE COAST

-  **3723km** of coastline
-  **1555km** of hiking, biking & kayaking trails
-  **61** medieval castles
-  **24** gin and whisky distilleries
-  **23** inhabited islands
-  **4** national nature reserves

-  Main Roads
-  Vehicle Ferry Routes
-  Passenger Ferry Routes
-  Canal
-  Airports
-  Train Stations

Transport links are changing regularly as lockdown lifts. Please always check before travelling and book ahead where possible.
wildaboutargyll.co.uk/travel



GET ACTIVE WITH YOUR TRAVEL

 Pack up the car and bring all your gear with you, ready to explore by land or sea with a ferry crossing. Plan your route and prepare your car for the weather.

 Take advantage of great bus services with West Coast Motors from Glasgow and the central belt, with connections throughout Argyll and the Isles with all other modes of transport. Sit back and enjoy the views or hop on and off as you please. Plan ahead at westcoastmotors.co.uk

 With a direct rail link from Glasgow to Oban, The Gateway to the Isles, you can make your journey in good time, and less stress. And with the launch later this year of cycle carriages from Scotrail, you can be as active as you like once you arrive. Plan ahead with scotrail.co.uk and check out the Rail and Sail tickets with CalMac Ferries too.

 If you are moving in and around areas within Argyll and the Isles, make the most of the great outdoors in all its

beauty, by exploring on foot. There are an abundance of walk trails to discover, inland or via the coastline. To get those legs moving check out wildaboutargyll.co.uk

 Argyll and the Isles has as many waterways as it does road and rail links. Ports and harbours are spread throughout the west coast, our islands and peninsulas to give you access to amazing sailing routes.

Or start by land at any of the many ferry ports and start your journey with a unique CalMac experience. For sailing routes visit sailscotland.co.uk and plan with ferry timetables at calmac.co.uk

 Cycling really is one of the best ways to actively travel throughout Argyll and the Isles. With carefully designed cycle routes soaking up the best landscapes and places of interest, you can enjoy a gentle pedal or step it up a gear on a more intense ride on one of our many long distance cycle routes with the **Wild About Argyll bike packing trail.**

Day trips, short breaks and longer holidays all start with the journey. The joy of Argyll and the Isles is that all routes to and from all areas enjoy beautiful scenery, stop off places, and points of interest.