SCOTLAND'S ADVENTURE COAST

# DESTINATION GUIDE

MULL & IONA



## MULL & IONA



Mull and Iona together provide breath-taking landscapes and coastlines. Add some rare wildlife, delicious local food and drink, inspirational culture and lots of outdoor activities for an unforgettable island experience.

Mull is surprisingly large, with several idyllic offshore islands within reach. So take your time and plan a stay to get a taste for island life. Explore the island's mountains, forests, lochs and surrounding seas and coastlines, with the knowledge of a warm Hebridean welcome at the end of the day.

### **ISLE OF MULL**

Mull is an island of delightful contrasts, not only in its landscape and unique natural history, but also in archaeology, culture and history. for travellers with nearby 13th century Duart Castle worth a visit. In the South West of the island, The Ross of Mull is famed for its outstanding coastline of shell-sand beaches peppered with outcrops of pink granite. Explore the islands through the Mull & Iona Wild Isles, the Food Trail and Mull and Iona Art Trail.

#### THE ISLE OF IONA

This tiny island sitting less than a mile from the south west tip of Mull is famed for its serenity, tranquillity and beauty. The unique history of Saint Columba and lona Abbey makes lona a place of pilgrimage, but the island also has a rich cultural heritage which inspires creative people to live, work and visit. Despite its size, lona is a thriving, welcoming community with shops, eateries, outdoor activities and events. escape from modern life via a very short ferry crossing from Mull, where the Boathouse offers delicious home cooking. Ulva is a haven for wildlife and a peaceful walkers paradise with impressive archaeological and geological features.

#### The Treshnish Isles

Lunga is the largest of this evocative string of islands, easily accessible by regular boat trips to experience at close quarters its rare marine bird life during the nesting season, and other fascinating flora and fauna.

The north west of the island feels remote and wild, with the chance of spotting whales or dolphins from the coastline. Picturesque Tobermory has specialist shops, excellent eateries and visitor attractions with the colourful houses circled round the pretty harbour. The rugged and mountainous centre of Mull has Ben More munro at its heart and the outstanding wilderness area of Burg peninsula. On the coast the villages of Salen and Craignure provide hospitality

### VISIT MULL'S OFFSHORE ISLANDS BY BOAT Isle of Ulva

This community-owned island, with the tiny isle of Gometra attached by a small bridge, is an idyllic

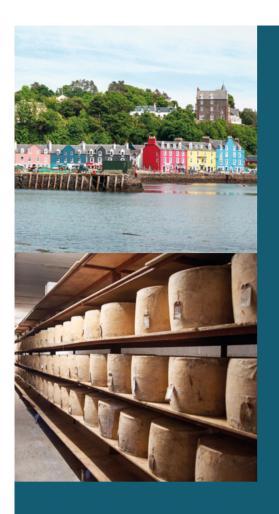
#### Staffa

Staffa is a tiny, entirely volcanic, island with dramatic basalt columns and caves. Regular boat trips bring visitors to experience the outstanding Fingal's Cave which was immortalised by Mendelssohn in his Hebrides Overture. Going ashore, it's possible to view the many marine bird species nesting above the cave, with puffins very popular.

STAY CONNECTED Visit wildaboutargyll.co.uk/destinations/mull-and-iona

wildaboutargyll.co.uk

Be inspired and stay connected



## PLANNING YOUR JOURNEY

Travel by car, bus or train to Oban and then ferry from the CalMac ferry terminal. For the sailor, there is nothing to beat sailing from the Clyde, through the Kyles of Bute then through the Crinan Canal, along the west coast via Oban then the Sound of Mull and into Tobermory Harbour.



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From Left to right. Fingals Cave on Staffa Puffins on Staffa Isle of Iona

## **EXPERIENCE IT ALL WITH THE LOCALS**

Book for you, friends and family to get out and about for a memorable experience.

### WHITETAIL GIN DISTILLERY

Sample some Whitetail Gin, enjoy savoury and sweet home baking, buy locally sourced produce and farm shop goodies and gifts. <u>Email ></u> +44 (0)1681 705163

## DUART CASTLE

Explore this ancient 'Keep' originally built in the 14th century and find out more about the Clan Maclean and their long history with The Scouting Association. <u>Website ></u> | Email > +44(0)1680 812309

## OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Go the extra mile and visit some less well-known hidden gems and places. They are well-worth exploring to make the most of your post-lockdown trip.

- Aros Park
- Ben More
- Carsaig Coastal Walk and Carsaig Arches
- Calgary Bay and Calgary Art in Nature
- Dun I and the Well of Eternal Youth on Iona
- Isle of Ulva walks and trails
  - Kilchoan Ferry and exploring Ardnamurchan
  - Lochbuie Stone Circle
  - Mackinnon's Cave near Gribun
  - Staffa and the Treshnish Isles

## MEET OUR PRODUCERS

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Read our Taste of Place Trail Stories at www.wildaboutargyll.co.uk/taste-trails



TASTE OF PLACE TRAILS

Tobermory on Mull Mull Cheddar

#### Start your people powered adventure >

# Go wild and plan your adventure at wildaboutargyll.co.uk

## STAY SOCIAL WITH US

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## **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.



With a direct rail link from Glasgow beauty, by exploring on foot. to Oban, The Gateway to the Isles, you can make your journey in good time, and less stress. The ScotRail Highland Explorer launched early 2021, has cycle carriages so 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.

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.

<u>There are an abundance of</u> walk trails to discover, inland or via the coastline. To get those legs moving check out wildaboutargyll.co.uk

Or start by land at any of the many terry 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



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

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



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.



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.