

BRODICK CASTLE,
GARDEN
& COUNTRY PARK
WHAT'S ON 2011



the National Trust
for Scotland
a place for everyone

www.nts.org.uk



One of the icons of Arran, Brodick Castle, Garden and Country Park offer a wonderful combination of heritage, nature, walking and relaxation. Inside the castle, enjoy the impressive collection of sporting pictures and trophies, as you imagine what it would have been like to live in this fantastic location. The renowned gardens are well worth a visit and, all year round, the country park, stretching from the shore to Goatfell, the highest peak on Arran, provides a wealth of opportunities to enjoy woodland trails, tumbling waterfalls, wildlife ponds and spot wildlife and birdlife – from red squirrels and Highland cows to red deer and even the occasional golden eagle.



To finish your visit, our coffee house and tearoom will help you recharge your batteries and our shop provides some great souvenirs of your visit – and, of course, don't forget that all purchases directly support the Trust's conservation work.



To make the most of your visit, join in one of our events or guided walks. There's so much going on this year - some events are repeated over different dates, so please look through this leaflet carefully to make sure you do not miss anything. Events and walks are grouped into 3 sections.

COUNTRY PARK ACTIVITIES – APRIL TO OCTOBER

GOATFELL ACTIVITIES – APRIL TO OCTOBER

CASTLE/GARDENS ACTIVITIES – APRIL TO DECEMBER

BIRD BOX MAKING WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL

2–4pm

Drop in to the Ranger Centre and make your own bird box to take home.

Adult £2/box, child £2/box

Booking not required

WOODLAND SURVIVAL SKILLS

TUESDAY 12 APRIL, THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

2–4.30pm

Do you have what it takes to survive in the wild? Find out how to build a cosy shelter, light a fire and see what food you can find in the woods. Child £5 (suitable for 8–12-year-olds only)

Booking essential

RED SQUIRREL STROLL

THURSDAY 14 APRIL, TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER

10am–12pm

Join this leisurely stroll into the woodland to our known squirrel hot spots. No guarantees of seeing squirrel acrobatics, but you will learn lots of squirrel facts and discover how to tell if Nutty is about!

Adult £2, child £1

Booking not required, meet Brodick Country Park Reception Centre

NORTH ARRAN MINIBUS SAFARI

THURSDAY 19 MAY, THURSDAY 26 MAY, THURSDAY 2 JUNE

10.15am–4.15pm

Discover the amazing wildlife of Arran from the comfort of a minibus. From sea to mountaintop, Arran has the lot: chances of seeing golden eagle, hen harrier, red deer, seals and maybe otters and dolphins.

Adult £30, child £15

Booking essential



LAND ROVER FOREST ADVENTURE

TUESDAY 24 MAY, WEDNESDAY 27 JULY, THURSDAY 11 AUGUST

11am–3pm

The Forestry and NTS rangers have teamed up to give you the exclusive opportunity to experience the south end of Arran along little-explored forestry tracks. Spectacular views, lively banter and lots of local knowledge ... all from the comfort of our Land Rover!

Adult £30, child £15

Booking essential

KILDONAN SEALS AND SHORE

SUNDAY 29 MAY, TUESDAY 12 JULY, TUESDAY 9 AUGUST

2–4pm

A chance to sneak up close to Kildonan's seal colony, and find out more about the myriad of creatures living on the seashore. Cream teas are available in the village hall afterwards.

Adult free, child £2

Booking not required, meet at Kildonan Village Hall

WOODLAND DUSK WALK

MONDAY 30 MAY

8–11pm

Join the NTS and Forestry rangers for a woodland dusk walk from Corrie to Merkland. Experience the gloaming with the chance of black grouse calling, barn owls, woodcock, bats and maybe even a nightjar.

Adult £15, child £7.50

Booking essential

SEASHORE SCRAMBLE, LAMLASH BAY NO TAKE ZONE

FRIDAY 8 JULY

10.30–11.30am

Ever had your finger tickled by a sea anemone, or had your feet cleaned by a prawn? Join us for a rockpooling adventure to discover more about all the creatures you find on the shore and about Arran's No Take Zone. Suitable for all ages, but not for pushchairs.

Adult free, child £2

Booking not required, meet at Clachlands car park

PONDEMONIUM

WEDNESDAY 1 JUNE, THURSDAY 21 JULY

2–3.30pm

Join us on a pond dip to find out what creatures lurk beneath the water. Discover the top predators of the pond from great diving beetle larvae to dragonfly nymphs. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Adult free, child £2

Booking not required, meet at Brodick Castle Reception Centre

ART ATTACK

FRIDAY 29 JULY

2–4pm

A chance for you to let loose your creative skills. Art with an environmental theme.

Adult free, child £2 (suitable for all ages)

Booking not required, drop in at the Ranger Centre

SEASHORE SCRAMBLE

FRIDAY 5 AUGUST

10–11.30am

Ever had your finger tickled by a sea anemone, or had your feet cleaned by a prawn? Join us for a rockpooling adventure to discover more about all the creatures you find on the shore.

Adult free with entry to the Country Park, child £2

Booking not required, meet at Brodick Country Park Reception Centre

BUGS AND BEASTIES

THURSDAY 18 AUGUST

2–3.30pm

Wiggly worms and creepy crawlies – come and catch all the minibeasts that lurk in the dark, dank places of Brodick Country Park! This is a hands-on bug hunt, suitable for all ages.

Adult free with entry into the Country Park, child £2

Booking not required, meet at Brodick Country Park Reception Centre



BAT WALK

THURSDAY 25 AUGUST

8–9.30pm

Things that don't go bump in the night! Discover the fascinating world of our endangered bat species with bat expert Corinna and her magic bat detectors!

Adult £2, child £1

Booking not required, meet at Brodick Country Park Reception Centre
Bring a torch and midge repellent!

FUNGI WALK

SUNDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

1–3.30pm

Discover the amazing world of the toadstool with expert 'fun guy' Graeme Walker. Find out which mushrooms are safe to eat with a fungi nosh-up afterwards.

Adult £2, child £1

Booking not required, meet at Brodick Country Park Reception Centre

AUTUMN ART ATTACK

THURSDAY 20 OCTOBER

2–4pm

A chance for you to let loose your creative skills. Come and create art inspired by the autumn colours, using natural materials found within the grounds of Brodick Country Park.

Adult free, child £2 (suitable for all ages)

Booking not required, meet outside the Ranger Centre

HALLOWEEN HORROR WALK

SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER

7–9pm

Get spooked at Brodick Castle!

Adult £5, child £2.50

Booking not required, meet at Brodick Castle Reception Centre
Bring warm clothes and a torch.

GLEN ROSA LAND ROVER SAFARI

MONDAY 25 APRIL, WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST

10am–1pm

Explore beautiful Glen Rosa, without the long walk in, by hopping aboard our Land Rover. Catch a glimpse of the castle and standing stones on the way, before finding out about the glen's history, geology and wildlife.

Adult £15, child £10

Booking essential

DEER WALK

TUESDAY 31 MAY

11am–3pm

Sneak a closer glimpse of the magnificent red deer with expert deerstalker Bob Logan. This is a moderately strenuous hill walk with some off-path walking over moorland.

Adult £20, child £10

Booking essential

THE BIRDS OF MAOL DONN

FRIDAY 3 JUNE

10am–3.30pm

A walk to discover more about the black grouse re-introduction programme, with a chance of seeing black grouse, hen harriers and maybe a golden eagle. This is a moderately strenuous hill walk with some steep slopes.

Adult £25, child £12.50

Booking essential

THE THREE BEINNS**THURSDAY 16 JUNE, WEDNESDAY 24 AUGUST**

9.30am–5pm

A magnificent ridge walk with spectacular views of Arran's northern mountain range, and a chance of a closer look at red deer and their calves, golden eagle, hen harrier and mountain flowers. This is a strenuous all-day hill walk.

Adult £30, child £15

Booking essential**KING'S CAVE WALK****WEDNESDAY 6 JULY, WEDNESDAY 20 JULY,
WEDNESDAY 17 AUGUST**

11am–2.30pm

A walk steeped in history, from early round houses to Christian invaders. Join local expert Bob Logan and find out more about Arran's past as well as experience a magnificent part of Arran's coastline, moorland and woods.

Adult £15, child £7.50

Booking essential**CIOCHE NA H-OIGHE AND GOATFELL****THURSDAY 4 AUGUST**

9.30am–5pm

This is an exhilarating ridge walk from Cioch na h-Oighe all the way to the top of Goatfell. A head for heights is required as you clamber up the steep slopes of Cioch na h-Oighe to reach the summit, perched high above the Devil's Punchbowl. There are magnificent views on this quieter ridge walk. This is a strenuous all-day hill walk with some rock scrambling.

Adult £30, child £15

Booking essential**GOATFELL MURDER MOUNTAIN WALK****FRIDAY 15 JULY**

9.30am–5pm

Did he fall or was he pushed? Retrace the victim's last steps on the anniversary of the infamous Goatfell murder. Local historian Stuart Gough will set the scene with a fascinating illustrated talk before we head out into the hills. .

Adult £30, child £15

Booking essential**CIR MHOR – ARRAN'S MINIATURE MATTERHORN****TUESDAY 16 AUGUST**

9am–5pm

At the head of Glen Rosa stands Cir Mhor, Arran's Matterhorn. A real mountain experience with a steep ascent that's rewarded by incredible views. This is a strenuous hill walk.

Adult £30, child £15

Booking essential**ARRAN MOUNTAIN FESTIVAL****FRIDAY 16–MONDAY 19 SEPTEMBER**

Join qualified local guides to conquer Arran's magnificent mountaintops. Less strenuous hill walks are also on offer, as well as exciting outdoor activities such as sea kayaking and paragliding. The festival is brought to you by the community of Arran, local businesses, Forestry Commission Scotland, the National Trust for Scotland and COAST.

Booking essential; see www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk**DEER RUT WALK****SUNDAY 16 OCTOBER**

11am–3pm

At this time of year, the glens and hills echo with the roar of stags and the clash of antlers. Experience the rut at first hand with local deer expert Bob Logan.

Adult £20, child £10

Booking essential**RENT A RANGER****ON REQUEST**

Activity dependent

Are you holidaying on Arran and would like an expert to lead you? Why not rent a ranger for the day? Guided hill walks, wildlife walks, flower walks and Land Rover safaris are available.

Full day £30/adult, minimum fee £90; half day £15/adult, minimum fee £45

Please book well in advance to avoid disappointment



EASTER AT THE CASTLE

SUNDAY 24 APRIL

12–4pm

Easter eggstravaganza! Easter egg trails, egg painting, Easter Bonnet parade, Duck Derby and lots and lots of Cadbury's eggs!

Adult/child free with entrance to the Country Park

Booking not required

VICTORIAN DAY

WEDNESDAY 10 AUGUST

12–4pm

Step back in time and meet the local gentry and their staff. Lots of fun both upstairs and downstairs!

Adult/child free with entry to Brodick Castle

Booking not required

GARDEN WALK

EVERY TUESDAY FROM MAY TO END OF AUGUST

2–3.30pm

Join the garden experts on a walk around the spectacular gardens to see the seasonal highlights of Brodick's famous plant collection.

Adult £2, child £2

Booking not required, meet at Brodick Castle Reception Centre

TOTS' TOURS

EVERY TUESDAY DURING JULY AND AUGUST

1.30–2.15pm

The forgetful princess has lost her things around the castle. Help her find them with lots of songs and rhyming fun.

Adult/child free with entry to Brodick Castle (one adult to accompany children; suitable for 3–6-year-olds)

Booking essential

SECRETS TOUR

EVERY TUESDAY DURING JULY AND AUGUST

2–3.30pm

Find out all the secrets of the castle, and look into the nooks and crannies that others cannot see.

Child free with entry to Brodick Castle (suitable for 7–11-year-olds)

Booking essential

VILE VICTORIANS

EVERY WEDNESDAY DURING JULY AND AUGUST

2–3.30pm

Everything you wanted to know about the Victorians. After this castle tour you'll wish you hadn't asked!

Child free with entry to Brodick Castle (suitable for 7–11-year-olds)

Booking essential

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER

12–4pm

The halls are decked, Santa's ready with his Christmas book, and the smell of mulled wine and mince pies wafts up from the kitchen. Join us for this Yuletide celebration.

Adult/child free with entry to Brodick Castle

Booking not required



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GENERAL INFORMATION

OPENING TIMES 2011

CASTLE 1 APRIL TO 30 SEPTEMBER 11–4
1 OCTOBER TO 31 OCTOBER 11–3

COUNTRY PARK OPEN ALL YEAR 9.30–sunset

RECEPTION CENTRE 1 APRIL TO 30 SEPTEMBER 10–5
1 OCTOBER TO 31 OCTOBER 10–4

WALLED GARDEN Open every day **1 APRIL TO 31 OCTOBER**
10–4.30, and weekends from **1 NOVEMBER TO 20 DECEMBER**
10–3.30

SHOPPING FACILITIES 1 APRIL TO 31 OCTOBER
Reception Centre and Shop 10–5 (coffee shop 11–4.30)

CATERING FACILITIES 1 APRIL TO 31 SEPTEMBER 11–5
(11–4 in **OCTOBER**)

ADMISSION

Trust members admitted FREE (except for certain special events)



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