



ISLE OF TIREE VISITOR GUIDE 2017



prepared and produced by Discover Tiree

Introduction

Welcome...

The Isle of Tiree is the most westerly island of the Inner Hebrides. It is relatively small - about twelve miles long and three miles wide - and very flat. Although the name means 'the land of corn' it has been described variously as 'a raised beach' and 'the land below the waves'.

The island has a mild climate with some of the highest levels of sunshine recorded anywhere in the British Isles. It benefits from the moderating influence of the Gulf Stream ensuring that frost is rare and evenings in mid-summer are warm and balmy.

We hope you will find the information in this visitor guide useful and helpful. For more information about the island please visit www.isleoftiree.com or download the Isle of Tiree app.

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Emergency Numbers

Doctor's Surgery - <i>Baugh</i>	01879 220323
Police - Non Emergency Number	101
Fire, Police, Ambulance, Coastguard	999 or 112
Vet - <i>Anne Stanley - Kenovay</i>	01879 220571 or 07769 332912

Contact Numbers

Health Services

Doctor Surgery - <i>Baugh</i>	01879 220323
Dental Surgery - <i>Baugh</i>	01879 220708
District Nurse - <i>Health Centre - Baugh</i>	01879 220500
Eventide Home - <i>Tigh an Rhuda - Scarinish</i>	01879 220407
Vet - <i>Anne Stanley - Kenovay</i>	01879 220571 / 07769 332912
Optometrist - <i>John Bottomley - Rural Centre</i>	01879 220633 / 07769 852432

Transport Services

CalMac Pier Office - <i>Scarinish</i>	01879 220337
Airport - <i>Flybe Booking - Crossapol</i>	01879 220309
Airport - <i>Lounge Coin Box</i>	01879 220634
Ring and Ride Service - <i>Crossapol</i>	01879 220419
Taxi - <i>Nancy MacKechnie - Crossapol</i>	01879 220419
Car Hire - <i>MacLennan Motors - Scarinish</i>	01879 220555
Fuel and Garage - <i>MacLennan Motors - Scarinish</i>	01879 220555

Post Office

Main Post Office - <i>Scarinish</i>	01879 220301
Balemartine	01879 220450
Cornaig	01879 220550

Churches

Baptist Church - <i>Rev Alan Millar</i>	01879 220915
Church of Scotland	01879 220377
Siloam Home Church - <i>Colin Woodcock</i>	01879 220510

Public Services

An Tirisdeach - <i>Island Newsletter</i>	01879 220520
An Talla - <i>Community Hall - Crossapol</i>	01879 220655
Business Centre - <i>Crossapol</i>	01879 220520
Tiree Community Trust - <i>Crossapol</i>	01879 220074
Tiree Rural Centre - <i>Crossapol</i>	01879 220677
Tiree Ranger Service - <i>Crossapol</i>	07765 449487

Out and About on Tiree

Tiree is a working island that welcomes responsible visitors. The different landscape types - machair, grasslands, dunes and heaths - are managed by islanders and form an important part of their farming and crofting operations. Damage to grazings results directly in reduced income to islanders, so please be careful and follow the guidance below.

We have a very fragile but beautiful environment on Tiree with protected areas of special significance. These do not stand up to continued use by motor vehicles and can become damaged very quickly. Tiree is also well known for its wildlife, in particular the many species of birds that are found here. At certain times of the year we have many ground nesting birds, which can easily be disturbed by vehicles.

By using the marked parking areas around the island, you are helping us protect our environment and wildlife for future generations to enjoy.

A new publication - *Tiree Walks* - is now available. The twelve walks in this book have been carefully chosen to give a taste of what's special about this small Hebridean island. Some of the walks take in favourite beaches and destinations whilst others encourage the walker to explore less well-known parts of the island. The book is available from the Tiree Ranger or from shops and outlets on the island. There is also general walking access to fenced and unfenced land in line with the Scottish Outdoor Access code. The Tiree Ranger, who will be out and about most days in different parts of the island, will be more than happy to help with questions about the island - particularly walking, wild camping, access and parking.

Public toilets are located at the Rural Centre and in Scarinish. There is also a water tap and a chemical disposal point by the public toilets in Scarinish.

- Please dispose of litter responsibly
- Please avoid damaging grass by not lighting camp-fires on grassland
- When waiting for the ferry, dog owners are asked to use the dog waste facilities which are situated behind the Calmac office

Motorised Vehicles

Motorised vehicular access is permitted only on public roads, unless it is an emergency, a motor vehicle specifically for a disabled person or on official croft business. Motorised vehicular access or parking away from public roads and road verges - on croft tracks, unfenced land and beaches - is permitted only if authorised by the landowner.

When you park a vehicle it is important not to cause any damage or create an obstruction, so please ensure you: leave the entrance to a field or building clear; do not obstruct a road or track; have regard for the safety of others; try not to damage the verge; use a car park if one is nearby.

Summer Events 2017

Details of events can be found on the WHAT'S ON TIREE page on the Tiree Trust website:

*www.tireetrust.org.uk/whats-on-tiree/ - event details will also appear in *An Tirisdeach* over the summer.*

Arts and Crafts

Beachcomber Craft Cafe • Crossapol • 01879 220590

Tiree Handmade Soaps and Smellies, largest selection of cards on Tiree and a beautiful range of gifts.

OPENING TIMES

EASTER • Monday - Saturday | 1pm to 5pm

JUNE/JULY/AUGUST • Every Day | 10am to 8pm

Blue Beyond Home Gallery • Balemartine • 01879 220510

We produce paintings, textiles, cards and fine art prints in our studios at Balemartine.

A large selection of our work can be seen in our home gallery at Sunbeam Cottage located south of the township on the road to Hynish. Limited parking opposite the house.

OPENING TIMES

APRIL - OCTOBER • Wednesday - Friday | 1pm to 5pm

Or by appointment - please ring 01879 220510

OUR WORK IS ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE - www.bluebeyond.uk.com

Chocolates and Charms • Heylipol • 01879 220037

Beautiful jewellery handcrafted on Tiree, a scrumptious range of Tiree Chocolates, work from many local artists and a huge selection of Tiree gifts, books, cards, sweets, ice creams and of course delicious fresh coffee and cakes.

OPENING TIMES

JULY & AUGUST • Monday – Saturday | 11am – 5pm

ALL OTHER MONTHS • Monday – Saturday | 1pm – 5pm

Atlantic Art House • Scarinish • 01879 220747

The studio gallery of artist Dorinda Johnson, overlooking the old harbour, selling original paintings, prints and pottery as well as fine art cards.

OPENING TIMES

Usually Daily | 1pm - 5pm

Tiree Glass • Balinoe • 01879 220627

Glass artist Frances Woodhead creates a range of functional and visual art using vibrant glass sheets from recycled bottle and window glass. The gallery and artist's shop is located at the highest inhabited spot on Tiree. Find us next to the campsite in Balinoe, further up the same track.

OPENING TIMES

APRIL - OCTOBER • Monday - Saturday | 12noon - 5pm

and when the 'open' sign is at the track end.

Dot Sim Studio • Caolas • 01879 220173

Jeweller Dot Sim's designs are inspired by her environment, from changing landscapes, windswept beaches and stormy seas to the minutiae found in rock pools and the garden.

OPENING TIMES

MAY - OCTOBER • Wednesday - Saturday | 12 noon - 5pm - and other times by appointment.

Food and Drink

Places to Eat

Ceabhar Restaurant • Sandaig • 01879 220684

Fully licensed restaurant specialising in seasonal and local produce. We provide really tasty, good quality home cooking, in a unique setting. BOOKINGS ONLY

OPENING TIMES

APRIL - OCTOBER • Wednesday - Saturday | 7pm - 9pm

JULY/AUGUST • Tuesday - Saturday | 7pm - 9pm

The Cobbled Cow • Crossapol • 01879 220096 or 07718 251563

We serve lunches, snacks, teas and evening meals in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

We also offer a delicious take-away menu. We can also supply fresh lobster and crab.

OPENING TIMES

Sunday | Carvery Only | 2pm - 6pm

Tuesday - Saturday | 10am - 7pm

The Farmhouse Cafe • Balemartine • 01879 220107

The cafe is situated in a newly renovated barn in the centre of the township of Balemartine. The light, airy sun lounge has open views towards Ben Hynish.

We offer a selection of speciality coffees, home baking and light lunches - and

a children's menu. There is also a selection of gifts for sale.

OPENING TIMES

JULY & AUGUST • Monday - Saturday | 11am - 4pm

ALL OTHER MONTHS • Monday - Saturday | 11am - 4pm

Tiree Scarinish Hotel • Scarinish • 01879 220308

The hotel nestles by the old harbour beside a sandy beach with magnificent sea views

towards Mull and Iona.

OPENING TIMES

Every Day | Bar Lunches | 12noon - 2.30pm • Dinner | 5pm - 8.30pm

Tiree Lodge Hotel • Gott Bay • 01879 220329

The hotel overlooks the magnificent sandy beach at Gott Bay with magnificent sea views

towards Mull, Iona, Jura and Colonsay.

OPENING TIMES

Every Day | Bar Lunches and Restaurant | 12noon - 9pm • High Teas | 4pm - 6pm

Sunday | Lunches served 12noon - 5pm

Beachcomber Craft Cafe • Crossapol • 01879 220590

Delicious homemade lunches, pizzas and evening meals.

OPENING TIMES

EASTER • Monday - Saturday | 1pm to 5pm

JUNE/JULY/AUGUST • Every Day | 10am to 8pm

Lunch is from 12noon - 3pm and Pizza Takeaway 5pm - 8pm

Food and Drink

Tiree Lobster and Crab • Scarinish • 07765 422831

Suppliers of fresh local shellfish, beef and lamb.

Situated in Scarinish we supply the finest fresh local seafood direct from our own boat as well as Tiree beef, lamb and pork direct from the family farm in Ruaig.

OPEN DAILY - for lobster, dressed crab, oysters, langoustines, scallops, Ruaig beef, lamb and pork.

Tea, coffe, soup, cold drinks and ice cream.

Lobster rolls and Ruaig steak baguettes.

Contact | Frazer J MacInnes | 07765 422831 | www.facebook.com/tireelobster

Shops

Co-operative Store • Scarinish • 01879 220326

The store has a wide range of fresh and chilled foods and a large selection of fruit and vegetables.

There is an in-store bakery and many Fairtrade items.

OPENING TIMES

Every Day | 7am - 10pm

Bùth a' Bhaile

An independent licensed general store and newsagent with an instore bakery. We sell a wide range of fresh and frozen provisions as well as children's toys, electricals, novelties,

hardware and wines and spirits.

OPENING TIMES

Monday - Saturday | 8am - 6pm

Sunday | 12noon - 5pm



Sport and Leisure

Blackhouse Watersports and Bike Rental • Balevullin • 01879 220010

Kayak in the beautiful waters of Gott Bay in a one or two person kayak. One or two person Kayaks available for hire every day - weather dependant. Bike rental available for £10 per day. Kitesurfing lessons, sand yachts and fishing tackle also available - please enquire.

Suds Surfschool • Balevullin • 07793 063849

Learn to surf safely in the crystal clear, Gulf Stream warmed, Atlantic waves of Tiree. We have a wide range of surfboards, bodyboards, snorkels, winter wetsuits, boots, gloves and hoods. I also sell many top brand equipment through mail order. The time & location of the surf lessons vary due to daily changes in the conditions. Please check the info points or call/text to find me.

Tiree Fitness and Bike Hire • Sandaig • 07867 304640

Quality bike hire, sales, servicing and coaching - Scottish Cycling affiliated and based on Tiree all year round. We have bikes for the whole family, offering ladies, gents and kids bikes as well as hybrids, Kona mountain bikes, tag-alongs and even a tandem. Delivery provided. Call or email to arrange your bikes.

Wild Diamond • Cornaig • 01879 220399 and 07712 159205

Tiree's original, and most established, watersports business. We offer RYA courses in Windsurfing, IKO courses in Kitesurfing, ASI courses in Surfing and Body Boarding, BSUPA courses in Stand Up Paddleboarding and Sandyacht and Kayak hire. Visit our shop & booking office in Cornaig. Our activities are roving and can be based anywhere on Tiree's coast, depending on the conditions on the day.

OPEN DAILY from 1st April - 1st November from 9am (shop) and 11am (centre) - bookings dependent. Please note that all of our activities are weather dependent.

Services

IA MacKinnon Haulage • Balephetrish • 01879 220044

We are an independent haulage and plant hire contractor with 19 years of experience throughout the highlands and islands. Coal, firewood, animal feed and building supplies available from the Big Shed at Balephetrish.

OPENING TIMES | Monday - Saturday | 4pm - 5pm

John Kennedy Taxis • Crossapol • 01879 220419

Taxi service, minibus and coach hire. Island tours.

Roots Architecture • Crossapol • 01879 220482 | 07827 665475

Roots Architecture is an award-winning sustainable architecture practice, based on the Isle of Tiree. We specialise in modern interpretations of traditional buildings, and have particular expertise in renewable and energy efficient designs.

Free, no obligation introductory visits available any time upon request.

Useful Information

Royal Bank of Scotland • Scarinish • 01879 220307

OPEN - Monday, Tuesday, Friday | 10am - 4pm

Closed each day 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Post Offices

Scarinish Post Office • Scarinish • 01879 220301

OPEN - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday | 9am - 5.30pm • Closed 1pm - 2pm

Thursday | 9am - 1pm and Saturday | 9am - 12.30pm

Balinoe Post Office • Balinoe • 01879 220450

OPEN - Monday - Friday | 9am - 1pm

Cornaig Post Office • Kilmoluaig • 01879 220550

OPEN - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday | 9am - 1pm

Wednesday and Friday | 2pm - 5pm

Cycle Hire

MacLennan Motors • Pierhead • Scarinish • 01879 220555

Millhouse Hostel • Cornaigmore • 01879 220892

Tiree Fitness Bike Hire • Sandaig • 07867 304640

Blackhouse Watersports • Gott Bay • 01879 220010

Garage and Fuel Services

MacLennan Motors • Pierhead • Scarinish • 01879 220555

OPEN - Monday - Friday | 9am - 5pm

Saturday | 9am - 3pm

Ring and Ride • Crossapol • 01879 220419

Tiree has a Ring n' Ride service provided by Argyll & Bute Council. This service is available on demand anywhere on the island between 7am and 6pm Monday to Saturday. Anyone can use this service. To book a journey contact Nancy MacKechnie.

Tiree Rural Centre • Crossapol • 01879 220677

OPEN - Monday - Saturday | 9am - 5pm - sometimes the Cobbled Cow is open later.

There is a wifi hotspot at this location - charges are £4 per hour.

Tiree Community Business • Crossapol • 01879 220520

OPEN - Monday - Friday | 9.30pm - 12.30pm

Email | tireecommunitybusiness@btconnect.com

Offer a wide range of office facilities including colour photocopying, passport photos, laminating and faxing. Also sells local Tiree books.

Useful Information

Churches

Baptist Church • Rev Alan Millar • 01879 220915

Sunday Services 11am at An Talla in Crossapol with children's activities.

Monthly evening services at Baugh.

Church of Scotland • 01879 220377

Sunday Services 11:30am.

All services are at Heylipol Church.

Please check local notice-boards for details.

Siloam • Colin Woodcock • 01879 220510

We are a small, open and informal home-based group who are committed to exploring simple ways of living out our Christian faith in our everyday lives.

An Tirisdeach • Community Newsletter • 01879 220520

An Tirisdeach is the fortnightly newsletter written and produced on the island.

It is available from the two main shops on the island and by post through an annual subscription.

Tiree Ranger Service • 07765 449487 | ranger@tireetrust.org.uk

Contact Stephanie Cope - the Tiree Ranger - regarding camping, booking croftsites for overnight parking or questions about walks or access.

Waste Disposal and Recycling • Gott Landfill Site • 01879 220349

Monday 7.30am - 9am | 3pm - 4pm

Tuesday 10am - 11am

Wednesday 2pm - 4pm

Thursday 2pm - 4pm

Friday 7.30am - 9.30am | 2.30pm - 3.30pm

Saturday 9am - 1pm

Sunday Closed

Tiree Community Development Trust • Crossapol • 01879 220074

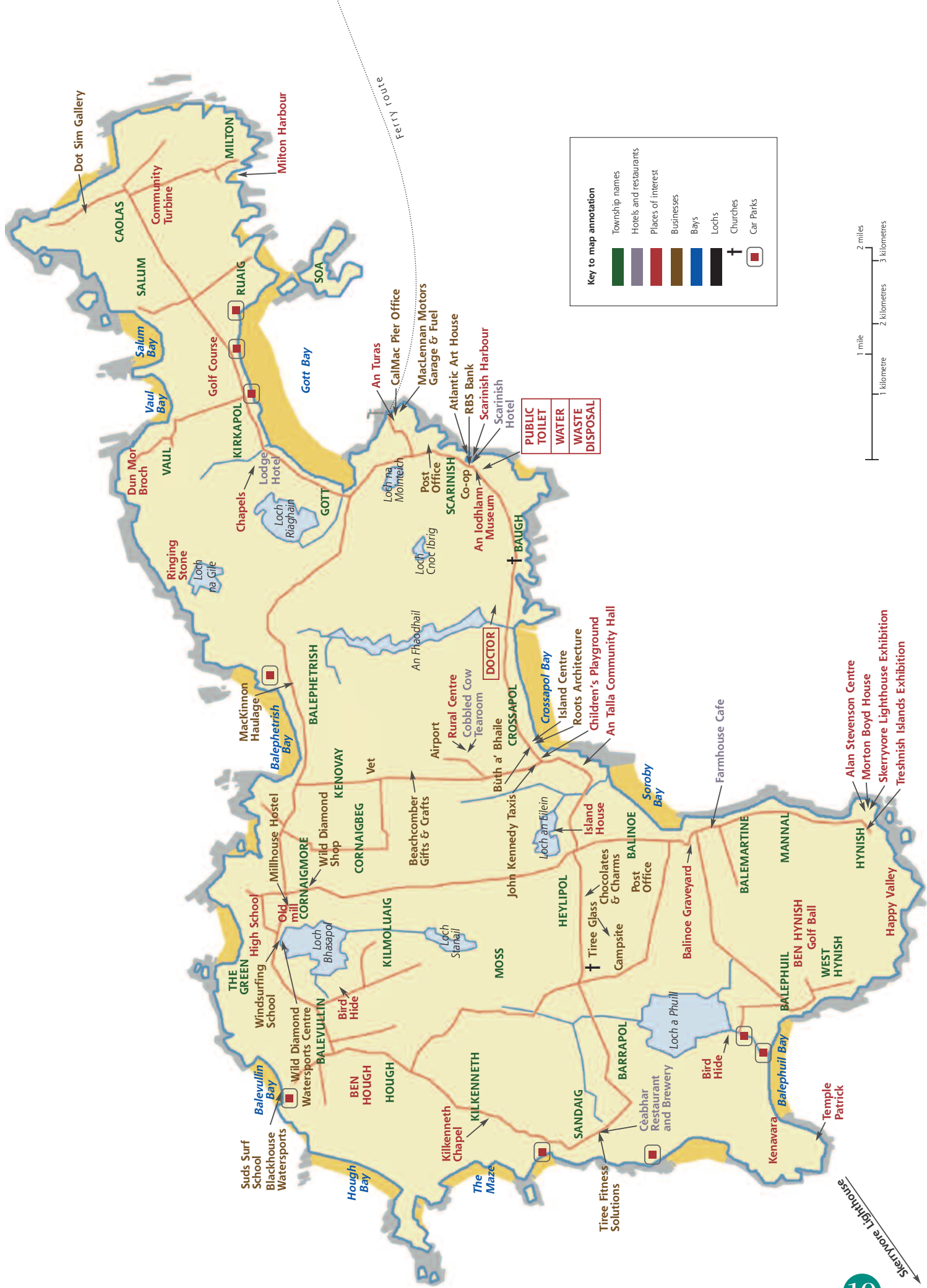
The Island Centre - OPEN - Monday - Friday | 9am - 4pm

The Trust was formed in March 2006 and is owned and managed by Tiree's community.

It represents a community led approach to rural development promoting the sustainable, environmental, economic and social development of Tiree.

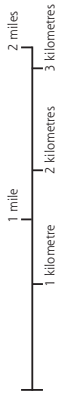
RSPB • John Bowler • 01879 220748

If anyone would like to report unusual sightings of birds or other wildlife on Tiree, please contact John Bowler by telephone.



Key to map annotation

- Township names
- Hotels and restaurants
- Places of interest
- Businesses
- Bays
- Lochs
- Churches
- Car Parks



PUBLIC TOILET
WATER
WASTE DISPOSAL

Skerrowe Lighthouse

Places of Interest

An Iodhlann • Scarinish

The island historic centre. Since 1995 it has been collecting artefacts and photographs of times past. An exhibition tells the story of the island and its people, and there are fascinating objects and artefacts on display. There is also help on hand to trace family roots.



An Turas • Scarinish

An Turas, Gaelic for 'the journey', is an award winning installation situated adjacent to the CalMac pier office. This building won the prestigious 'Stirling Prize - Scottish Building of the Year' in 2003. Walking through it gives the complete island experience from the impression of a pier to a black roofed house, with vistas of shore and sea.



Ben Hough • Hough

The summit of Ben Hough, 119m, provides panoramic views of the whole island and beyond to the outer islands. The concrete steps to the right of Hough House lead to the summit observation post which was part of the RAF presence on Tiree during WWII.



Ben Hynish • West Hynish

The summit, which is the highest point on the island at 141m, offers wonderful views of the whole island and the Skerryvore Lighthouse to the south-west. The 'Golf Ball', which sits at the top of the hill, is an important civil aviation radar station which scans the skies two hundred miles out into the Atlantic. It was built in 1985.



Dùn Mòr Bhalla - Vaul Broch • Vaul

This is the best example of a broch on Tiree and the only one that has been excavated. It is believed that the broch was built in about 60AD, initially as an emergency refuge and stronghold, and then inhabited for 200-300 years. Originally the broch had a double wall with an inner staircase leading to two or three galleries.



Happy Valley • Hynish

Happy Valley, probably named by an airman during WWII, is found in the south-west of the island about 1km from the township of Hynish. A prehistoric fort, Dùn na Cleite, occupies the southern end of the rocky ridge above the valley and is regarded as one of the strongest, naturally created, defensive sites on the island.



Places of Interest

Hynish Centre • Hynish

The buildings at Hynish were started in 1837 and comprised a dock, workshops and lodgings for those involved in the building of the Skerryvore Lighthouse. One of the listed buildings in Hynish is home to 'The Story of Skerryvore Lighthouse' exhibition. This exhibition records the fascinating account of the construction of the tallest lighthouse in Scotland by Alan Stevenson, uncle of Robert Louis Stevenson. Visitors to Hynish can also enjoy the Treshnish Isles natural history exhibition.



Kilkenneth Chapel • Kilkenneth

Now in ruins, this church building probably dates from the late Middle Ages. With its dedication to St Kenneth, a contemporary of St Columba, it may have replaced earlier, less substantial structures on this site. St Kenneth is said to have lived on Tiree in the late 6th century and to have accompanied St Columba on a mission to the Inverness area to convert King Brude to Christianity.



Kirkapol Chapels • Kirkapol

Situated behind Tiree Lodge Hotel, and accessed from a track leaving the hotel car park, these ancient chapels are both dedicated to St Columba. The smaller ruin dates from the 13th century. The larger ruin, which dates from the 14th century, is the former parish church and stands in its own graveyard where many ancient and interesting burial stones are still visible.



Loch a' Phuill • Balephuill

Loch a' Phuill is the largest of the lochs on Tiree and supports a particularly diverse aquatic plant flora and also several species of pondweed. Loch a' Phuill is one of the best examples of a coastal eutrophic loch - rich in mineral and organic nutrients.



Loch Bhasapol • Cornaig

This is the second largest loch on Tiree situated in the north west of the island. Two small islands in the loch may be crannogs. A crannog is a type of ancient loch-dwelling found throughout Scotland and Ireland dating from 5,000 years ago. Many crannogs were built out in the water as defensive homesteads and represented symbols of power and wealth.



Places of Interest

Old Mill • Cornaig

The mill was commissioned in 1771 by the 5th Duke of Argyll. It was to grind the corn for the whole island, thus replacing inefficient horizontal mills and hand mills or querns. The mill was completed in 1803 and from 1804 until 1945 a succession of millers lived and worked at Millhouse. The wheel has recently been restored and is now in working order.



Ringing Stone • Balephetrish/Vaul

Situated on the coast between Balephetrish and Vaul, this large boulder, thought to be an erratic, stands balanced on other smaller rocks. It emits a metallic ring when struck and has a number of 'cup and ring' markings generally associated with the period of the Megalithic builders.



Rural Centre • Crossapol

Built to replace the old cattle mart, this building now has an exhibition showing all aspects of crofting and wildlife on the island. The centre also houses the Cobbled Cow. It is also a wifi access point.



Teampall Phàdraig • Balephuill

The remains of this medieval building, in English St Patricks Chapel, possibly stands on the site of an earlier, less substantial chapel. In the centre of the east gable wall are the remains of a square altar base and within the former walls are two stones engraved with Latin crosses on both faces.



Wind Turbine - Tilley • Ruaig

The community wind turbine in Ruaig, built in 2009 and named Tilley by a ballot on the island, generates revenue for the Tiree Community Development Trust. This funding is used to support and develop community projects.





TIREE MOBILE APP



Lots to discover - accommodation, shopping and eating, places to visit and things to do. Get the most from your visit by using the near to me and favourites features.

Use the app to explore the island using the twelve featured walks. The walks have been carefully chosen to give a taste of what's special about this small island. All of the walks are accompanied by a clear map, a detailed description of the route and wildlife notes outlining what you may be able to see during the walk at different times of the year.

**DOWNLOAD THE APP FOR £3.99
FROM THE APP STORE OR GOOGLE PLAY**

