

The Arran: Forgotten Past

Driving

Explore Arran's ties to its neolithic and medieval past

This tour is 70 miles long, please allow at least 2 hours 45 minutes to complete it, excluding the time taken to enjoy the destinations along the way.



Arran is remarkable for its many historical associations, ranging from Neolithic burial chambers to Bronze Age fortresses and 13th century castles traditionally linked with King Robert the Bruce. This route takes in the imposing Machrie Moor Standing Stones and the Giants' Graves at Whiting Bay, as well as the beautiful ruins of Lochranza Castle and the Kings Cave at Blackwaterfoot. It is in this cave that legend tells of Bruce's encounter with a spider, which inspired him to persevere in the fight for Scotland's freedom from English rule, while Lochranza

Castle is rumoured to have been another place of refuge upon Bruce's return to Scotland from exile in Ireland. Brodick Castle is an all-round resort with something for every member of the family to enjoy, from the authentic Victorian games arcade to the formal gardens and woodland trails. There's a little bit of history around every corner on the Forgotten Past route!

What you'll see



Giants' Graves - Isle of Arran

History & Heritage

The Giants' Graves are the remains of two Neolithic chambered tombs surrounded by tall trees near Whiting Bay on Arran.

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Kildonan Castle - Isle of Arran

History & Heritage

Kildonan Castle stands in the small village of Kildonan on the southern coast of the Isle of Arran in Scotland. No longer accessible

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Torr a'Chaisteal Dun - Isle of Arran

History & Heritage

Torr a'Chaisteal Dun dates back to the Iron Age, lying about a mile from Slidery on the Isle of Arran.

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Kilpatrick Dun - Isle of Arran

History & Heritage

Kilpatrick is an intriguing site comprising of a complex of ancient structures.

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Kings Cave - Isle of Arran

History & Heritage

The historic King's Cave is one of the several locations in which Robert the Bruce was said to have had his famous encounter with a spider.

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Lochranza Castle - Isle of Arran

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Lochranza Castle was built by the McSweens back in the 13th Century, and is managed by Historic Environment Scotland.

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Brodict Castle & Country Park - Isle of Arran

Official Coig Member

History & Heritage

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Gardens, woodland, an adventure play park and a castle packed with treasures make this a must-visit on Arran.

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