

DESTINATION GUIDE

OBAN & LORN



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Welcome to the seafood capital of Scotland and the gateway to the isles. Oban and Lorn is a fascinating part of Argyll and the Isles with an amazing range of things to see and do, many of which you may never have done before.



Are you ready to experience more? Here you can meet lobsters face to face, dive with sharks, enjoy a dram at one of the oldest distilleries in Scotland, climb to the summit of the hollow mountain or get close to the world's third largest whirlpool. Let's explore... and go the extra mile to make memories from your holidays and trips, which will leave you wanting to make even more with family, friends or even a solo adventure!

OBAN

Rightly known as 'the Seafood Capital of Scotland', Oban is the buzzing and booming ferry port and main town of Argyll and the Isles. There is a fantastic mix of lots of great shops, restaurants, cafés and attractions plus a myriad of great days out of exploring the surrounding area.

For novice or keen kayakers, yachtsmen and divers, the seas around Oban offer the best in Europe for their sports, whilst the surrounding dominating hills and glens are magnificent for walking and cycling, at any pace which takes your fancy.

BENDERLOCH AND APPIN

Meandering sea lochs penetrate the hills and mountains of these two picturesque peninsulas north of Connel, offering you amazing opportunities to go explore on foot, by bike or even by kayak.

The beautiful ever-changing views across Loch Linnhe to Lismore, Morvern and Mull are truly epic and a highlight is the iconic view of Castle Stalker near Appin... will you go get your Insta-worthy pic?

TAYNUILT & DALMALLY

One of the main routes into Argyll is the scenic drive from Tyndrum to Oban, along Glen Lochy and through the Pass of Brander, hugging the northern shores of Loch Awe, and then the southern shores of Loch Etive. There is rich wealth of fascinating natural and industrial heritage to explore at Bonawe Iron Furnace, Glen Nant Heritage Nature Reserve and the captivating St Conans Kirk.

LOCH MELFORT AND CRAOBH HAVEN

Loch Melfort and Craobh Haven are great bases for watersports and sailing, with the Craobh Marina located on the northern shore of the Craignish peninsula. The idyllic scenery of tranquil lochs and waterways reflecting the array of sail boats, large and small, creates an oasis of calm and escapism, right here in Oban and Lorn.

ISLE OF KERRERA

Beautiful Kerrera is Oban's closest island neighbour and can be seen from most parts of the town. The ferry journey from Oban to Kerrera takes just a few

minutes. Just 7km long and around 2km wide, the island is a walkers' and cyclists' paradise, with quiet tracks and stunning scenery. Don't miss the ruined Gylen Castle, a small tower house built in 1582. The Kerrera Tearoom and Bunkhouse is a great spot for some refreshments.

ISLE OF LISMORE

What a gem of an island at only 10 miles long by 1 mile wide, perfect for gentle walks and cycles, whilst being surrounded by water and wildlife. And all this located close to the mainland via a short ferry trip from Port Appin or Oban. Gaelic for 'great garden', Lismore is considered to be Scotland's most fertile island and is home to more than 130 different bird species.

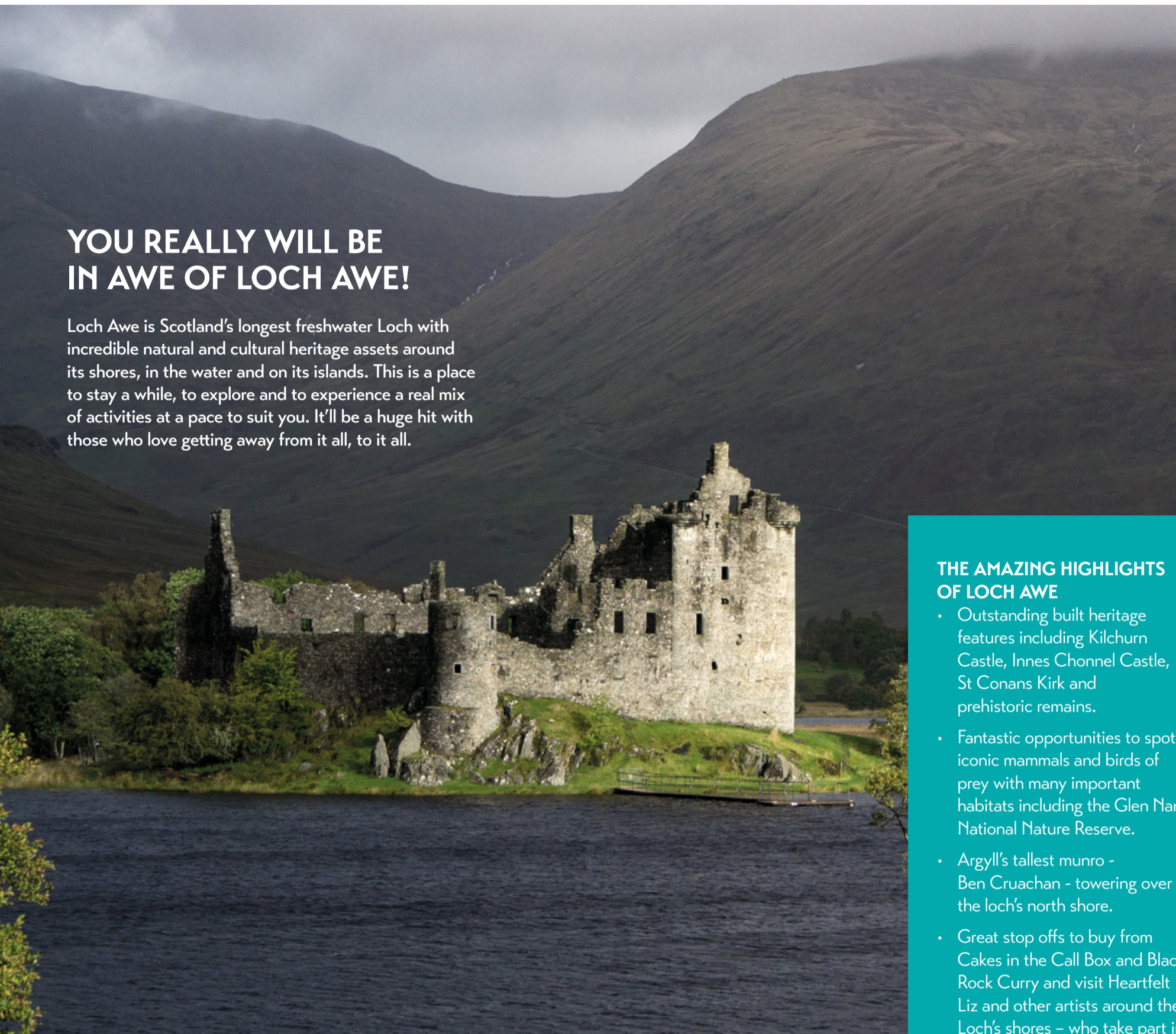
THE SLATE ISLANDS

Sometimes known as the Lorn Islands, you can access this amazing collection of small islands by crossing the 'Bridge over the Atlantic'. The Isles of Seil, Easdale and Luing in the Firth of Lorn were once the centre of UK slate and the Atlantic Isles Centre offer much interest with a visitor centre, a folk museum, a heritage centre, boat tours and the World Stone Skimming Championships.

STAY CONNECTED Visit wildaboutargyll.co.uk/destinations/oban-and-lorn or oban.org.uk

YOU REALLY WILL BE IN AWE OF LOCH AWE!

Loch Awe is Scotland's longest freshwater Loch with incredible natural and cultural heritage assets around its shores, in the water and on its islands. This is a place to stay a while, to explore and to experience a real mix of activities at a pace to suit you. It'll be a huge hit with those who love getting away from it all, to it all.



KILCHURN CASTLE IS A CLASSIC REASON TO STOP AND SAVOUR THE VIEW BUT THERE IS SO MUCH MORE TO EXPLORE AROUND THE SHORES OF LOCH AWE!

Make a real connection

Loch Awe was popular for railway tourism in the Victorian era when steamers sailed on the loch and many of the hotels were established around its shores were built. Today, if you love to explore the road less travelled with zero compromise on unearthing outstanding beauty spots and getting active or relaxing in any way that takes your fancy, then Loch Awe is the place for you. It's an experience you can call your own.

The brilliant Caledonia Way, from Campbeltown to Inverness, runs along the west shore of Loch Awe, and is an epic cycle in part or in full. And later this year, Scotrail will introduced the UK's first active travel carriage for bikes and other kit

onto the Glasgow to Oban West Highland Line – so there's no excuse not to make your travelling that bit more active.

There are four stations on this line along the north of Loch Awe giving access to the Caledonia Way and the Wild About Argyll Bike Packing Trail, forest tracks and key heritage features, picnic spots, waterfalls, outdoor activities and local communities with accommodation, eateries, artists and attractions.

Surround yourself with natural beauty, with a glistening loch at the heart of it - we're sure your mind and soul will appreciate it.

THE AMAZING HIGHLIGHTS OF LOCH AWE

- Outstanding built heritage features including Kilchurn Castle, Innes Chonnel Castle, St Conans Kirk and prehistoric remains.
- Fantastic opportunities to spot iconic mammals and birds of prey with many important habitats including the Glen Nant National Nature Reserve.
- Argyll's tallest munro - Ben Cruachan - towering over the loch's north shore.
- Great stop offs to buy from Cakes in the Call Box and Black Rock Curry and visit Heartfelt Liz and other artists around the Loch's shores – who take part in Artmap's Open Studios at the end of August.
- A range of cycle routes including the Caledonia Way, the Wild About Argyll Bike Packing Trail and the Oban Sportive circuit
- The Ben Cruachan Inn Hill Climb route from the loch shore to Ben Cruachan Dam.
- A choice of unique self catering experiences, hotels and inns with character and launch points for kayaking and boating.
- Extensive forests and woodlands to trek and explore by foot.
- Stunning waterfalls, viewpoints and picnic spots or some well-being time forest-bathing.
- A fisherman's paradise for freshwater fish.
- All this, readily accessible by car, train, bus, bike and boots.

EXPERIENCE IT ALL WITH THE LOCALS

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

BASKING SHARK SCOTLAND

Basking Shark Scotland offers high adventure, low impact, eco-conscious wildlife tours run by our fantastic team of marine biologists.

[Book online >](#) Message or call: **+44 (0)7975 723140**

HEBRIDEAN AIR SERVICES

Scenic and charter flights across Argyll and the Hebrides from Oban Airport.

[Book online >](#) | [Email >](#)
+44 (0)845 805 7465

EXPLORE LISMORE

Landrover island tours, picnics, paddleboarding and wild swimming experiences on the Isle of Lismore near Oban.

[Website >](#)
+44(0)1631 760291 or message
+44 (0)7490416255

GLEN 2 GLEN TOURS

Book your private tour with Scottish Tourist Guide Association accredited guide, Andrew, who will take you on a journey to the heart of Argyll.

[Website >](#) | [Email >](#)
+44 (0)7740 698173

ROWAN ECOLOGY

Full and ½ day minibus wildlife and scenic tours of Argyll led by ecologist, Ross and wildlife biologist, Janie.

[Website >](#) | [Email >](#)
+44 (0)7788 190503

SEAFARI ADVENTURES (OBAN)

Corryvreckan whirlpool, whale and marine wildlife boat tours and private charters from Easdale near Oban.

[Book online >](#) | [Email >](#)
+44 (0)1852 300 003

SEALIFE ADVENTURES

Whale, whirlpool and wildlife-watching boat trips leaving from Seil Island near Oban.

[Book online >](#)
+44 (0)1631 571010 (daytime)
(0)1852 300203
(evening and weekends)

THE TARTAN ROAD

Providers of bespoke self-drive holidays with tailor-made itineraries for your stay in Argyll.

[Website >](#) | [Email >](#)
+44(0)1631 402 066

FISHERMAN'S KITCHEN

Unique seafood dining experience and seafood workshops with local fisherman, Drew, at his home on Seil Island.

[Website >](#) | [Email >](#)
+44 (0)1852 300578

CORRAN HALLS

Live entertainment venue in Oban offering everything from tribute bands to comedy and ceilidhs.

[Website >](#) | [Email >](#)
+44 (0)1631 567333

KEVIN MCGARRY PHOTOGRAPHY TOURS

Walking photography tours around the Oban with professional photographer, Kevin. Look out for his e-bike tours coming soon!

[Email >](#)
+44 (0)7421768174

THE ROCKFIELD CENTRE

Lots of activities and events such as a [Treasure Island walking theatre](#) and this [children's walking route map](#).

HIGHLAND TITLES NATURE RESERVE

Wooded trails, hilltop viewpoints & paths through a secret garden plus the chance to buy your very own piece of Scotland and become a Lord or Lady!

[Website >](#) | [Email >](#)
+44 (0)1631 294974

OBAN DISTILLERY

Learn some of the distillery's 'trade secrets' and enjoy an Oban Cask Signature tasting experience.

[Book online >](#) | [Email >](#)
+44 (0)1631 572004



PLANNING YOUR JOURNEY

The traditional route is by car or bus via the A82, then either the A83 via Inveraray before heading north via Dalmally to join the A85, or continue north on A82 to join the A85 at Tyndrum.

For a slight detour, follow the A83 to Lochgilphead, follow the Crinan Canal before travelling through Kilmartin Glen and northwards to Oban and Lorn.

Or sit back and relax on a regular train or bus journey from Glasgow to Oban.



Seafood



Castles



Gardens



Boat Trips & Ferries



Cycling

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.

- Ardmaddy Gardens
- Avich Falls and Barnaline Oakwoods
- Bridge over the Atlantic and a trip to Easdale
- Duncan Ban Monument, Dalmally
- Inverawe Country Park and Fishery
- Kerrera and Gylen Castle walk
- Lismore - guided tours, cycle hire and The Gaelic Heritage Centre
- Ocean Explorer Centre, Dunstaffnage
- Pulpit Hill Viewpoint, Oban
- St Conans Kirk, Lochawe

From Left to right.
Coasteering near Oban
Seafari near Easdale
Kilchurn Castle, Loch Awe
McCaig's Tower Oban

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

STAY SOCIAL WITH US

@WildAboutArgyll

#WildAboutArgyll #ScotlandsAdventureCoast

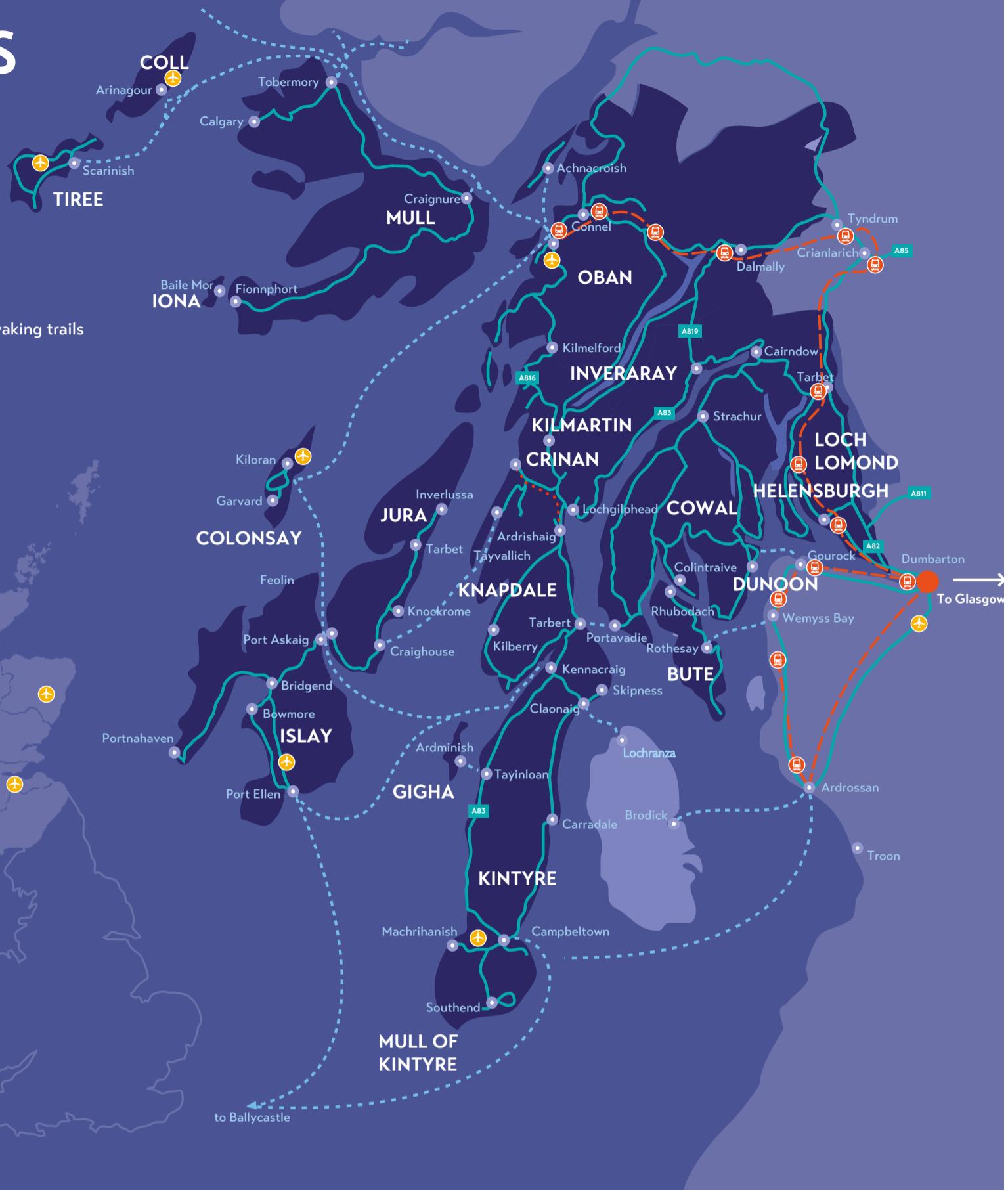
ARGYLL & THE ISLES

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.