

Argyll Barn

Region: Argyll Sleeps: 14

Overview

The Barn is a warm and welcoming property ideal for large get-togethers. A travertine marble floor runs throughout the ground floor and offers a stunning contrast to the original exposed stone walls in the kitchen and living area.

An underfloor heating system from an environmentally sustainable ground source heat pump provides constant heating through both floors of the property. This house will accommodate up to 16 guests in total, with the maximum adult occupancy set at 12.

A river runs through the grounds. Facilities include a shared indoor swimming pool and a tennis court (although both of these can be privatised for certain hours in the day). Two other properties are located within the estate but both are entirely independent so your group will have complete privacy.

This truly outstanding property also boasts its very own private sauna and private hot tub (there is an extra charge of £70 per stay for the hot tub, payable to the owner on arrival).



Facilities

Great Value • Vill'otel (Like a Hotel!) • Shared Pool • Beach Nearby • Ideal for Kids • Ideal for Teens • Wi-Fi/Internet • Pets Welcome • Hot Tub • Walk to Restaurant • BBQ • Ideal for Parties • Stag/Hen Allowed • Tennis Court • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • Bicycles Provided • Sauna/Steam • Games Room • Indoor Games • Outdoor Games • Table Tennis • Table Football • Pool/Snooker • DVD • Working Fireplace • Heating • Conference Facilities • Caretaker/Owner on Site • Cot(s) • High Chair(s) • Toys • Watersports • Canoeing/Kayaking • Rural Location • Walking/Hiking Paths • Golf Nearby • Horse Riding • Stalking/Hunting • Fishing • Outstanding Landscapes • Outdoor Pursuit & Activities • Tourist Towns & Villages

Interior & Grounds

The kitchen/breakfast room features an original exposed stone wall but is wonderfully light thanks to the large glass archway and door out to the private cobbled courtyard terrace. The kitchen cabinets are oak, and the granite work surface, stone Belfast sink and travertine marble floor, are complemented by Neff, Gaggia and Bosch kitchen appliances to underline the commitment to quality and to marrying genuine traditional materials to the most up-to-date facilities. There is an American-style fridge freezer, single oven, double oven, microwave, halogen hob, large toaster and coffee machine. There is seating for up to eight around the expandable island unit in French polished oak. The kitchen gives way through an open exposed stone arch into the large sitting room with three sofas. There is a separate TV room seating up to a dozen – which converts into a double bedroom – and a dining room, both floored in the same cream travertine marble tiles. The dining room table can accommodate eight or be expanded to take 14.

The six double/twin rooms upstairs are complemented by a bunk room for children and the downstairs TV room may also convert into an additional double bedroom for extra guests, or if a party require a downstairs bedroom for an elderly or disabled couple. Five of the bedrooms have wash-hand basins, and most have king size or super king beds. There is a downstairs loo and shower room, and a sauna. Two other bathrooms, featuring stunning floor to ceiling travertine tiles and corner jacuzzi baths, as well as powerful showers, are on the first floor.

There is also an indoor heated swimming pool that is shared between the three houses on the estate. Each house gets their own hour of exclusive swimming time in the morning and in the afternoon – outside those six hours, it is a “free for all” in the pool. The same rules apply for the tennis court within the estate.

Set amidst the 20 acres of woodland, and enjoying lovely views across the glen and up the mountain, the gardens are mainly laid to lawn and terrace with hydrangeas, rhododendron and azalea, as well as reputedly the tallest Grecian fir in Scotland. Our own woods feature numerous tree species and adjoin thousands of acres of forestry commission land through which guests are welcome to wander. One of our terraces features a Grade A listed sundial. A tributary of the river Ruel runs through the gardens, from the Lochan that supplies our private water supply. There is a lovely waterfall walk within the garden, and a rope-assisted climb down to a pool for outdoor bathing. It's a fabulous location for kids.



Location & Local Information

Just an hour and a half from Glasgow, the house sits in some of the loveliest scenery in Scotland. The Kyles of Bute are renowned with both walkers and sailors as among the most stunning bits of coast in Scotland. Whatever the weather in Argyll, usually remarkably mild, this is great country for site seeing, with every corner revealing a new variation on the theme of mountain, loch, valley, sky, woodland, sea, rock, and beach. The Cowal peninsula is a fabulous base for an active holiday with marvellous wildlife, numerous gardens, other tourist attractions to visit, and a variety of sporting activities.

The house has grounds of 23 acres, and sits about a mile above the head of Loch Riddon, enjoying complete privacy and lovely views down the glen to the river Ruel. The Island of Bute itself is as little as 15 minutes away from the house, accessed via a ferry from Colintraive, and was a “must visit” destination long before Stella McCartney got married there or former racing driver Johnnie Dumbries moved into Mount Stuart House as the new Marquess of Bute.

Inverary with its famous Jail and Castle, the seat of Clan Campbell for the last few hundred years, is only 45 minutes away, as is Loch Lomond. Dunoon is another tourist destination in its own right, and it is just under half an hour away. You can get to Glen Coe in an hour and a half; to Stirling, Oban or Fort William in under two. Loch Ness and Edinburgh are easy enough day trips – reachable in less than 2 and a half hours.

As well as general site-seeing and trips to the Island of Bute, Inverary and further afield, there are a host of other activities you can undertake around Glenaruel. It is fabulous walking country, and you will be provided with twelve mountain bikes for those who want to explore on two wheels rather than four. There are some really excellent routes direct from the house, involving all sorts of terrain and levels of strain.

There is a lovely 9 hole pay and play course ten minutes away above Tighnabruaich. There are five bags of golf clubs for the house and they probably won't be too fussed about the usual rules regarding golf shoes provided you don't arrive in jeans and carve the course up. The same applies to the almost equally spectacular nine hole course at Blairmore & Strone, half an hour away. Cowal Golf Club at Dunoon and Inellan are the 18 hole courses in the area that welcome visitors.



For fishing, there are too many options to go into here, but you can spend anything from £9 per day to over £1,000 for river fishing in the area. You can fish for trout in the nearby stream for nothing or in the Lochan at the head of the river. Mackerel on a line in a boat on the Kyles is a right of passage for hundreds of West of Scotland kids every year. They swim in shoals all around these waters and there is no permit payable.

It is a fabulous part of the world for water-sports of all sorts. Horse-riding, climbing, canoeing, caving, archery, quad biking, paint-balling, and clay pigeon shooting are also all available either on site or in the area.

There is a wee shop selling all the basics at the camp-site in the Glendaruel valley, about a mile walk away, beside the historic Kilmodan standing stones. You get a slightly bigger choice in the Spar at Tighnabruich five miles away. Dunoon is 16 miles away and is a thriving market / harbour town with award-winning bakeries, cafes and butchers, as well as a big Co-Op and a big Somerfield supermarket.

Scotland is not really well served by pubs in general; this area is definitely an exception. The Glendaruel Hotel is a lovely wee pub, a two mile drive away, and serves good pub grub. The Colintrave Hotel and Tighnabruich Hotel are each a tad busier and a tad more ambitious in terms of menu. Chatters in Dunoon is highly recommended, and the Whistlefield and Coylet Inns on Loch Eck are also worth a visit. Less than half an hour away from the house is a wonderful restaurant on Loch Fyne, overlooking the old Castle Lachlan. The Benmore Gardens tea room is not half bad, either, and the Otterferry Inn and Loch Fyne Oyster Bar have good reputations (on which, it might be said, they trade slightly). All in all, though, there are few areas of Scotland where you can enjoy such a variety of excellent, reasonably priced menus.

Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	Glasgow (71-80 km)
Nearest Ferry Port	Dunoon (16-20 km)
Nearest Village	Glendaruel (3 km)
Nearest Town/City	Tighnabruaich (10 km)
Nearest Restaurant	Colintrave (9 km)

Nearest Bar/Pub	Glendaruel (2 km)
Nearest Beach	Ardlamont (16-20 km)
Nearest Golf	Kyles of Bute (13 km)

What Oliver loves...

- Stunning Location, two Lochs less than 10 min away, beautiful sunsets and landscapes, great way to create your own postcards to send to your relatives.
- Want to go on an adventure? Explore the woods and walk through the refreshing stream behind the house, the best way to feel relaxed and forget the stress of the everyday life.
- Easily accessible from Glasgow with loads to do in the area.

What you should know...

- Mobile signal only works in certain parts of the house, but wifi is available.
- Dining table only seats 24.
- Rooms are quite small, however size isn't everything.

Terms & Conditions

- Security deposit: £50 per person (£100 per person for Stag do's and Hen do's). This is paid prior to arrival and will be refunded in full after departure subject to damage inspection.
- Arrival time: 4 p.m. or earlier by arrangement.
- Departure time: 10.30 a.m. or later by arrangement.
- Energy costs included?: Included in the rental price.
- Linen & towels included?: All linen and bath towels are included in the rental price.
- Pets welcome?: Pets allowed.
- Changeover day: Any day of the week.
- End of stay cleaning included?: Included. Please leave the property in the state that you found it.
- Smoking Allowed?: No smoking in the property.
- Insurance: It is recommended that all guests take out insurance to cover against potential cancellation and any accidental damage caused during your stay at the property.