

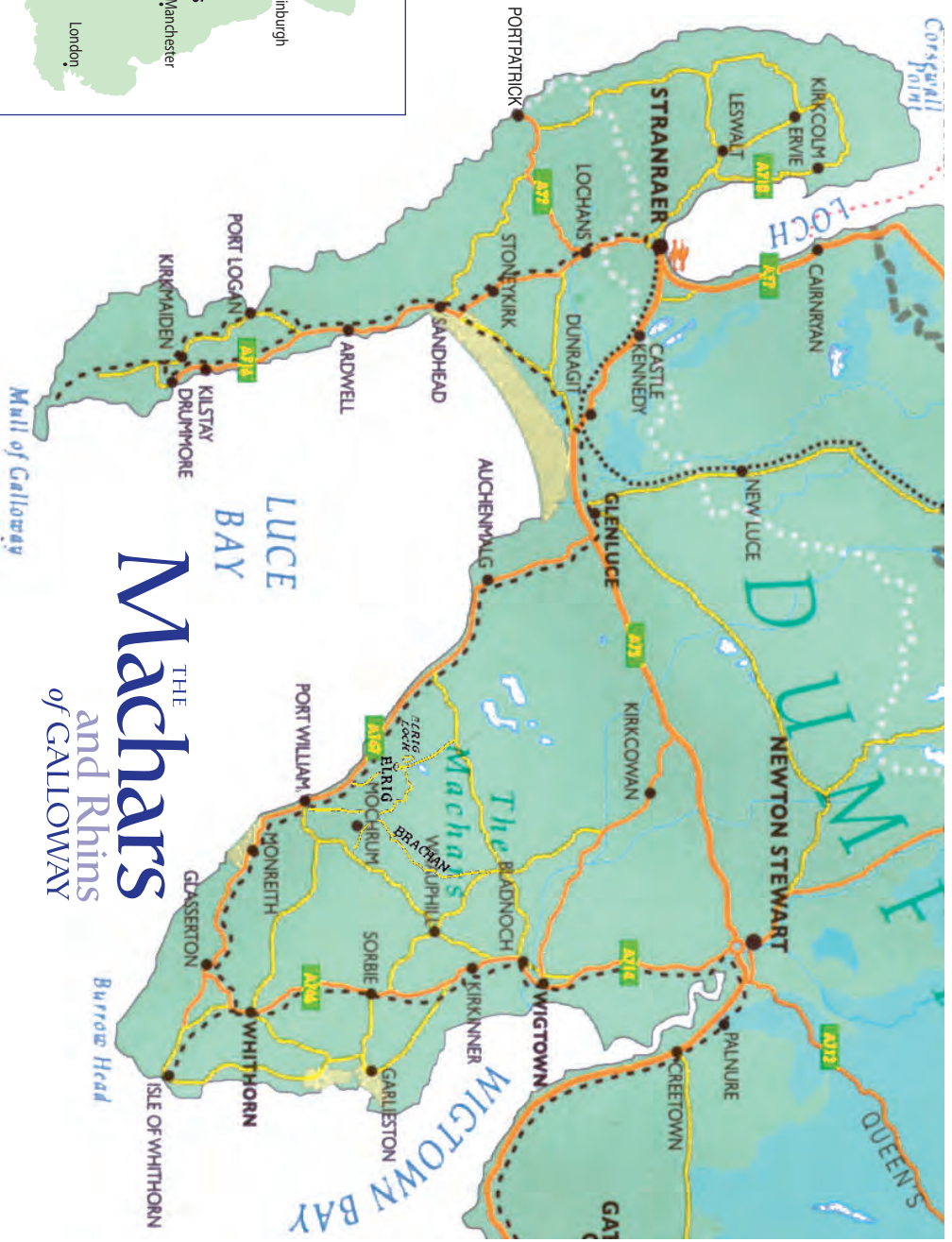
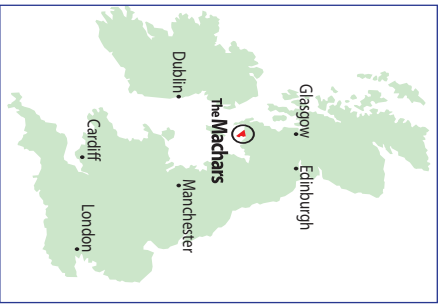
# THE Machars and Rhins of GALLOWAY

Real  
Scotland  
Real  
Close!



Visitors Guide **2016**

FESTIVALS • COMMUNITY EVENTS • LOCAL BUSINESSES • MAP OF THE AREA • FUN FOR ALL



THE  
**Machars**  
 and Rhins  
 of GALLOWAY

LUCE BAY

WIGTOWN BAY

DUMFRIES

QUEEN'S

# THE Machars and Rhins of GALLOWAY

## Introduction

This year, try something new in Galloway! There's a unique chance to get down and dirty with the Iron Age excavation near Monreith, and try construction as you've never known it by putting your mark on history and helping us build a replica Iron Age house at Whithorn. View the Celtic art objects on show at the Whithorn Trust, to see how sophisticated our ancestors of the first millennium BC were; contemporary artists and crafters take over the town during the July Creative Whithorn Art Trail.

Community festivals with competitions, food and fun at the Isle of Whithorn and Port William are a favourite with visitors year after year. Wigtown is flourishing year-round these days, with food and crafts as well as poetry, media and celebrities at its now famous Book Festival. To the north, you can join wildlife events in the Galloway Forests and walks in the Southern Uplands.

There are programmes of family-friendly outdoor events all year at Castle Kennedy and Logan Botanic Gardens, and learning activities at Stranraer's Museum; or if you're enticed by a lofty view from the cliffs, try ascending the lighthouse at the Mull of Galloway. It's Portpatrick for trad music and lifeboats!

Whether you come for forest and upland, beaches, history, food or music, you're welcome!

Gill Bailey  
Chair, Whithorn and District  
Business Association

Published by Whithorn  
and District Business  
Association  
To advertise and for  
information:  
mail@whithorn.info

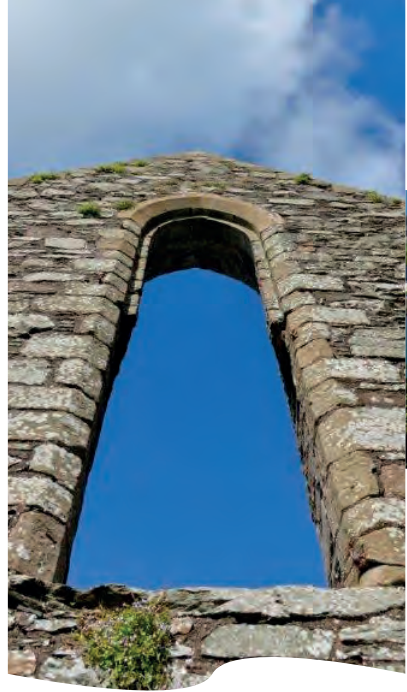


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# ROYAL BURGH *of* Whithorn

To celebrate the Year of Architecture, Innovation and Design, Whithorn has its very own “Grand Design” - not glossy and contemporary this, but the construction of a full-size Iron Age roundhouse, by craftsmen and volunteers. Last year, and returning again in 2016 to a site nearby Monreith, archaeologists unearthed a remarkable series of roundhouses, dating to the mid 400’s BC, complete with detailed evidence of construction. The Whithorn reconstruction will involve traditional woodwork and tools, wattle weaving, daub, thatching, as well as a spot of cooking on a hearth which is 2,500 years old. Visit the Whithorn Trust for information about your chance to get involved ! Still on the architectural theme, find out why Whithorn is named after a building, “Candida Casa”, the very earliest church in Scotland, and owing to the popular devotion to its saint, Ninian, and his growing cult in the Middle Ages, was often a construction site during the many alterations and extensions to its Cathedral.

Contemporary artists will be participating in workshops during this year focussed on crafts and will showcase their own works during several arts events. Visit their galleries by taking a stroll down Whithorn’s urbane Georgian terrace, nearly ¾ mile long !



# Isle of Whithorn



Postcards dating from the late 19th Century, when visitors came to nearby Whithorn by train and then on to "The Isle" by horse and cart, prove that the village's salty holiday appeal is nothing new. But the peaceful main street with its brightly painted houses, some with sea front and back, belie a more dramatic past. The headland jutting out into the Solway is the site of a powerful Iron Age fortification. The charming Isle Castle (privately occupied), the last tower house to be built in Scotland in 1664, was occupied in the 18th Century by Sir John Reid, whose charge was to control the blatant smuggling trade centred here and at Port William, both within sight of Isle of Man, only just over fifteen miles away. Brandy and luxuries found their way from here along the Old Edinburgh Road which can still be seen leaving Old Minnigaff.

If you choose to follow the panoramic coastal path from the Post Office round the southernmost point, you will hardly guess that Burrowhead was once the home to hundreds of troops and anti aircraft practice during World War II, or that the cult horror film, *The Wicker Man*, was filmed here.



**Faith Hope and  
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Situated in the centre of Whithorn.  
We stock China and Glass, Jewellery,  
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Do come and browse!

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**70 George Street, Whithorn DG8 8JQ  
Charity No SC016681**

**St Ninian's Priory Church**  
— Whithorn —



St Ninian's Priory Church stands in the grounds of the late medieval cathedral Whithorn Priory. Much of the former cathedral has disappeared since its glory days in the early 16th century when it rivalled the abbeys of Galloway, in wealth and size. Built in 1822, the interior of St Ninian's is pleasantly light with two recently restored stained glass windows and it contains a fine carved pulpit and communion table. By visiting the church you will tread a path that many have taken to reach one of medieval Scotland's major pilgrimage destinations in past years. Do come and visit.



**ISLE OF WHITHORN**

[www.isleofwhithorn.com](http://www.isleofwhithorn.com)



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Sunday, 10th July

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# 1600 years of Faith, Mud and History



For over 1000 years, pilgrims came to Whithorn, from all over Britain and beyond, seeking cures and forgiveness at the shrine of Scotland's most revered saint. Over the last century, archaeologists have unearthed the story of this earliest Christian community in Scotland, its art and artefacts. Visit us to see how the architecture, trade and power politics of pilgrimage worked, as the Britons, the Anglo-Saxons, the Vikings and the Gaels settled, promoted and reinterpreted Whithorn.

In 2016, we are continuing our excavation of a spectacular Iron Age settlement nearby, and we shall celebrate the Year of Architecture by building a life-size replica roundhouse on our site at Whithorn. Join us this summer to help with ancient carpentry, thatching, wattle and blacksmithing!

This year's special loan from National Museums Scotland features Celtic art from the locality and the Iron Age archaeology of nearby Luce Sands.

On your visit, there's a daily range of traditional home-baking and deli-style platters made with local produce at our visitor centre and our gift shop offers the best of Galloway products.

50p off  
entry ticket  
with this  
advert



## WHITHORN TIMESCAPE

Come Close, See Far

Contact: 45-7 George Street, Whithorn, Newton Stewart DG8 8NS  
T: 01988 500508, E: [enquiries@whithorn.com](mailto:enquiries@whithorn.com) [www.whithorn.com](http://www.whithorn.com)



# The Swallow Theatre



Three miles from Whithorn  
Regular drama, music,  
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programme see :  
[www.swallowtheatre.com](http://www.swallowtheatre.com)  
Tel: 01988 850368

Visit our online shop selling locally-made, unique arts and crafts



ARTS | CRAFTS | EVENTS | PLACES TO GO | THINGS TO DO | PLACES TO STAY

[WWW.MADEINWIGTOWNSHIRE.CO.UK](http://WWW.MADEINWIGTOWNSHIRE.CO.UK)

# Whithorn Newsagents

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*6am to 6pm, Monday to Friday*

*Saturday 6am to 1.30pm and Sunday 6am to 1pm.*

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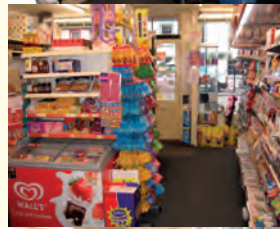
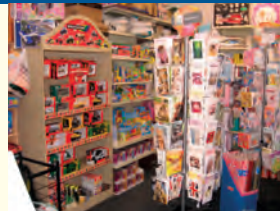
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Contact Ashok and Bhupendra Amin

9 George Street, Whithorn, DG8 8NS

**01988 501152**

email: [aminbr7gs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:aminbr7gs@hotmail.co.uk)





*Creative Whithorn*  
**Arts and Crafts Trail 2016**



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 16 & 17 JULY

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 website: [mcgintyart.com](http://mcgintyart.com)

paintings  
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## ROYAL BURGH *of* WIGTOWN

As befits the site of a former royal castle in the Middle Ages, Wigtown dominates over the Bay, now a designated area for wildfowl on its atmospheric saltmarshes. Looking across to the granite town of Creetown, it's not surprising that a ferry across the bay was the shortest route for pilgrims en route for Whithorn. Wigtown later outshone its more southerly rival Royal Burgh by becoming the County Town, and signs of its status are everywhere : a former jail is visible on Harbour Road, large houses belonging to county families and the lawyers who once attended cases here grace the central square. The County Building is now the hub of the Book Festival, which – more than an autumn fortnight packed with famous names – now includes craft, food and literary events at other times of year. Enjoy its quieter vennels, bookshops and cafes and a splendid view from the Martyr's Monument.

Below the town and its golf course, the most southerly distillery in Scotland perches on the edge of on the peaty Blandnoch, filtering its waters to make the fragrant, Lowland malt, which you can try at the end of a tour of the intricate traditional process.





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*Wigtown  
Book  
Festival*

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**[www.wigtown-booktown.co.uk](http://www.wigtown-booktown.co.uk)**



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[www.castlewiggllodge.co.uk](http://www.castlewiggllodge.co.uk)  
email: [castlewiggllodge@gmail.com](mailto:castlewiggllodge@gmail.com)



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## Places to eat.....



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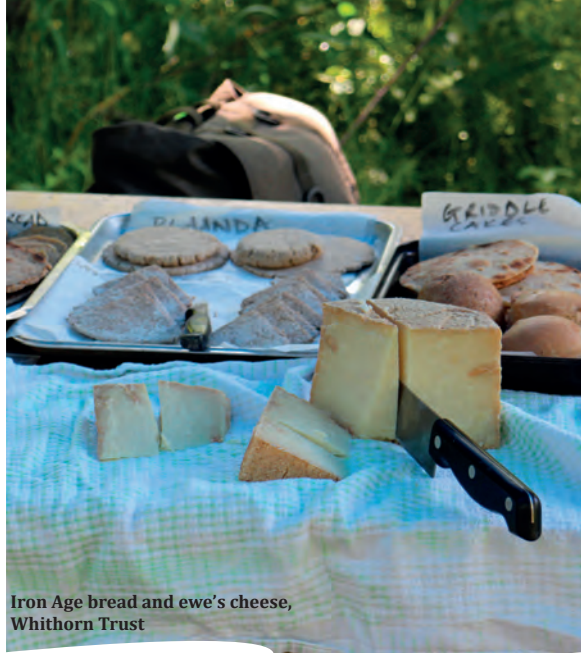
Friday & Saturday £28.00

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Tel: 01776 810 220

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Whithorn Trust

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[www.yhlparks.co.uk](http://www.yhlparks.co.uk)

# Events

## Date

Every Wednesday 8.30pm  
 April – June  
 Wednesday & Thursdays 10am  
 July – August  
 Sunday – Thursday 10am  
 September  
 Wednesday & Thursday 10am  
 Wed 16 Mar — Sat 30 Apr 2016  
 10.00 am  
 Friday 25/03/16 09:30  
 until Sunday 10/04/16 23:30

Friday 25th March  
 to Sunday 3rd April  
 Saturday 26/03/16  
 and Sunday 10:00 until 17:00  
 27th March 2-3pm  
 28/03/16

Tuesday 29/03/16 13:00 until  
 15:00 and Thursday 31st  
 Friday 01/04/16 09:00  
 until Saturday 30/04/16 20:00  
 And throughout May  
 3rd April 10am to 4pm  
 Tuesday 05/04/16 13:00 until 15:00 and  
 Thursday 07/04  
 Tuesdays and Thursdays during April

Wed 6th April 2pm  
 Saturday 9th April & Sunday 10th April -  
 Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th April -  
 Tuesday 12th April 2pm  
 Wed 13th April 10.30am  
 15th and 16th April  
 Wednesday 20th April

Monday 2nd May  
 Tuesday 3rd May to 31st July  
 5th May  
 Wednesday 11th May  
 6th to 12th May  
 Saturday 07/05/16 12:00  
 until 20:00  
 10th May 10.30am  
 Tuesday 10/05/16 13:00 until  
 15:00 Tuesdays and Thursdays  
 throughout May AND June

22nd May 11am  
 Friday 27th & Saturday 28th May  
 28th to 30th May 2016  
 30th May 2pm  
 Sunday 29th May  
 01/06/05

Wednesday 1st June  
 Thursday 2nd June  
 Tuesday 14th June 10.30am  
 15th June 10am  
 Thursday 16/06/16  
 13:00 until 15:00  
 Friday 24th & Saturday 25th June  
 Sunday 26/06/16 10:00 until 12:00  
 Wednesday 29th June  
 3rd July 9am  
 Tuesday 05/07/16 13:00 until 15:00  
 and Thursday 07/07

and every Tues/ Thurs in July  
 Saturday 09/07/16 10:00  
 until 17:00 and Sunday 11/07  
 Monday 11th - Friday 15th July (tbc) -  
 Tuesday 12th July 10.30am

## Event

Stranraer Folk Club at The Grapes, Bridge Street, Stranraer  
 Meet the Deer

Contact Details  
 01776 810473  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/forest-parks/galloway-forest-park/red-deer-range>

## Members' Photography Exhibition

[www.rbge.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.rbge.org.uk/whats-on)

Nocturnal Wildlife Tours  
 The NWT Tours take place on Wednesday, Thursday  
 and Friday evenings at various locations in the Castle  
 Douglas area. Part of the Tour is on foot away from the vehicle.  
 Cadbury Easter Eggsploration at Castle Kennedy Gardens

info@wildlifetours.co.uk  
[www.wildlifetours.co.uk](http://www.wildlifetours.co.uk)

Easter Egg Hunt  
 RSPB Mull of Galloway, Drummore, Stranraer  
 Easter at Kirroughtree  
 Aldouran Adventures 10:00 until 16:00  
 Aldouran Wetland Garden, Leswalt, Stranraer  
 Seabird Spectacular  
 RSPB Mull of Galloway, Drummore, Stranraer  
 Wild Food Walks, Tuition, Events

01581 400225  
 01776 702024  
 01776 840539 or 01988 402130  
 Website [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk>  
 j.sloan648@btinternet.com  
[www.aldouran.org](http://www.aldouran.org)  
 01776 840539 or 01988 402130  
 Website [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)  
 Website <http://www.gallowaywildfoods.com>

Owl Magic at Kirroughtree  
 Seabird Spectacular RSPB Mull of Galloway,  
 Drummore, Stranraer

Website <http://www.gallowaywildfoods.com>  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk>  
 01776 840539 or 01988 402130  
 Website [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)

Build your own Nest Box  
 Children's Theatre Workshops  
 My Friend Peter - Beatrix Potter's life in a folk musical  
 Guided Walk: Full Speed Ahead  
 Make your own Bird Feeder  
 - The Human Touch - new play about carers  
 Spring Blooms Guided Walk at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
 Pond Dipping  
 Nepal Exhibition : flora of Nepal  
 Robyn Stapleton accompanied by Aaron Jones  
 Rhododendrons and Azaleas Guided Walk at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
 Newton Stewart Walking Festival  
 Spring Coast & Woods Foraging Day  
 Cally Woods, Gatehouse of Fleet  
 Guided Walk: The Magic of Spring  
 Seabird Spectacular  
 RSPB Mull of Galloway, Drummore, Stranraer

Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.rbge.org.uk/whats-on)  
[www.swallowtheatre.com](http://www.swallowtheatre.com)  
[www.swallowtheatre.com](http://www.swallowtheatre.com)  
 Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
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[www.swallowtheatre.com](http://www.swallowtheatre.com)  
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<http://www.newtonstewartwalkfest.co.uk/>  
 Galloway Wild Foods  
 Contact details Email: [mark@gallowaywildfoods.com](mailto:mark@gallowaywildfoods.com)  
 Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
 01776 840539 or 01988 402130  
 Website [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)

Scottish Opera Scottish Gardens Open Day from 10am  
 My Brilliant Divorce - comedy drama  
 Spring Fling 2016 – open studios  
 Bugs & Beesties  
 D&G Arts Festival presents Burns: Rough Cut - one man show  
 Glenluce Tractor Rally  
 Summer in the Gardens Guided Walk at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
 Rebecca Herd – singer/songwriter  
 Guided Walk: Never Ending Colour!  
 Marvellous Moths  
 Wildflower Walk  
 RSPB Mull of Galloway, Drummore, Stranraer  
 Jane Austen's Emma by Hotbuckle Productions  
 Red Kite Nest Watch - Live!  
 Land Sculptures Guided Walk at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
 Fishing Day, Raiders Road  
 Birds and the Bees  
 RSPB Mull of Galloway, Drummore, Stranraer

Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
[www.swallowtheatre.com](http://www.swallowtheatre.com)  
<http://www.spring-fling.co.uk/eventspring-fling-2016/>  
 Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
[www.swallowtheatre.com](http://www.swallowtheatre.com)  
 Lady Stair Park, Glenluce, Newton Stewart  
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[www.swallowtheatre.com](http://www.swallowtheatre.com)  
 Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk>  
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 Website [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)  
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 Calum Murray 01556 670464;  
 01581 400225 or 01776 702024  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk>  
 01581 400225  
 01776 702024

RSPB Treasure Trail  
 RSPB Mull of Galloway, Drummore, Stranraer  
 Swallow Theatre Youth Summer School  
 Guided Walk: The Magic of Summer

Contact details 01776 840539  
 or 01988 402130 Website [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)  
[www.swallowtheatre.com](http://www.swallowtheatre.com)  
 Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)

14th July 2pm  
14th July 2pm  
Thursday 14th July  
16th and 17th July 2016  
21st July 2pm  
21nd July 2pm  
Tuesday 26th July 7pm

Wednesday 27th July 2016  
27th July 2pm  
28th July 2-3pm  
28th July 2pm  
30th July – 8th August 2016  
30th July 10am  
30th July 5.30pm to 7.30pm  
31st July 2016  
From 1st August to 26th Sept  
Tuesday 2nd August  
Wednesday, 3rd August 2016  
3rd August  
4th August 2 – 3 pm  
4th August 2pm  
9th August 10.30am  
10th August 2pm  
11th August 2-3pm  
11th August 2pm  
14th August 9am  
Thursday 18/08/16  
10:00 until 12:00  
18th August 2pm  
18th August  
Sunday 21/08/16 13:00 until 15:00

Sunday 21st August 5pm

Wednesday 24th August  
25th August 2- 3pm  
27th August, 2016 11.30am until 5.30 pm  
Thursday 1st September  
1st September 2pm  
Thursday 01/09/16 13:00 until 15:00  
and Tues 06 and Thurs 08  
Throughout September  
2nd to 4th September  
4th September 9am  
13th September 10.30am  
Saturday 17th September 2016

18th September 9am  
23 September to 2 October  
27th September to 31st October  
2nd October 10am  
Monday 3rd October to Friday 7th  
10am to 12 noon  
11th October 10.30am  
Wednesday, 12 October  
Saturday 15/10 to 30/10/16  
Wednesday 19/10/16 10:00 until 12:30

20th October 1pm  
27th October 1pm  
28th October 6.45 pm  
29th, 30th and 31st October  
29th October 2pm to 4pm  
29th October 6.30pm  
29th October 3pm to 4.30pm  
30th October 10am  
11th and 12th November  
Wednesday 16/11/16 10:00 until 12:00

23 to 29 November  
9th and 10th December 4- 8pm  
11th December 10.30am to 3.30pm

Tremendous Thursday – forest fun  
Kite Making  
The Walled Garden Guided Walk at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
Creative Whithorn Arts Trail  
Tremendous Thursday – den building  
Create an elegant Butterfly or Spider Ring  
A Midsummer Night's Dream' by William Shakespeare,  
an Open Air Theatre performance at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
Stranraer Agricultural Show  
Lurking under the Luze – talk  
Tremendous Thursday – river dipping  
Create your own Lantern  
Port William Carnival Week  
Marvellous Moths  
Jazz Night: Mike Daly's Rhythm Kings  
Portpatrick Lifeboat Week  
A History of Logan – exhibition  
Brilliant Borders Guided Walk at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
Wigtown Agricultural Show, Bladnoch Park,  
Pond Dipping  
Tremendous Thursday - sunspotting  
Snake Puppet & Hunt  
Guided Walk: The Height of Summer  
Give Bugs a Home 2pm  
Tremendous Thursday – den building  
Make a mini garden  
Fishing Day  
Secret Cages in the Forest  
Mossdale, Castle Douglas (meet at car park)  
Scallop Shell Wind Chime  
Tremendous Thursday – wildlife spotting  
RSPB Guided Walk for International Lighthouse Weekend  
RSPB Mull of Galloway, Drummore, Stranraer  
'Danny The champion of the World' by Roald Dahl,  
an Open Air Theatre production at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
Plant Propagation and Seed Sowing at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
Tremendous Thursday – forest fun  
Stranraer Lowland Gathering  
Talisk - BBC Radio2 Young Folk Award 2015 Winners  
Tremendous Thursday – shelter building  
Autumn Migration  
RSPB Mull of Galloway, Drummore, Stranraer

Portpatrick Folk Festival  
Fishing Day £10 per person  
Guided Walk: The tail end of Summer  
The 23rd Whithorn Lecture 6pm  
"The Romans in Galloway" Dr. Rebecca Jones  
Fishing Day, £10 per person  
Wigtown Book Festival  
Scottish Nature Photography Awards – exhibition  
Roaring Stags  
Rutting Week on the Red Deer Range

Guided Walk: Early Autumn Shades  
Autumn Glory Guided Walk at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
Pumpkin Trail at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
Red Kites & Geese in Flight  
RSPB Ken Dee Marshes Reserve, Glenlochard  
Feather up a Pine Cone Bird  
Weave a Woolly Twig Star  
Friday Fright Night. Bookings : 0300 067 6800 for 14+ years  
Spooky Halloween Tours at Castle Kennedy Gardens  
The Wee Spook for 3+ years  
The Horrible Horror Trail for 7+ years  
Halloween Activity Day  
End of Season Shopping Event  
Lochinch Castle Charity Christmas Fair  
Return of the Geese  
RSPB Ken-Dee Marshes, Glenlochard, Castle Douglas  
Book Week Scotland – Wigtown  
Christmas at Kirroughtree  
Christmas at Kirroughtree

<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk>  
Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
01581 400225 or 01776 702024  
[www.creativewhithorn.co.uk](http://www.creativewhithorn.co.uk)  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk>  
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01776 702024  
<http://www.stranraershow.co.uk/>  
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<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/>  
Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
<http://www.portwilliam.com/community-groups>  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/>  
Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
[http://portpatrick-communitycouncil.org.uk/portpatrick\\_events.html](http://portpatrick-communitycouncil.org.uk/portpatrick_events.html)  
Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
01581 400225 or 01776 702024  
<http://wigtownshow.org.uk/>  
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<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/>  
Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/>  
Organisation RSPB  
T: 01556 670464, E: [calum.murray@rspb.org.uk](mailto:calum.murray@rspb.org.uk)  
Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/>  
Contact details 01776 840539  
or 01988 402130 Website [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)  
01581 400225  
01776 702024  
01581 400225 or 01776 702024  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/>  
London Road Playing Fields Stranraer  
[www.swallowtheatre.com](http://www.swallowtheatre.com)  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/>  
01776 840539 or 01988 402130  
Website [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)  
Suitable for all ages  
<http://www.portpatrickfolkfestival.org/>  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/>  
Logan Botanic Garden [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
Friends of Ninian and Whithorn  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk>  
<http://www.wigtownbookfestival.com/programme>  
Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk>  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/forest-parks/galloway-forest-park/red-deer-range>  
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RSPB. Contact details 01556 670464  
Website [rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)  
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Logan Botanic Gardens [rbge.org.uk](http://rbge.org.uk)  
01581 400225 or 01776 702024  
RSPB. Contact details Crystal Maw  
T: 01988 402130 E: [crystal.maw@rspb.org.uk](mailto:crystal.maw@rspb.org.uk)  
<http://www.wigtownbookfestival.com>  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/>  
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/>

## RSPB Events

Date	Event	Site	Start time
10th Mar	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	12pm; Members £3 non members £4
25th Mar	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	12pm; Members £3 non members £4
8th April	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	12pm; Members £3 non members £4
8th April	Guided Walk	Wood of Cree	11am, £4 non members £10 family ticket
30th April	Dawn Chorus	Crook of Baldoon	5.30am; Members £3 non members £4
6th May	Cree Valley Chorus	Wood of Cree	5.30am; non members £4
7th May	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	12pm; Members £3 non members £4
20th May	Beautiful Bluebells	Wood of Cree	10am, £4 non members
10th June	Out of Africa	Wood of Cree	9am, £4 non members
7th July	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	1pm; Members £3 non members £4
8th July	Woodland pasture walk	Wood of Cree	10am, £4 non members
22nd July	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	1pm; Members £3 non members £4
29th July	Moth and Bat Night	Meet at Wigtown County Buildings	21.30pm; members £1.50 non members £3
30th July	Moth Morning	Crook of Baldoon	10am; £1.50 Members; £3 non members
19th August	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	12pm, Members £3, non members £4
26th August	Mud Walk	Crook of Baldoon	12pm; Members £2 non members £4
29th August	Brilliant Bats	Wood of Cree	8.30pm, Members £2, non members £4
19th Sept.	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	1pm; Members £3, non members £4
3rd October	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	1pm; Members £3 non members £4
18th October	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	1pm; Members £3 non members £4
21st October	Guided Walk	Wood of Cree	10am; £4 non members £10 family ticket
16 Nov.	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	12pm, Members £3, non members £4
15th Dec.	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	1pm, Members £3, non members £4
27th Dec.	Guided Walk	Crook of Baldoon	2pm, Members £3, non members £4

**FOR ALL EVENTS LISTED, CONTACT RSPB ON 01988 402130**

### RSPB Scotland Nature Reserves



The heart of Galloway hosts wonderful wildlife. Visit Wood of Cree the largest ancient oak woodland in southern Scotland. Wigtown Bay Visitor Centre within Wigtown County Buildings gives information about the local area. Get out in the fresh air at Crook of Baldoon, for seas of thrift, waders and geese. Events all year – see websites below.



giving  
nature  
a home

RSPB Scotland Wigtown Office  
26, South Main Street, Wigtown, Wigtownshire, DG8 9EH.  
Phone 01988 402130  
[www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/c/crookofbaldoon/index.aspx](http://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/c/crookofbaldoon/index.aspx)  
[www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/w/woodofcree/index.aspx](http://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/w/woodofcree/index.aspx)



# Galloway's Great Outdoors

The Galloway Hills have attracted walkers and writers for generations; even today as you stand on the peaks of the Southern Uplands, there's nothing but remote uplands and wilderness as far as the eye can see. This rugged area has many titles - UNESCO Biosphere, one of the first Dark Sky Parks in Europe, Cairnsmore of Fleet Nature Reserve - but none are half as evocative as the local names : Rig of the Jarkness, the Dungeon Range, the Silver Flow or the Devil's Bowling Green. Join one of the organised walks in May during the Walking Festival to receive expert guidance in what can be surprisingly challenging terrain.

The Galloway Forests were deliberately planted for timber, yet wildlife flourishes here - red squirrel, red deer and red kites are all to be seen. Some of the most challenging mountain biking trails in the country have been developed here; for something more contemplative try fishing on a tranquil inland loch.

Family-friendly beaches are to be found at sheltered Monreith, gently-shelving Garlieston, or all down the eastern side of the Rhins peninsula. At the sheer cliff edges of the Mull, southernmost point in Scotland, you'll see puffins and diving gannets.

## **GALLOWAY NATURE & HERITAGE TRUST**

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01581 400 225 or 01776 702 024  
[www.castlekennedygardens.com](http://www.castlekennedygardens.com)



# Gardens

For a taste of the exotic, take the scenic coastal route to the South Rhins, enjoying the magnificent beaches of Luce Bay on the way, and visit the tropical outpost of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, to see magnificent palms, a Gunnera swamp, manicured lawns and a tranquil ornamental fish pond (to say nothing of the award winning tearoom). At nearby Port Logan, with its picturesque early 19th Century lighthouse and fish larder pecked out of the rock, Sir John Ross stopped en route for his epic trip to discover the North West passage, after a crew member severed a finger before they had got beyond his hometown of Stranraer.

Coming back eastwards, Castle Kennedy Gardens are north of the Bay, and have a constant programme of family-friendly activities. Sweeping lawns and shelter belts, with carefully landscaped lochs, were laid out by successive members of the Stair family, best known for Stair's *Institutions of the Laws of Scotland*.

In the Machars, on the gentle beaches of Rigg Bay, Galloway House Gardens is also an 18th Century landscape, with magnificent specimen trees. Claymoddie is the place to add to your plant collection, and see the swallows swooping to drink over the pond.



The Handkerchief Tree  
(*Davidia involucrata*)

## Galloway House Gardens

Outstanding coastal garden. Formal paths merging with informal woodland, beach and clifftop walks.

[www.gallowayhousegardens.co.uk](http://www.gallowayhousegardens.co.uk)

T. 01988 600680



## CLAYMODDIE GARDEN & PLANT NURSERY

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Contact Mary Nicholson

TEL: 01988 500422

EMAIL [mary.claymoddie@aol.co.uk](mailto:mary.claymoddie@aol.co.uk)

WEBSITE [www.gallowayplants.co.uk](http://www.gallowayplants.co.uk)



Stunning 5 acre plantsman's garden with year round interest. Many southern hemisphere plants, and good collections of rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias as well as summer and autumn flowering trees and shrubs.

Entry £5, groups welcome, and guided tours and propagation courses by arrangement. Huge range of plants for sale, sorry no mail order.

OPEN DAILY 10AM – 5PM, honesty box basis  
Scottish Gardens Scheme Open Day with teas  
11am-5pm, Sunday 24 April 2016



# Visit Logan Botanic Garden

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Victorian-style conservatory housing tender southern  
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**Admission: Adult £6, Concession £5, Children under 16 go free**

Includes small voluntary donation to the Garden. For entry prices without donation please see website.

14 miles south of Stranraer,  
off the B7065, Port Logan,  
Stranraer, DG9 9ND  
Tel 01776 860231

[www.rbge.org.uk/logan](http://www.rbge.org.uk/logan)



Royal  
Botanic Garden  
Edinburgh at

# Logan

Part of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh,  
a charity registered in Scotland (no SC007983)



## The Rhins

With its miles of rocky coastline (traced by coastal paths) and sandy beaches, the history of the Rhins is intertwined with the sea : it boasts no fewer than two lighthouses, north and south, both of which you can visit (the north, a luxury hotel). At Portpatrick, today's lifeboat is a high tech affair, replacing wooden boats which were bravely rowed out into the choppy waters of the North Channel; the RNLI lifeboat week is a prominent feature of Portpatrick's lively summer calendar. The harbour there is built to protect the picturesque village from the tides and provides an intimate space for cafe culture to flourish. Nearby Stranraer is the regional shopping centre, with small independent shops and narrow streets circling its central Castle of St John.



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**email [info@lighthousehotel.co.uk](mailto:info@lighthousehotel.co.uk)**

# Museums

Whatever the weather, you will want to familiarise yourself with the region's culture and history, which, thanks to multiple layers of invaders and settlers, is one of the most complex in Scotland. You can't miss the castles dotted all along the line of the A75 and administered by Historic Environment Scotland. At Creetown, once the jumping off point for ferries heading to Wigtown on the pilgrimage route to Whithorn, you can learn about the granite quarrying that – literally – built the town and head up the steep brae to the Gem Rock Museum, to learn all about geology and gemstones : just visible to the north, the rounded granite intrusion of Cairnmore of Fleet, and the UNESCO Biosphere, home to Galloway's true wilderness and Dark Sky Park. Take one of the old roads into the nature reserve and see the vertiginous railway viaduct which features in the 39 Steps film.

To understand the area's agricultural history, you'll head to Stranraer Museum, with varied exhibitions, and Newton Stewart with its charming displays of 19th and 20th Century domestic technology. Whithorn is the jewel in the crown for historians and archaeologists, with its internationally important collection of Early Mediaeval Christian stones.



*Auchendolly terret : Whithorn Trust exhibition item 2016*

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The Gem Rock Museum, Chain Road, Creetown DG8 7HJ  
Tel: 01671 820357 enquiries@gemrock.net www.gemrock.net





Balmaclellan ; Whithorn Trust exhibition item 2016



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*Do you usually worship in the Church of England? If so, when you are in Scotland the Scottish Episcopal Church is the Anglican church for you.*

**SUNDAY WORSHIP :**  
**CHALLOCH:** 9.00 am - Holy Communion (said)  
 10.30 am - Eucharist (except 1st Sunday: Matins)  
**WHITHORN**  
**PRIORY:** 3.00 pm - Eucharist (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday only)

*You are most welcome to join us at any of our services.  
 All Saints is on the A714, two miles north of Newton Stewart on the road to Girvan DG8 6RJ.*

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE: The Revd. Michael Buchanan Hills  
 email: [buchananhills@gmail.com](mailto:buchananhills@gmail.com) tel: 01581 30588



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 e-mail: [info@hawthorn-house.co.uk](mailto:info@hawthorn-house.co.uk)  
 website: [www.hawthorn-house.co.uk](http://www.hawthorn-house.co.uk)  
 Tel: 01988 700989

### Stranraer Show

Wednesday 27th July, from 9.00a.m. - 5.00p.m.  
 London Road Playing Fields, 01776 870242, 07515 902664  
 Email: [info@stranraershow.co.uk](mailto:info@stranraershow.co.uk)  
[www.stranraershow.co.uk](http://www.stranraershow.co.uk)

### Wigtown Agricultural Show

Wednesday 3rd August from 9am  
 Bladnoch Park, Wigtown, DG8 9AB  
 There's something for everyone at Wigtown Show !  
 Details at  
[www.wigtownshow.org.uk](http://www.wigtownshow.org.uk)

### Annual Galloway Diocesan Pilgrimage

to St Ninian's Cave  
 Sunday 28th August 2016.  
 01557 330687  
[rcchurchkb@btinternet.com](mailto:rcchurchkb@btinternet.com);  
[www.rcchurchesmachars.org.uk](http://www.rcchurchesmachars.org.uk)

### Whithorn Flower Show

New Town Hall, Whithorn  
 19th August 4-9pm,  
 20th August 10.30am to 4pm  
 L Hutchison 01988 500142

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# THE Machars and Rhins of GALLOWAY

2016

