

# Brodick Castle, Country Park & Goatfell for schools

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Brodick Country Park was created from the gardens and extensive grounds of Brodick Castle in 1980. An area stretching from Brodick Bay to the summit of Goatfell is in the care of The National Trust for Scotland and boasts a variety of habitats including seashore, freshwater ponds, woodland, heathland, blanket bog and mountain areas. There is also a wildlife garden, a weather station, an interpretative Nature Room and a well-equipped classroom with projection facilities, fieldwork equipment, reference books, wildlife videos and audio cassettes.

## ● education programmes

Brodick Country Park is an important primary resource that offers learning opportunities for key areas of the Environmental Studies: Science 5-14 curriculum

Brodick has a staff of Ranger/Naturalists who work in the Country Park and Goatfell area. They are used to dealing with school groups both on a formal and informal basis. Though the priority is to ensure that pupils increase their knowledge and understanding of the topics covered, we also consider it important that the pupils undergo an enjoyable educational experience and are exposed to learning opportunities not readily available in the classroom.

### a site visit offers

- Country Park Ranger Service
- educational programmes which fit Curriculum Guidelines
- activities designed for your pupils' requirements
- opportunity to study a variety of habitats
- access to a well-equipped fieldwork classroom
- way-marked trails and self-guided tours
- adventure playground

### classroom resources

- Ranger/Naturalist visits to schools
- Audio visual aids: projectors, video, digital camera

## ● practical information

### planning your visit

- pre-booking is essential
- access: wheelchair users have limited access to the gardens and Country Park. An electric buggy is available for older pupils (book in advance)
- there must be a ratio of 1 teacher/adult to 10 pupils
- cost for school parties: children £1 - accompanying adults admitted free of charge

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## ● for more information

Property Manager • Ken Thorburn  
Brodick Castle • Isle of Arran • KA27 8HY  
telephone (01770) 302202 • fax (01770) 302312

Regional Education Officer (West) • Debbie Jackson  
telephone 0141 616 5117 • fax 0141 616 0550

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- Educational Membership of the National Trust for Scotland allows free entry to all NTS properties (school roll up to 50 £20.00, 51-100 £40.00, 101-200 £50.00, 201-500 £70.00, over 500 £80.00)
- preparation: we welcome a free preparatory visit from the class teacher

## during your visit

- please note: visiting teachers are responsible for discipline
- getting there: a regular Cal-Mac ferry service runs between Ardrossan harbour and Brodick. This service connects with the Glasgow Central train service to the harbour.  
By car: Turn right at the ferry terminal and take the A841 main road north towards Lochranza. Brown road signs direct you to the entrance which is 2.5 miles from the ferry.  
By foot: Walk along the "Fisherman's Walk" which follows the beach and golf course reaching the castle at the pedestrian entrance. Takes 30-45 minutes.  
By Bus: Buses meet the ferry to go to the Castle reception centre (Service 324).
- parking: available for cars and coaches within the grounds
- on arrival: please report to the Reception Centre
- picnic facilities: available within the Park and there is a covered area available in case of bad weather (book in advance)
- refreshments: restaurant open during the season for lunches, snacks, ice-creams.
- shop: open during the season selling books, souvenirs, plants and ice-creams.
- toilets: available at the reception centre and the countryside centre.

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