

Portdrishaig Cottage



VISITORS GUIDE

Portdrishaig Cottage

Shore Road

Tighnabruaich

PA21 2EB

www.ourcozycottage.co.uk

Welcome...

A very warm welcome to **PORTDRISHAIG COTTAGE**.

The cottage dates from Victorian days, when Tighnabruich and Cowal coast area started to become a thriving holiday destination. The building itself was originally a village shop, and the building it is attached to was the former Temperance Hotel. In the early 1990's the shop was converted into a holiday cottage, and the hotel has been turned into flats.

The current owners are a family who have been holidaying in the area for many decades—enjoying everything that this special part of the world has to offer, from boating, to walking to just simply relaxing and soaking up the views.

We hope you thoroughly enjoy your stay at “Argyll's Secret Coast”, and this guide booklet is intended to help you get the most from your time at our cottage.

First things first....if you need to contact someone about the cottage itself...

STEVE MILLER - From the family who own the cottage -

Phone; **07919 406636** or email; **weve190@gmail.com**

MORE CONTACT DETAILS CAN BE FOUND ON THE BACK PAGE

We don't live locally (as much as we would love to) , but we do have a local housekeeper who we can contact on your behalf if the need arises.

A Note About Mobile Phone Reception

Although in the greater Cowal area mobile phone reception can be patchy, in and around the cottage itself we have found that most networks work quite well. Vodafone in particular seems to be pretty good - and we also know Orange and O2 also work fairly reliably.

Access to the cottage...

Guests will be contacted privately about how they obtain the keys to the cottage.

The main entrance to the cottage is actually the back door - accessed via the wooden side gate.

Once you are into the back porch you enter the cottage through the original rear door...



PLEASE MIND YOUR HEAD - AND MIND THE STEP DOWN!!!

We think the original shopkeepers were perhaps not as tall as many folks are today—and the back door does require some of us just to bend a little (only a little bit).



The key to open the large sliding patio doors at the front of the cottage can be found hanging up behind the curtain in the top right corner of the patio window.

WI-FI

The Wi-Fi Router is located under the TV in the living room (just behind the DVD player). Make sure it is switched on at the wall socket.

Network BTHomeHub2-FHQF

Key (Password) a575387738

Room By Room...

Kitchen

Hopefully things should be reasonably self explanatory in here. Please note that the switch for the water heater is just behind the microwave (labelled). Please also see the little note at the cooker wall master switch (photo left) about needing to press the clock set button before use.



SAFETY INFORMATION

A FIRE BLANKET IS ON THE WALL BEHIND THE KITCHEN DOOR

A FIRST AID KIT IS FOUND IN THE CUPBOARD ABOVE THE WORK TOP



Living Room

Heaters - There are 2 wall mounted electric room heaters - make sure they are switched on at their wall sockets and then adjust the thermostats.

The electric "log burner" style heater is switched on by opening the glass door, and then the controls are found by lowering the metal flap.



The key to open the large sliding patio doors at the front of the cottage can be found hanging up behind the curtain in the top right corner of the patio window.

Under stairs cupboard & Fold Out Beds - In here you will find, among many other things (including the vacuum cleaner), the 2 fold-out beds. These beds are surprisingly comfortable. Bedding for these can be found in a labelled cupboard in the upstairs front bedroom. You will also find 2 reclining outdoor deck chairs for the patio here.

UPSTAIRS

Front Bedroom

Bedding for the temporary beds is found in the labelled cupboards—otherwise this room is pretty self-explanatory....enjoy the view!

Shower Room

The master switch for the electric shower is on a pull-string. The switch for the heated towel rail is outside the shower-room on the wall next to the light switches.

Back Bedroom

In here is a large walk-in closet, with spare towels and linen.

THE BACK PORCH



SAFETY INFORMATION - THE FIRE EXTINGUISHER IS FOUND IN THE BACK PORCH.

You will also find things like insect repellents in here, as well as a fly-screen which you can hang over the back door if required (on the brass hooks).



LAUNDRY (Washer and dryer in back yard area)

Please ensure that the water hose for the washer is connected to the water tap and that the tap is turned on before using the washer.

Instructions for the washing machine can be found in the kitchen on the shelf on the corner of the wall unit (pink laminated card).

THE SHED (our toybox!)

Just behind the cottage, up the gravel lane is our stone-built shed.

The key for the shed is hanging up in the kitchen - in the wall mounted cupboard above the microwave.

In the shed you will find;

- * The 2 kayaks, paddles and buoyancy aids.
- * 2 bicycles and a tyre pump.
- * A barbeque (charcoal is available in Tighnabruaich village) - please clean after use.
- * Fishing Tackle
- * A fish smoker - please clean after use.
- * Golf clubs.



OTHER INFORMATION

Parking

There is a long lay-by on the road in front of the cottage where you can park. Very occasionally this lay-by gets busy, but there are similar lay-bys a very short distance down the road.

Rubbish & Recycling

The waste bins for the cottage are on the roadside opposite the parking lay-by (you will see a long row of bins). Our bins are labelled "PORT D COTT". The green bin is for general waste, the blue one is for paper, cardboard, cans and plastic. Glass must be recycled in the skips behind "SUSY'S TEA ROOM" along the shore road just past the pier

The Kayaks - (Only to be used by people age over 16, over 40kg in weight and who are strong swimmers)

Please check that the black plastic bungs are screwed hand-tight in place before you go out.

Please also check the seat straps are securely fastened.

We have provided some buoyancy aids. They are very adjustable and suitable for people from 40kg—130kg (6 –20 stone) in weight. Make sure the net pocket is at the front, the waist belt is adjusted and fastened **AND ALSO MAKE SURE THE CRUTCH STRAP IS FASTENED!**



Drain bung must be in and hand tight.



WEAR A BUOYANCY AID!

With all the straps properly adjusted and fastened.

CHECK THE WEATHER FORECAST

Only go out in calm conditions—if in doubt don't go out.

STAY CLOSE!

Please stay within close reach of the shore and within the bay.

Dogs

We love dogs, and up to 2 well behaved dogs are welcome to stay with you, but please be considerate and not allow them on the furniture. Also please keep them on a lead outside the cottage - and be careful of traffic on the shore road.

(Photo on right, Lesley in one of our kayaks, with Poppy - our water obsessed collie-labrador)



Check In & Out Times

You can arrive at the cottage from 3pm to 9pm

Please check out by 11am.

LOCAL INFORMATION

SHOPS

The village of Tighnabruich is a short walk or cycle ride away and has good amenities including...

KYLES PREMIER STORE - General Store - Very friendly and with a good range. Closes around 7pm

TAM'S TOOL STORE - An amazing Aladdin's cave - a few doors down from the General Store

EATING

You won't go hungry in the area...here are some places we like...

TIGHNABRUAICH HOTEL - Simple but good pub grub in the village. Dog friendly!

BOTANICA - A Gourmet Bistro in the village.

THE TEA ROOM - Great for breakfast and lunch, afternoon teas or just a snack

SUSY'S TEAROOM - A typical seaside café with great views. Can be busy when PS Waverley is in...or coaches.

THE KAMES HOTEL - A traditional pub with good food in the next village along the shore road. Dog friendly.

PORTAVADIE MARINA - A spectacular new marina complex with multiple dining options. A short drive.

THINGS TO DO...(Just a few suggestions)

Boat Trips— MV Morag - A former fishing boat which operates sight-seeing trips on demand from Tighnabruich Pier. CONTACT 01700 811538 or 07799 661493 www.dcmarineboattrips.co.uk

Kyles Of Bute Golf Club - Welcomes visitors and has spectacular views over the Kyles of Bute. Just after Kames on the road to Portavadie Marina. There are some (basic) golf clubs in the shed. www.kylesofbutegolfclub.co.uk

Portavadie - A new marina and leisure complex - with swimming pools, gyms and spa facilities. www.portavadie.com

WALKS

There are so many great places to walk in the area it is impossible to condense into a single paragraph. You will find some walking guide books in the under-stairs closet in the cottage. For a daily leg-stretch we like to take our dogs along the shore road (turn left out of the cottage). Past the boatyard and then along the track towards Calladh Harbour about 2 miles away (there are some hills, nothing too steep and all good terrain).

A SHORT DRIVE...

OSTEL BAY BEACH (A beautiful hidden gem, with spectacular views across to the Isle Of Arran- Head west along the shore road (B800), through the village of Kames and following signs for Portavadie, Tarbert Ferry and Millhouse (you turn right at the crossroads just after the Post Office).

Continue along the B800 - (The golf course will soon be on your left). After about a mile you come to another road junction. YOU TURN LEFT (straight on if you were going to Portavadie or the Tarbert Ferry.)

After another approx. 1/2 mile there is a parking lay-bye on the right (just before Kilbride Farm, which has a little café). Please park considerately there and then the beach is about a 750m walk.

USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION

KYLES MEDICAL CENTRE- Tighnabruaich - 01700 811207

ANDREW'S GARAGE - Tighnabruaich - 01700 811386

PETROL & DIESEL - **Tighnabruaich Service Station** (Shore Road opposite The Royal Hotel) - 01700 811425

COTTAGE OWNERS - 07919 406646 (Steve) or 07778 433622 (Sue) or 01772 733595 (Owners daytime)

TRANSPORT

Buses between Porrtavadie & Dunoon - Stops outside The Royal Hotel.

Timetable information from the village or www.westcoastmotors.co.uk

Ferry to Isle Of Bute - Drive to Colintrive. Regular crossings on this short route. Last ferry around 8.55pm.

Ferry to Tarbert - From Portavadie. Last ferries around 7pm

www.calmac.co.uk

**DON'T FORGET TO MIND YOUR HEAD AND THE STEP
WHEN ENTERING AND LEAVING THE COTTAGE!**

Please enjoy your stay, and we will leave the last word to Scotland's premier international ambassador and statesman...

"There is no such thing as bad weather...there is only the wrong clothes!"

BILLY CONNOLLY