

## Geowalks: Arran

### Saturday 24 to Wednesday 28 October 2020

Welcome to the best geology in Scotland! Arran's rocks tell a story stretching over hundreds of millions of years. There are igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks, representing periods of mountain building, equatorial seas, hot deserts, volcanoes and underground cauldrons of magma – it's all here, and Arran is justly famous as an ideal introduction to the study of rocks, and a place to appreciate the link between the rocks and the shape of the land at different scales.

We'll visit the site of James Hutton's unconformity near Lochranza, and the desert sandstones of the south and lots of interesting igneous intrusions of different sizes. We'll be based at the Lochranza Centre and will have access to the excellent Arran Geopark interpretation centre. This is also a great location for exploring the island's geology, with one of Scotland's best geology walks starting from the doorstep.

**Important note:** *Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the trip might be cancelled or arrangements may need to change at short notice. The Lochranza Centre is open for business with relevant procedures in place, and the size of the group will be restricted according to Scottish Government guidelines. All participants will need to follow the procedures outlined in "Geowalks Arran 2020 - Coronavirus Briefing Sheet 07Aug20", and any revisions.*

#### Programme

**Saturday 24 October** Meet at Brodick late afternoon. If you are travelling from the mainland, I suggest catching the 3:20pm ferry from Ardrossan. Travel north to Lochranza, settle in, short local walk.

**Sunday** Day walk from Lochranza along the coast to Hutton's Unconformity and towards the Cock of Arran, discovering a range of rocks formed in different geological periods.

**Monday** Visit a range of sedimentary rocks from the Devonian, Carboniferous and Permian periods on the shore between Glen Sannox and Corrie.

**Tuesday** Day walk from Blackwaterfoot to the Kings Cave, taking in Triassic desert sandstones, reptile footprints and plenty of interesting intrusions on the raised beach.

**Wednesday** Depart Lochranza and head to the southeast coast, with a variety of walk options including the Kildonan dyke swarm. Head home in the afternoon, on the 1:55pm or 4:40pm ferry from Brodick to Ardrossan.

#### Further Details

**Course fee** £400, including meals, accommodation and transport on Arran.

**Accommodation & Catering** We will be based at the Lochranza Centre, in single rooms with all meals provided – breakfast (hot & cold options), packed lunch and three-course evening meal. Twin rooms are available for couples.

**Booking** Contact Angus to reserve your place. Full payment is due by 9 October 2020.

If the trip has to be cancelled, you will receive a full refund of all money paid. It will not be possible to refund any other costs, such as travel reservations.

If you need to cancel your booking before the start of the trip because you develop Covid-19 symptoms, or because of any Scottish Government Covid-19 restrictions to travel, you will get a full refund.

**Transport** On Arran, transport will be by 8-seater taxi. Everyone will need to wear a face covering and the taxi will be cleaned before every trip. You can use your own vehicle if you prefer.

**Level of fitness required** You will need to be reasonably fit and used to walking, but the pace will be moderate with plenty of stops. We'll stick mostly to paths although there will be some rough walking on beaches and uneven ground. We'll walk 5-6 miles per day with longer options sometimes available.



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Outline Programme – revised 07Aug20