

# ISLE OF ARRAN - ITINERARIES



## Itinerary 7 - All day in and around Brodick: Piranha Glass, James' Chocolates, Home Farm with Arran Aromatics and The Island Cheese Company, Arran Brewery, Brodick Castle

Estimated Time - Full Day

**Piranha Glass**

Map Ref: 18

Pop in and see the stained glass mirrors on display in this shop. Although you can't see the artists at work they do make mirrors on commission.

**James' Chocolates**

Map Ref: 18

A relative newcomer to the Isle of Arran's culinary scene is James' Chocolates in Brodick. The shop, choc full of luxury goodies, provides a window on the chocolate making process which is carried out on the premises. Visitors can see the smooth molten chocolate being crafted into the delicacies which are on sale in the shop, and elsewhere on Arran.

**Arran Aromatics**

Map Ref: 18

If the smell of relaxation is in the air, it's probably coming from the aromatherapy range at the Arran Aromatics factory shop.

The factory shop / visitor centre provides a window on the various processes involved in making the various lotions, potions and candles, as well as the chance to indulge yourself and buy some of the products.

The visitor centre also houses a display on the history of soap going right back to Egyptian times, and in the summer, you might even like to press your own bar in the soap stamping machine.

Telephone : 01770 302595

Open Summer 09.30-17.30, Winter - phone for details

**The Island Cheese Company Ltd.**

Map Ref: 18

Dairy products have an important place in Arran's history, and the finest traditions of cheese making are continued at the Island Cheese Company at Home Farm, just outside Brodick. Visitors can get an insight into the processes involved in making the various cheeses in which the factory specialises before sampling the produce at the factory shop.

Telephone : 01770 302788

Open all year

**The Arran Brewery**

Map Ref: 18

A more recent addition to Arran's culinary heritage is the Arran brewery, where three distinctive ales are produced; Arran Blonde, Arran Light and Arran Dark.

There's a visitor centre to explain the whole process, starting with the raw ingredients of barley, wheat and hops. A viewing gallery and observation windows give visitors a chance to experience the sights, sounds and smells of the brewing process, and there's an opportunity to sample the finished products at the gift shop.

Telephone : 01770 302353

Open Mon - Sat 09.30-17.00 Sun 12.00-17.00



Brodick represents everything that you would expect from a National Trust flagship - a fascinating day out to remember, steeped in the history of Arran. It has remarkable history. Built on the site of a Viking fortress, it has been occupied by the English, overrun by Robert the Bruce's followers, burnt down during the fifteenth century, and partially destroyed in the sixteenth at the behest of Henry VIII, and is perhaps Britain's most war-weary castle.

The castle and the earldom of Arran was given to the Duke of Hamilton in 1503 by his cousin, King James IV of Scotland, and it remained the home of the Dukes of Hamilton for centuries. It was Mary, Duchess of Montrose, daughter of the 12th Duke of Hamilton who was largely responsible for revitalising the beautiful gardens, and it was on her death in the 1950s that the castle and its grounds passed to the National Trust for Scotland.

Brodick Castle's present day appearance owes much to the Victorians, and it's now a showpiece visitor attraction owned and managed by the National Trust for Scotland.

The Castle contains a large collection of porcelain and sporting trophies, as well as a valuable collection of silver and several important works of art, including pieces by Gainsborough and Turner.

The Castle's extensive grounds include beautiful gardens, marked woodland trails and for the children, and adventure playground. In addition, Brodick's rangers conduct a variety of guided walks, including tours of the garden.



**Telephone : 01770 302202**

**Open :Apr-Oct 11.00 - 16.30**