

HISTORICAL - ITINERARIES



Itinerary 1 - Culzean Castle

Estimated Time - Full Day

Culzean Castle

Map Ref: 14

Culzean Castle is one of the National Trust for Scotland's most visited sites - and small wonder. Set on a cliff top looking out towards Arran and Ailsa Craig, it started its life in medieval times as a keep tower belonging to Ayrshire's prominent Kennedy family.

In the late eighteenth century the tenth Earl of Cassilis commissioned the celebrated architect Robert Adams to build the castle as we see it today.

Some of Culzean's most impressive features include the sweeping oval staircase and the round drawing room, which faces out to sea. The Castle's sumptuous furnishings and the famous Armoury are complemented by some more bizarre family artefacts - a child's bed in the shape of a small boat which is seaworthy enough to row about on the Castle's Swan Pond when its occupant is too large to sleep in it, for example.

Culzean Castle has strong links with the United States - the upstairs apartments were offered to President Eisenhower during his life, as a gift for his wartime services from the people of Scotland. An exhibition explains the connection in detail.



Within Culzean's beautiful grounds are a deer park and a swan pond, an elegant pagoda, woodland walks as well as a formal walled garden and a camellia house. Nearby Home Farm houses the substantial visitor centre, and Culzean's rangers conduct a variety of guided walks throughout the year. And for the youngsters, there's an adventure playground area and plenty of space to run about in.

Culzean's an excellent family day out.....have a look at the events diary to see which events and ranger walks are available while you're here.

Telephone : 01655 884455

Castle open, Apr-Oct, 10.30-17.00. Park open all year

