



THE HOUSE  
**BOOK**



*“ Golf is the closest game  
to the game we call life  
You get bad breaks for good shots;  
you get good breaks from bad shots –  
but you have to play the ball where it lies. ”*

Bobby Jones  
(Founder of The Masters Tournament)

# WELCOME TO THE BEAUTIFUL ISLE OF ISLAY AND THE MACHRIE.

*It's an absolute pleasure to have you staying with us!*

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There is so much to explore from our doorstep here, and many of our brilliant staff are fountains of knowledge on the local area so please do pick their brains on the best things to see and do across the island.

My personal top recommendations would be...

- Regardless of your ability, play a round of golf on our championship links, now ranked in the top 100 in the world!
- Learn about the fascinating stories behind some remaining illicit whisky stills at The Museum of Islay Life and soak up all the history of the island
- Take a sunset stroll along Laggan Bay, just a 5 min walk from here
- Be awestruck by the ancient graves and carved stoned cross dating back to 820AD at The Kildalton Cross and Chapel
- Travel in unique style in a Tuk Tuk, (*yes, an actual Tuk Tuk!*) with a private tour of the island

We look forward to making your stay truly memorable!

**Ed Richardson**  
General Manager



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THE HISTORY OF  
**THE MACHRIE**

# THE HISTORY OF THE MACHRIE

## *A Brief History*

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The Machrie Hotel and Golf Links has a long and interesting history on this remote and beautiful Hebridean island. The word 'machrie' is a corruption of the Scottish Gaelic machair, which means 'fertile, low-lying land', more or less the same as "links" does on the east coast of Scotland.

The farm at the Machrie was developed in the 1800s and the farmhouse was completed late in the decade before golf at The Machrie was thought about.

The course was designed by Willie Campbell in 1891 and was intentionally made long, at least by 19th century standards, to attract golfers to

Islay. Set on the dunes of Islay, Queen of the Hebrides, The Machrie Links course is one of the most beautiful locations in the world of golf. The links turf on which the course sits is among the finest in Scotland. Its dramatic setting on the sand dunes overlooking Laggan Bay and the Atlantic Ocean has few equals.

In 1901, The Machrie Links hosted a famous match between James Braid, John Henry Taylor and Harry Vardon for a prize of £100, reputed to be the largest prize of its kind at that time in the British Isles. Harry Vardon called Mount Zion, now the 17th hole (but originally the first hole), "the hardest hole I have seen". The

links later hosted the Western Isles Open Championship in June 1935.

A few months after the opening of the Machrie golf course, John Ramsay of Kildalton saw the potential and decided to convert the farmhouse to a guest house for the golfers.

By 1913 the popularity of the Machrie Links had reached a peak. The club had more than 200 members and the owners had made a success of the Machrie Hotel. The future looked good in all directions but events in Europe were about to change the outlook completely.

In 1948 the hotel, farm and course were bought by Bert Marshall from Blackpool, a down-to-earth character who reputedly arrived from

Blackpool after a substantial win on the pools.

From 1970 through to 2010 the property changed hands several times and the fortunes of the hotel ebbed and flowed.

In 2011, the Davies family purchased the hotel and undertook a visionary upgrade of the golf course working with D J Russell, the former European Ryder Cup Vice Captain and PGA tour player. D J was tasked with retaining the magical uniqueness of the historic links, but adding some new contemporary twists and challenges.

Since reopening in 2018, the golf course has accumulated accolades and positive recognition as one of Scotland's hidden golf gems and finest links courses.

The family had an equally ambitious plan for the hotel, which was somewhat rundown. While retaining the historic facades, they wanted to create a modern hotel that was cosy and welcoming, but that showcased an eclectic mix of furniture, art work and 'wow' factor design elements.

Floor to ceiling windows showcasing the magnificent views and fun and thoughtful paintings are much talked about and the hotel continues to evolve as a truly welcoming Hebridean hospitality experience.





LOUNGES, BAR &  
**DINING**

# DINING

## *18 Restaurant, Bar & Terrace*

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Our restaurant 18, is located on the first floor and includes the bar, lounge and dining areas, with a large west facing terrace overlooking the 18th green, the Mull of Oa and Laggan Bay.

Our passionate chefs have created menus that are locally sourced, where possible, and celebrate the very best Scotland has to offer from the land, the sea and the air.

Indoor and outdoor seating is available.

### **Breakfast Service**

7.00am - 10.00am (Mon - Sun)

### **All Day Bar Drinks**

11.00am until late

### **Lunch Service**

12.00pm - 3.00pm

### **Casual Bites**

3.00pm - 6.00pm

### **Dinner Service**

6.00pm - 9.00pm

## *18 Bar*

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The bar features an impressive collection of whiskies, most of which are from Islay's nine distilleries.

The distilleries are one of the island's main visitor attractions and offer guided guest experiences.

Dial 0 for information on the tours available.

We can also arrange whisky tastings at The Machrie.

### *The Stag Lounge*

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Our stunning Stag Lounge is also on the first floor. The perfect place to unwind and take in the outstanding views of the links and Laggan Bay.

**Lounge Service**  
All Day

### *The Snug*

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A cosy retreat, tucked away and perfect for a quiet book, a board game or a get-together.

Guests who like to dine with their dogs can do so from our main menu in The Snug.

Dogs are not permitted in the Restaurant, Bar or Stag Lounge.

### *The Courtyard Lounge & The Courtyard*

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The Courtyard Lounge is a relaxed and welcoming space, located on the ground floor adjoining Reception.

**Lounge Service**  
All Day

### *Menus*

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To view our sample menus please visit the website [here](#).

## *Room Service*

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### **Light Breakfast**

7.00am - 10.00am

We offer a light in-room breakfast menu that is printed on your breakfast door card. Full breakfast is served in Restaurant 18, from 7.00am to 10.00am.

### **During the Day**

10.00am - 9.00pm

We have a selection of dishes from our Lunch Menu available to be delivered to your room. Please call Reception to place your order.

View our sample lunch menu [here](#).

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### **After Hours**

10.00pm onwards

We have a selection of soup, sandwiches, sweet treats and cheeses available for late night dining, call Reception to place your order.

We have prepared delicious, light fares for your midnight cravings.

There is a tray charge of £5.00 for Day and After Hours room service.

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Freshly prepared soup with bread roll *£8.00*

Honey roast ham and Cheddar cheese on granary bread *£8.00*

Chicken curry with coriander and pilau rice *£14.00*

Vegetable curry and pilau rice *£14.00*

Margaretta pizza *£15.00*

Macaroni and Mull Cheddar cheese *£12.00*

Triple chocolate brownie *£6.00*

Cheese and oatcakes *£12.00*



THE MACHRIE

**GOLF LINKS**

# THE MACHRIE GOLF LINKS

## *The Machrie Links*

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Golf has been played at The Machrie since 1891. Designed by Willie Campbell and more recently modernised by course architect DJ Russell, The Machrie combines the very best of a traditional, historic links course from a previous age, with some contemporary design features. The need for thought, imagination and creative shot-making has not changed throughout the years and carries as much of a premium over sheer power now, as it did then, in 1891.

Golf at The Machrie offers enjoyment and a challenge for golfers of all abilities and age and along with the stunning 18-hole Links, we also have the Wee course,

which offers six par-3 holes which can be played from a multitude of tees. We also have an all-weather 5-bay driving range, short game area and the spectacular Hebrides putting course. Plus an indoor golf studio which includes a Trackman Golf Simulator.

## *Pro Shop*

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From equipment to clothing, our golf shop stocks a wide variety of products featuring the very latest in technology from leading brands. We stock some old favourites and bring in a taste of something new.

The Pro Shop is the focal point for all golfing queries and requirements, including the 18-hole Links course, Driving Range, Wee course (6-hole par three course), Hebrides putting course, buggy, trolley and club hire. The Golf Shop is a key part of the Machrie Links golfing experience with knowledgeable staff at hand to assist every guest.

Our resident Golf Professionals have an excellent reputation for getting the very best out of every golfer, providing expert tuition using state of

the art technology, including Trackman – guests should get in touch with the Pro Shop to enquire.

The Driving Range is situated a short walk to the north of the hotel and provides an outside and covered hitting area for golfers and hotel guests to practice their game. Range balls are dispensed at the range and tokens can be purchased from the Pro Shop. It also hosts the '1891' Lounge – where golfers can relax before or after their game. This area is not serviced.



Caddies can be booked through the Pro Shop and while we cannot guarantee availability, every effort will be made to fulfil requests.

All golfers are required to check into the Pro Shop prior to playing the Links or accessing the Wee Course.

### *Tuition & Coaching*

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The Machrie's resident PGA Golf Professional, David Foley, is available to provide tuition to all levels of golfer.

A selection of tuition packages are available and can be tailored to suit any golfer, regardless of age or ability. These range from introductory, suitable for complete beginners, to those playing at an advanced level.

Use of our exceptional short game area, indoor teaching

facility can ensure that every aspect of your game is catered for using state-of-the-art technology, including Trackman.

We advise that all lessons or programmes are booked in advance to avoid disappointment.

### *The Wee Course*

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The Wee Course has a combination of numerous par three holes to challenge the player, providing four different score card layouts.

The Wee Course is the little brother to The Machrie Links and has many of the subtleties that are encountered on the 18-hole Links. A great place to warm up or refine the scoring part of your game.



TREATMENTS,  
**GYM & SAUNA**

## TREATMENTS, GYM & SAUNA

Our wellness facilities comprise of two calm and relaxing treatment rooms, a gym, sauna and changing rooms.

### *Gym & Sauna*

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Stay active in our gym with extensive locker rooms and changing facilities.

With weights, treadmills, a rowing machine and exercise bike, as well as floor space for yoga and stretching, our gym provides all you need for a blast of fitness during your time with us.

And don't forget the many miles of beach and countryside to be explored from our doorstep either on foot or by electric bikes (e-bikes).

Our sauna is the perfect place to unwind after a day of adventures on Islay.

### *Treatments*

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We have two treatment rooms offering a range of face and body treatments using **ishga** products.

**ishga** offer natural & organic skincare products made from Scottish seaweed and are certified Organic by the Soil Association.

You can view our treatment list **here** or ask for a copy at Reception.



IN ROOM

**FACILITIES**

## IN ROOM FACILITIES

### *Internet*

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Complimentary wi-fi is available in bedrooms and public areas.

Select **TheMachrie** from the list of available Wi-Fi networks.

### *Heating*

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Your room has a radiator that can be adjusted by turning the white thermostat tap to your desired temperature.

### *Electricity*

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Local voltage is 220V.

### *Telephone*

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In the event of an EMERGENCY, dial 0 or call emergency services by dialling 9 for an outside line followed by 999.

Dial 0 for Reception, to order a wakeup call or make a reservation in the restaurant.

Dial 2 followed by the 2-digit room number to contact another room. For example, dial 206 for room number 6, and 228 for room number 28.

Dial 9 for an external line.

Local and national calls are charged at £0.05/min. International calls are charged £1.50/min.

## TV

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Your television screens a variety of local, national and international channels as follows:

- |                    |                          |                           |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. BBC One         | 19. Film 4 +1            | 36. BBC Radio 1           |
| 2. BBC Two         | 20. CBBC                 | 37. BBC Radio 2           |
| 3. BBC Scotland    | 21. CBeebies             | 38. BBC Radio 3           |
| 4. Channel 4       | 22. TV5 Monde            | 39. BBC Radio 4           |
| 5. Channel 5       | 23. TV E                 | 40. BBC Radio<br>Scotland |
| 6. BBC News        | 24. France 24<br>English | 41. BBC Radio<br>Gaidheal |
| 7. CNN             | 25. France 24<br>French  | 42. BBC Radio 1X          |
| 8. Bloomberg       | 26. Canal 24 Horas       | 43. BBC Radio 5<br>Sport  |
| 9. Al Jazeera      | 27. Rai News 24          | 44. BBC Radio 4X          |
| 10. Euro News      | 28. CGTN                 | 45. BBC Asian<br>Network  |
| 11. BBC Parliament | 29. Arte                 | 46. BBC 6 Music           |
| 12. ITV 2          | 30. Das Erste            | 47. BBC World<br>Service  |
| 13. ITV 3          | 31. DW                   | 48. Rai Sport             |
| 14. ITV 4          | 32. Kuwait               | 49. Rai Radio Tutta       |
| 15. 4 Seven        | 33. SWR BW               |                           |
| 16. 1BBC Alba      | 34. SWR RP               |                           |
| 17. BBC Four       | 35. TRT World            |                           |
| 18. Film 4         |                          |                           |

### *Laundry, Pressing & Ironing*

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We offer an in-house laundry service.

Please complete the laundry form that is located in your wardrobe and place it inside the white laundry bag.

We will pick up during your daily room cleaning. You may alternately dial '0' to request collection.

You may request an iron and ironing board through reception, by dialling 0.

Dry cleaning is not available on Islay.

Shoe cleaning is available upon request.

### *Tea & Coffee Tray*

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Your tea and coffee tray are replenished daily. Should you require any additional items, please dial 0.

### *Drinking Water*

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To serve the purest island water and reduce the use of disposable plastic, our still and sparkling drinking water is filtered and bottled in-house and is complimentary.

Your bottles will be replenished. Should you wish for additional complimentary water, please dial 0.

### *Fridges*

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There is a fridge in your room for your convenience.

### *Breakfast in Bed*

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Should you wish to have breakfast in your room, please fill in the form on the door hanger and place it outside your bedroom by 3am.

### *Turndown*

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To request a turndown service, please call reception.

### *Amenities*

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All rooms offer complimentary bottled island water, tea and coffee station, bathrobes, slippers and hair-dryer, plus some Scottish natural bathroom products for your convenience.

Shaving kits, toothpaste and toothbrushes are available from Reception.

### *Pets*

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The Machrie is perfectly situated for your four-legged friend to explore the wonderful scenery of Islay with miles of walks on your doorstep.

For the comfort of other guests, we ask that you keep your dog on a lead and under control at all times. Dogs must not be left unattended.

Dogs are charged at a rate of £30.00 for the full stay, per dog, this includes a dog blanket and bowls. Dogs are not allowed to stay in bedrooms unattended, unless they are in their own crate.

Dogs are welcome to join you on the terrace providing that they are on a lead. Guests who like to dine with their dogs can do so from our main menu in The Snug. Dogs are not allowed into the bar, lounge or restaurant or any of our function suites, except for guide dogs.

Poo bags are provided at reception.

### *Do Not Disturb*

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Please utilise the sign provided if you wish to not be disturbed.



### *Welly Boots, & Umbrellas*

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There is nothing like getting some fresh air, and wellington boots of various sizes are available to borrow at the front door for those who wish to wander around and explore the great outdoors.

### *Smoking*

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The Machrie Hotel & Golf Links is entirely non-smoking and we kindly ask smokers to use the smoking areas situated outside the hotel.

We ask you not to smoke in your room, so as to avoid incurring an additional cleaning fees.

### *Fire Alarm Testing*

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We will test our fire alarm at 11.00am every Tuesday.

### *Your Safe*

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The room safe is located in your wardrobe with user instructions available on the safe door. Should you wish to safe-keep large amounts of money or high value jewellery, we recommend that these be deposited in our main safe at Reception.

Despite our best efforts, the hotel cannot assume liability for valuables not placed in the main safe.



MEETINGS &  
**EVENTS**

## MEETINGS & EVENTS

The Machrie Hotel continues its legacy as one of the Island's most popular venues to create memorable events. Our spaces are multi-functional, all beautifully designed and decorated. Choose from an intimate lounge, our screening room, boardroom or marquee.

The success of your event is of utmost importance, which is why The Machrie can offer the perfect meeting facilities for your event. You will find a range of room layouts, ideal for Conferences, Meetings, Golf Events, Training Courses, Award Ceremonies, Product Launches, Dinners and Team Building Activities.

A range of attractive packages for residential conference and business functions are available and can be tailor-made to suit all of your needs.

### *The Kildalton Room*

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With its beautiful amber silk wall lining and vaulted ceiling, The Kildalton Room is perfect for meetings and private dining for up to 30 guests.

### *The Screening Room*

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The Machrie's very own cinema, a first for Islay, seats 30 and is equipped with the latest projection and Dolby surround sound system. Presentations, family events or film night, can all be accommodated on the 145" screen.



**GO GREEN**

## ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORTS

### *Sheets & Towels*

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In order to save water, your bedsheets and towels will be replaced every third day of your stay.

You may of course request fresh sheets at any time by calling Reception or placing on your bed the green leaf card that hangs on your bathroom door.

If you would like your towels to be changed, please leave them in the bath or shower.

### *Refuse Sorting & Recycling*

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Our refuse is sorted in various disposal bins that are destined for recycling and composting.

We make our own compost on-site for use around the links.

### *Plastic*

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We try as hard as we can to reduce or eliminate the use of single-use, non-recyclable or non-biodegradable plastics.

All our bin liners – whether in your room or in the kitchens – are biodegradable.

Drinking straws are made of biodegradable cornstarch.

The drinking water we serve is pure Islay water that we UV-light filter on site and bottle in glass. We hence eliminate the disposal of over 10,000 bottles of plastic a year and offer you cleaner, safer water to drink.



LOCAL

**INFORMATION**

## LOCAL INFORMATION

### *Doctors & Bowmore Hospital*

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The nearest doctors surgery is located in Port Ellen, 10 minutes away by car.

Bowmore Hospital has an A&E department, doctors surgery and adjoining dental surgery.

#### **Port Ellen Surgery**

01496 302103

#### **Bowmore Surgery**

01496 301039

#### **Islay Hospital**

01496 301000

#### **Islay Dental Practice**

01496 810993

#### **NHS Direct**

111

### *Churches & Services*

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#### **Church of Scotland**

Port Ellen

Sunday Service 11.30am

#### **Bowmore**

Sunday Service 10.00am

#### **Baptist Church**

Port Ellen

Sunday Service 10.00am

#### **Islay Christian Fellowship**

Tuesday 7.00pm

#### **Baptist Church**

Bowmore

Sunday Service 6.30pm

#### **Islay Christian Fellowship**

Wednesday 7.00pm

#### **St Johns Scottish Episcopal Church (Roman Catholic)**

Bridgend Holy Communion on 3rd Sunday of the month 11.00am

Contact Reception for information of local sightseeing, restaurants and other activities.





