



# LARGS SAILING CLUB - YOUR MAJOR EVENT VENUE!

<u>Largs SC</u>, founded in <u>1936</u>, is one of the leading sailing venues in the UK, regularly hosting major events including the RYA Youths, and many World and National championships e.g. in 2019, the Laser Nationals, and Topper Nationals - report <u>here</u>. You can also see something of our wonderful sailing waters in this YouTube <u>video</u> of our 2019 regatta weekend for Musto Skiffs, D-Zeros etc.

We are located in <u>Largs Yacht Haven</u>, Scotland's leading marina, just to the south of Largs, North Ayrshire, and approximately 25 miles west of Glasgow. We have a large, full facility clubhouse, which we supplement with a marquee for major events, a generous club slipway, and an 8 lane championship slipway for major events - see photo above.







We can mount multiple championship courses in the relatively sheltered waters between our clubhouse and the island of Great Cumbrae (photo above), also used for Regatta fleets, and in the more open waters to the north of Cumbrae.

There is a wide range of **accommodation** in the area - see our **regularly updated list** on the **events page** of our website, plus other sources such as <u>Airbnb</u>, booking.com etc.

Motor caravans and caravans can also be pitched in the marina boatyard - see <a href="here">here</a>.

## Getting to Largs:

- **road** we are about 40 minutes west of Glasgow Airport on the M8, via the A737, and A760. Post code KA30 8EZ for satnav
- train via Glasgow. (Trains <u>to</u> Glasgow from Largs approx every hour, at 7 minutes to the hour, ~50 minute journey. Limited parking in Largs, but parking available at Fairlie, West Kilbride etc. More frequent trains from Kilwinning every quarter of an hour, but parking not that easy. More info on Scotrail website)
- air via Glasgow International, GLA many airlines, or Glasgow Prestwick, PIK

# Largs - marina and town:

- marina large chandlers, small shop, sailmaker, restaurants, other marine services. See map p.5
- walk into town (25 mins) along seafront promenade, past the Pencil monument, which commemorates Battle of Largs, between the Scots and the Vikings in 1263





South promenade - skatepark, kiddies playpark, putting green



North promenade - pier, RNLI lifeboat station, putting green, model boating pond

- good variety of shops in Largs Morrison's supermarket, Tesco Express, small Co-op, plus specialist fish shop, butchers and bakers (Aitken Street). Also craft and gift shops, banks, cash machines, post office (Gallowgate Square) etc
- numerous restaurants, pubs and cafes, including the world famous <u>Nardini's</u> art deco café - try the ice creams, including knickerbocker glories!





- <u>Vikingar Viking Experience</u> 500 years of the Vikings in Scotland, **fitness** centre and indoor swimming pool
- Inverclyde Sports Centre tennis, gym, golf driving range etc see here
- Largs museum, Main Street
- trains to Glasgow above
- ferry to Cumbrae below
- trips on the iconic
   <u>Waverley</u> the last sea
   going paddle steamer in
   the world, built 1946



#### Walks:

- fantastic <u>viewpoint</u> on Haylie Brae, 500' above Largs. Walk up from Douglas
  Park, or use car park just off the A760, near the Haylie Fishery. Walk north over
  stile to "indicator" viewpoint over Largs town
- **Kelburn Castle** grounds 1/2 mile south of marina. More here
- around Cumbrae (about 10 miles round)
   or cycle take bikes, or hire in Millport
- many other walks e.g. <u>Ayrshire Coastal path</u> and others on Walkhighlands <u>website</u>. Look at <u>'Glasgow, Ayrshire</u>), plus <u>'Bute'</u> and <u>'Isle of Arran'</u> walks. All are well described for length, terrain, and ability. Note ability to download GPS data and print maps e.g. for Cumbrae inner walk (right)



## Ferries (see Calmac website) and the islands:

- Cumbrae (the island opposite Largs cycle around, walks etc) from Largs pier, every 1/4 hour (note north and south of the ferry terminal on the Cumbrae side are good vantage points to watch the racing). Take bus or walk to Millport. Visit Garrison House museum, café, model railway, and the aquarium at the Field Studies Centre. Also the small Cathedral of the Isles
- Rothesay / Bute holiday town, ferry from Wemyss
  Bay, 15-20 minutes north of Largs. Car park beyond
  Pearson's Garage.
  Rothesay Castle, and the astonishing Mount Stuart
  House stately home and gardens photo right. Bus from Rothesay pier



- Arran scenery, walking, <u>Brodick Castle</u>, gardens and country park (National Trust for Scotland), Holy Isle sanctuary. Ferry from Ardrossan- really a full day out. Ferry <u>booking</u> recommended, if peak season
- Dunoon car and foot passengers on <u>Western Ferries</u>, from McInroy's Point, near Gourock, to Hunter's Quay, Holy Loch. Frequent service - just turn up. Foot passengers (only) from Gourock Pier to Dunoon Pier

#### Car tours:

- north, up coast road follow signs to Gourock - promenade views, heated sea water swimming pool, fantastic panorama from <u>Lyle Hill</u> (right), above Gourock. 2-3 hours
- east, up "Haylie Brae" (A760, signposted Kilbirnie) - viewpoint over race areas. Car park near Haylie Fishery. 10 minutes to go up there
- "Hopscotch" ferry trip two Calmac ferries, Wemyss Bay Rothesay (Bute), then Rhubodach Colintraive, then either:
  - (a) take Western Ferry from Hunter's Quay to Gourock, or for a longer trip, or (b) drive around Loch Long, down Loch Lomond, then Erskine Bridge back to Largs. Note this longer route would take most of the day

# Other history, cultural, gardens, country parks:

- Kelburn Castle, between Largs and Fairlie.
   Amazing wall painting (photo right)! More here
- Dumfries House Prince Charles's place an hour south, near Cumnock. Chippendale furniture (10% of total made!), walled garden. More <a href="here">here</a>
- Culzean Castle south of Ayr (National Trust for Scotland). More <u>here</u>

## Glasgow:

Glasgow was known as the "second city of the Empire", and its wealth from shipbuilding, heavy industry, tobacco, cotton (and slavery) allowed many fine buildings to be built. The 'glasgowguide' website and Glasgow Museums website give lots of info on the places below, and many others in and around the city

- Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery photo right. Everything from a Spitfire to a stuffed haggis to Salvador Dali paintings, frequent lunchtime organ recitals)
- Transport Museum and Glenlee Tall
   Ship
- Glasgow Science Centre (oriented to younger folks)



- <u>Charles Rennie Mackintosh Museum</u> is part of the <u>Hunterian Museum</u> at the University of Glasgow
- Glasgow open top bus tour excellent
- Glasgow City Chambers guided tours (free) 10:30 and 2:30 fantastic interior, used in many film sets
- Burrell Collection Pollock Park amazing collection of artefacts more here

#### Other attractions:

- Irvine Scottish National Maritime Museum excellent for all ages
- Hunterston Nuclear Power Station visitor centre

## General activities:

- **swimming** indoor pools at Largs, Stevenston, Irvine, and Glengarnock see <a href="here">here</a>. Heated outdoor seawater pool in Gourock
- tennis Inverclyde Sports Centre, Largs. West Kilbride has courts for hire
- Kelburn Country Centre mountain biking, horse riding, walks. More <u>here</u>
- cycling take ferry to Cumbrae. Hire bikes in Millport if necessary. About 10 miles round. Good café at Fintry Bay, on far side
- golf there are two courses in Largs, the parkland <u>Largs Golf Club</u>, near the marina, and <u>Routenburn Golf Club</u>, along the hillsides to the north side of the town great views! There are many others up and down the coast, including the famous Open Championship courses at Troon and Turnberry
- bowling (10 pin) Saltcoats, near harbour. See here
- **bowling** (on grass, flat green) three places in Largs, also Fairlie

Again, welcome to Largs, and Largs Sailing Club. We hope you enjoy your visit!

Photo credits - Marc Turner, <u>PFM Pictures</u>, Google Maps, and relevant websites

# LARGS SAILING CLUB & YACHT HAVEN SITE

