

BISHOP'S HOUSE



Booking information pack

Isle of Iona PA76 6SJ

[t] 01681 700 111

[e] iona@island-retreats.org

[w] www.island-retreats.org

Bishop's House

BOOKING INFORMATION PACK

Many thanks for your interest in booking with Bishop's House Iona. This pack contains information about the house and chapel, which we hope will be helpful.

Bishop's House was founded in 1894 by Alexander-Chinnery Haldane, then Bishop of Argyll and the Isles. His vision for the house was that it be a place of prayer, study and Eucharist on Iona. This is still the charter of the house today. To this end the house incorporates at its heart St Columba's chapel, where the Eucharist is celebrated daily.

Bishop's House is a perfect location for group and individual retreats on Iona, we are located in the village and near to the Abbey, a haven of peace away from the tourist throng. Set in our own grounds, the House overlooks the sound of Iona.

Bishop's House is capable of housing up to twenty three guests in eight twin and seven single rooms. All rooms have wash basins and tea-tray facilities. The house has a lounge and library, which can be used for retreat addresses or meeting spaces, as well as the chapel.

We hope to see you soon at Bishop's House. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

*Bishop's House Iona is managed by Island Retreats Limited
Diocese of Argyll & the Isles, Scottish Episcopal Church
Charity No.: SC 023281*

ACCESSIBILITY

For guests comfort, and to ease any mobility issues that may exist, we have disabled access showers in both wings of the house, and a stair lift in the North Wing. We also have a mobility scooter and two-seater golf buggy and we are happy to offer the use of these to any guests that would benefit from their use.

MEALS

Bishop's House has a fine tradition of good wholesome home cooking. If you have specific dietary needs and food allergies, please alert us as soon as possible. While we try to cater for individual dietary requirements we do not have the facilities to meet the needs of those with particular or medically supervised diets. In such circumstances you may wish to bring your own substitutes.

Packed lunches can also be provided on request.

Breakfast:	Mon – Sat	8.45am
	Sunday	9.00am
Lunch:		1.00pm
Dinner:		7.00pm

USEFUL ITEMS

It is helpful on Iona to bring waterproofs and a torch – many people find a head torch particularly useful as it leaves their hands free (and can also be used in your bedroom if you don't want to disturb a sleeping roommate). If you are planning on exploring the island at all, a sturdy pair of walking boots with good ankle support is also highly recommended.

THE CHAPEL

There are daily services in St Columba's chapel which is at the heart of Bishop's House. All services are open to the public as well as to guests staying with us. You are welcome to use the chapel or the prayer gallery at any time for private prayer. All are welcome at Bishop's House, regardless of their beliefs.

ST COLUMBA'S SERVICE TIMES

Monday	Eucharist	8.00am	Compline	8:15pm
Tuesday	Eucharist	8.00am	Compline	8:15pm
Wednesday	Eucharist	5.00 pm	Compline	8:15pm
Thursday	Eucharist	8.00am	Compline	8:15pm
Friday	Eucharist	8.00am	Compline	8:15pm
Saturday	Eucharist	8.00am	Compline	8:15pm
Sunday	Eucharist	8.00am	Evensong	8:15pm

SUNDAY SERVICES

A number of Sunday services are held on the island, all are open to the public. There can be variations in time or location depending on availability of clergy.

Episcopalian Eucharist	8.00am	Bishop's House
Roman Catholic Mass	9.30am	Michael Chapel
Iona Community Communion	10.30am	Iona Abbey
Church of Scotland Sunday Service	12.00pm	Iona Parish Church
Evensong	8:15pm	Bishop's House
Quiet Service	9.00pm	Iona Abbey

GUEST FACILITIES

As well as the Chapel, our guests have access to our library with open coal fire and the guest lounge. The lounge has a small kitchenette for preparing teas and coffees, a television with DVD's, board games and a limited amount of craft supplies. A digital projector and screen are also available if needed.

GETTING TO IONA

Iona is a small island close to the far south west of the island of Mull, accessible by ferry and coach from Oban, which is the recommended port of departure for all travellers.

BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO OBAN

Trains run regularly from Glasgow's Queen Street station, see the ScotRail website for timetables and prices. Oban can also be reached by coach, departing from Glasgow's Buchanan Street bus station, see the CityLink website for timetables and prices.

BY CAR TO OBAN

Oban is two hours drive from Glasgow, or three hours from Edinburgh (via Stirling). Drivers may find a route planner helpful.

FROM OBAN

Ferries run regularly from Oban to Craignure on the isle of Mull, see the Caledonian–MacBrayne website for timetables and prices. The Ferry Terminal is a two minute walk from both coach and train stations. Car drivers who are bringing their car to Mull are recommended to book in advance.

AT CRAIGNURE

Coaches run regularly from the Ferry Terminal at Craignure to Fionnphort, the village from which you catch the ferry to Iona. See the West Coast Motors website for timetable and prices. Car drivers follow the signs for Fionnphort. Travel time is about one hour.

AT FIONNPHORT

Visitors are not permitted to bring their vehicles onto Iona, but a free long stay carpark is provided in Fionnphort. If you are mobility impaired and have a blue badge you can get a permit to bring your car onto the island, please contact Bishop's House for advice.

UPON IONA

Bishop's House is the last building on the village street. Coming off the ferry head up the hill, take the first right turn, go past the post office, and keep going until you reach Bishop's House.

PILGRIMAGE

Iona is known as a place of pilgrimage, and there are many opportunities to participate in this aspect of the island. If you are coming to Iona on pilgrimage, you may want to consider visiting The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in Oban on your way to or from Iona. There are also numerous opportunities to take a led pilgrimage around the island during your stay. The Iona Community offers a pilgrimage for their guests on Tuesdays that is often open to the public as well. There are, additionally, a few island residents who offer customized pilgrimages or led walks around the island.

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

St John's Cathedral, Oban, is the Mother Church of the historic Diocese of Argyll and The Isles, within the Scottish Episcopal Church. Although only partly built, the Cathedral has a dignity and a presence that is quite remarkable. The combination of Gothic masonry and twentieth century riveting produces an interior of genuine contemporary spirituality.

If you are passing through Oban on pilgrimage and would like to hold a service in the Cathedral, please contact the Provost, who will be happy to welcome you.

Provost: The Very Reverend Nicki McNelly

Email: provostoban@argyll.anglican.org

Telephone: 01631 562323

Website: www.st-johns-cathedral-oban.org.uk

PERSONALIZED PILGRIMAGES

Jana McLellan and Joyce Watson are currently available to lead pilgrimages or led walks customized to suit your groups time, interests, and desired activity levels. They are all experienced pilgrimage and prayer leaders with a wealth of knowledge about the island.

Jana McLellan: janamclellan@btinternet.com Joyce Watson: joyce@iona76.plus.com

IONA COMMUNITY PILGRIMAGE

Due to the Abbey and Macleod centers being closed for refurbishment. The usual Tuesday pilgrimages off road and on road are not taking place through 2018.