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## Wildlife Watching Trips: Info Sheet

Arran is a haven for wildlife and a great place for the wildlife enthusiast. Iconic Scottish species such as red squirrels, otters, common seals, red deer and golden eagles thrive here. It is also a refuge for less well known threatened species such as hen harriers and red throated divers. When watching wildlife there is always an element of "being in the right place at the right time", but on Arran you are never far from something spectacular and often it is simply a case of knowing where to look. What began as a hobby for me has grown in to a passion as well as a career- it is hard not to get enthusiastic about the wildlife of Arran. I offer full and half day walks and guided excursions designed to introduce you and your group to the nature and wild places on the island.

### Essential information:

We will visit locations where short and sometimes longer walks will take us to excellent locations for viewing wildlife. The walks are not strenuous, but footpaths can be muddy or rough. Locations vary depending on the prevailing weather and tide conditions, and based on the latest information about wildlife activity. It is not unusual for me to discuss options and wildlife watching aspirations with you before hand and tailor the day to suit your requirements.

### Full Day Wildlife Watching

Full day private guiding packages are put together with the individual in mind. You can enjoy the island at your own pace and style. Walking is a great way to get to know a landscape and as well as wildlife there is an immense amount of history to be discovered. Alternatively, we can visit some of the island's best locations for viewing wildlife on an Island Hotspot Safari.



**Cock of Arran Coastal Walk:** This is one of my most popular day walks with a fantastic balance of landscape, history, and wildlife. Discover the ancient past and geology of Arran, fossilised footprints and abandoned villages. Wildlife highlights often include golden eagles, red deer, sea birds, otters and basking sharks. **£40 pp per day (minimum £80 or 2 people).**



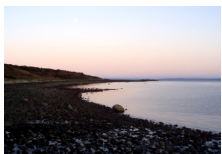
**Island Hotspot Safari:** Join me for a fantastic day exploring the Isle of Arran and I will take you to my favorite wildlife watching locations. Highlights could include watching coastal otters, golden eagles in the North of the island, a visit to the No Take Zone in Lamlash Bay, or avian predators on Machrie Moor. For groups of up to 4 free transport is available in my vehicle. **£45 pp per day (minimum £90 or 2 people)**

### Half Day Wildlife Watching

Wildlife on Arran is uniquely accessible and it is amazing what you can cram in to a few hours. For a taste of what makes the island so special for wildlife, join me for a half day. Again, there are many options, so please [contact me](#) for information about what is exciting or special at the time of your visit. However here are some excellent choices to start with:



**Magical Machrie Moor:** Be transported back to the Bronze Age and discover the ancient megalithic landscape of Machrie Moor. The moor is also a rich habitat for wildlife and a great place to watch raptors. Its a good place to see hen harriers and short eared owls, kestrel and buzzard as well as moorland birds such as curlew and skylark. **£25 pp for a half day (minimum £50 or 2 people)**



**Otter Discovery Trail:** Join me and visit some of the best locations around the island to view otters. Whilst sightings are never guaranteed, we will also be looking for otter signs such as tracks and spraint it is a great opportunity hone your skills and find out how to spot them. **£25 pp for a half day (minimum £50 or 2 people. Also available as a scheduled public trip for £20 pp.**

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### **What is provided:**

Transport in my vehicle is available for groups of up to four people between locations and enables the opportunity to view wildlife on route. Some binoculars are available to borrow if you don't have your own pair.

### **What to bring:**

Walking footwear with a good grip.  
Warm clothing layers  
Waterproof jacket (and trousers if weather is poor)  
Snack and a drink  
Warm hat and gloves  
Personal medication and sunscreen



### **Extras:**

I can provide a delicious packed lunch made with local produce and minibus transport for larger groups at cost. Please let me know if you require these services when you book. Its also great if you let me know if anyone is marking a special occasion on the trip- its always fun to help people celebrate!

**How to Book:** If you would like to book me for a day or half day private guiding please contact me either via telephone or email. My full contact details are at the top of this page. We can have a chat about what you would like to do and I am very happy to suggest ideas and options. You will be asked to complete a booking form and pay a 40% deposit in advance to secure the booking. Payment can be made by cheque, cash or paypal. Please make sure you read the full Terms and Conditions before you book.

(Terms and conditions available online at: [http://arranwildwalks.co.uk/doc/terms\\_and\\_conditions2011.pdf](http://arranwildwalks.co.uk/doc/terms_and_conditions2011.pdf)).

### **Responsible Wildlife Watching:**

As a member of Wild Scotland I am committed to delivering a first class wildlife watching experience in a sustainable and responsible way. This includes sharing best practice about watching wildlife, and setting the highest standards on all wildlife and walking excursions. Please visit my website for full details of my environmental policy: [http://www.arranwildwalks.co.uk/environment\\_6.html](http://www.arranwildwalks.co.uk/environment_6.html)