

# The Colonsay Times



## Summer 2026

Your seasonal guide to eating, shopping and exploring, with opening times

### EAT & DRINK

#### The Colonsay Hotel

Local seafood, meat, gin & whisky in relaxed bar & restaurant with open fires, bare floorboards & comfy sofas. Dogs welcome in bar. Breakfast: 7.30–10am, Lunch: 12–2pm, Dinner: 5–8.30pm, Bar: Noon–around 11pm. Booking advised.

 [bespokehotels.com/colonsayhotel](https://bespokehotels.com/colonsayhotel)  
 [info@hebrideanhotels-colonsay.co.uk](mailto:info@hebrideanhotels-colonsay.co.uk)





#### Café at Colonsay House

At the entrance to Colonsay House Gardens. Serving delicious lunches & afternoon teas. Everything freshly made & with home-grown produce where possible. Tue & Thu 12–5pm.



#### Isle of Colonsay Oysters

Grown in the clear waters surrounding Colonsay, Isle of Colonsay Oysters are one of the island's most distinctive local foods – perfect for anyone wanting to taste Colonsay at its wildest.

 [colonsayoysters.com](https://colonsayoysters.com)  
 07354 680 238 or 01951 200 365

#### The Colonsay Smokery



We're always busy making hand-crafted traditional hot & cold smoked salmon & delicious cured gravadlax for visitors & mail-order customers. You'll find us behind the hotel at Scalasaig Steading. Wed 12.30–2.30pm, Thu–Sat 10.30am–12.30pm.

 [colonsaysmokery.com](https://colonsaysmokery.com)  
 07493 939 876




#### The Pantry

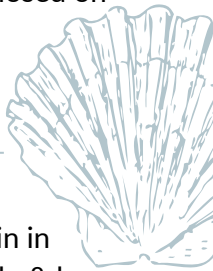
Multi award-winning, fully licensed restaurant & bar serving local seafood, breakfasts, lunches & suppers, homemade cakes, freshly ground coffee & bread baked to order. Booking essential for evening meals. Island's only stockist of Colonsay Honey. Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat: 10am–10pm, Tue: 9am–3pm; Closed on Thu & Sun. Seafood nights Wed & Sat.

 [mail@thecolonsaypantry.co.uk](mailto:mail@thecolonsaypantry.co.uk)  
 01951 200325

#### Colonsay Distillery & Shop



Home of multi award-winning Colonsay Gin in Upper Kilchattan, where visitors can sample & buy the range. Shop visits & distillery tours available on request. Mon–Sat: 1.30–5pm.

 [colonsaygin.com](https://colonsaygin.com)  
 [info@theislandshop.co.uk](mailto:info@theislandshop.co.uk)  
 07717 797 998



#### Wild Island Distillery

Next to the bookshop at Scalasaig, the Distillery offers three different gins & three different whiskies. Open 10.30am–12.30pm Mon–Sat.

 [wildislandgin.com](https://wildislandgin.com)  
 [info@wildislandgin.com](mailto:info@wildislandgin.com)




**ESSENTIAL INFO:** **Medical:** Doctor 24/7 on 01951 200 328, or 999 in an emergency | **Service Point:** Sells coal, anthracite & gas; next to Village Hall, Mon–Fri 9.30am–12.30pm, 01951 200 263 | **Post Office:** Scalasaig, Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat 9am–12.30pm | **Church:** Sun 10.30am, Zoom link available: call 07808 586 370 | **WiFi:** Service Point, Pier & Pantry | **Tourist Info:** Old Waiting Room Gallery | **Community Garden:** Beside Village Hall | **Public Phone:** Opposite pier | **Toilets:** At pier | **Drivers:** Please drive slowly. No off-roading. No vehicle access to Balnahard, Balerominmhor, over golf course, past airport, or to cottages unless you are a guest there. A vehicle driving with hazard lights on may be a volunteer Emergency Responder on a call-out. Please let them pass when safe.



## THINGS TO DO

### Colonsay House Gardens

Famous for rare rhododendrons, sub-tropical planting & trees from around the world, with private rose, lighthouse & kitchen gardens open Tue & Thu, 12–5pm. Woodland gardens open daily, free of charge.

 [colonsayholidays.co.uk/the-island/gardens-cafe/565](https://colonsayholidays.co.uk/the-island/gardens-cafe/565)





### Walk to Oransay

Walk to Oransay at low tide to visit the 14th-century priory, Celtic cross & carved tombstones. Check tide times at Post Office & Hotel; allow 3–4 hours. An RSPB reserve & farm, so dogs on leads please.

### Wee Croft Guided Walks

Visit one of the community-owned crofts & set out from the back gate, or venture further afield. Bird cliff vantage points, dramatic coastlines & sites of archaeological interest. Call Lizzie to arrange a time!

 [theweecroftcolonsay.co.uk](https://theweecroftcolonsay.co.uk)  
 07712 132 529



### Heritage Centre

Next to the school in the former Baptist Church, the Colonsay & Oransay Heritage Centre welcomes visitors to view exhibitions & artefacts of local interest. Usually open; donations welcome.



### Bike & Paddleboard Hire

Men's, ladies' & children's bikes available to hire, along with paddleboards & wetsuits. Children's bike seats & tag-alongs not available, but please feel free to attach your own. See website to book.

 [colonsaybikesandboards.co.uk](https://colonsaybikesandboards.co.uk)

### Sauna & Sea



New for 2026, Colonsay's first sauna overlooks Kiloran Bay, offering traditional Finnish sauna sessions after a sea dip or bracing walk. Communal sessions & private hire available. Contact Lars to book.

 [colonsaysaunaandsea.co.uk](https://colonsaysaunaandsea.co.uk)  
 07354 680 238




### Golf

Eighteen-hole links course at beautiful Machrins. Green fees £15 per day for over-12s, payable by QR code at the first tee or at the link below. Annual membership £80. Visitors welcome at competitions. Call the Secretary for more details.

 [colonsayholidays.co.uk/the-island/things-to-do](https://colonsayholidays.co.uk/the-island/things-to-do)  
 07792 820 807

### Trout Fishing

Native brown trout fishing by permit, 17 Mar–6 Oct, using fly fishing methods only. Two fish over 8 inches may be kept per day; all others returned. Permits £30 weekly or £60 season, via QR code at Estate Office or link below.

 [colonsayholidays.co.uk/the-island/things-to-do](https://colonsayholidays.co.uk/the-island/things-to-do)

### Cèilidh & Bar



Every Sunday from 7.30pm at the Village Hall, with dancing, live music, kids' games & fundraising for local causes. Adults £10; children (5+) £5; under 5s free. Entry includes snacks; cash & card accepted.

 @colonsaysundaysessions

## SHOPS & MAKERS

### The Colonsay Bookshop

Next to the Scalasaig Distillery, this small independent bookshop specialises in local & Scottish publications, holiday reading & children's books with a Highland flavour. Mon–Sat 10.30am–12.30pm, or by appointment.

 [mcbyrne1@gmail.com](mailto:mcbyrne1@gmail.com)  
 07789 866340  
07831 474447



### The Island Shop, Scalasaig

Groceries, fresh fruit & vegetables, local beef, ready meals, artisan pies, island ales & Argyll spirits. Visitors can order online in advance for delivery to their holiday cottage. Mon–Fri 9am–5.30pm; Sat 9am–3pm.

 [info@theislandshop.co.uk](mailto:info@theislandshop.co.uk)  
 [theislandshop.co.uk](https://theislandshop.co.uk)  
 07717 797 998

### Old Waiting Room Gallery

Opposite the pier, selling art, ceramics, jewellery & homewares from Colonsay & Scottish artists. Mon & Fri 10.30am–2pm & 5.30–7pm; Tue 10am–2pm; Wed & Sat 10.30am–2pm & 6–7pm; Sun 5–7pm; Closed on Thu.

 [theoldwaitingroomgallery.com](https://theoldwaitingroomgallery.com)

