

Rubha nan Gall Lighthouse Keeper's Cottage

The following information should help you to plan and enjoy your time at Rubha nan Gall and includes some additional information due to the challenges of coronavirus. Our priority is to ensure the cottage is prepared in accordance with Scottish Government guidelines prior to your arrival, to minimise risk to guests, our community and ourselves.

We have completed a Covid-19 Risk Assessment and review this regularly. ASSC cleaning protocols are followed to deep clean and sanitise the cottage, but this increased workload means we ask for your help;

Arrival and departures times	Arrival is an hour later, after 5pm, departure is an hour earlier at 9am
Pillows	We provide one pillow per person (please bring your own if you need a second)
Books	Books & games remain, but please wash your hands before and after touching them
Rubbish & recycling	Please remove all rubbish & recycling and take to Tobermory for disposal
Laundry	Please strip beds and place bedding & towels in separate blue laundry bags
Washing machine	Due to rotation & storage of bedding, please only use the washroom from Tue-Thu
Face coverings	Face coverings MUST be worn on public transport and in shops
Cleaning	We sanitise the cottage as per the cleaning check list using a steam cleaner and products that conform to EN 14476. Soft furnishings are sanitised and pillows and mattress protectors are removed and changed each week. If you wish to use any cleaning products, please ask first - the septic tank can not tolerate strong chemicals or any wipes (even 'flushable or biodegradable ones)

Symptoms of Covid-19

If a guest develops symptoms of Covid-19 while here, please dial 111 for advice. If they have acute breathing difficulties, dial 999. Current legislation is that they must travel home immediately. However, at the moment CalMac will not carry passengers with Covid-19. We hope this will soon change, but if not, this could mean you have to stay on in the cottage. If this is the case, we will have to charge for the additional time in the cottage, at the full weekly price and also 72 hours after your departure. If you have developed symptoms during your stay at the property, you must declare it as soon as possible to us in order we can take the steps required to protect others and ourselves.

Notice and Disclaimer

Please note that whilst we have implemented various preventative measures aimed to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19 among guests, we cannot guarantee or warrant against the risk of infection. None of the information provided herein is intended as medical advice. This notice and disclaimer are intended as a warning to our guests of the risk of contracting COVID-19, a disclaimer of our liability, and an explanation of some of the things we're doing to mitigate the risk of the spread of COVID-19, as well as some of the things we believe our guests can do to help.

If you have any queries please get in touch by email. Despite the circumstances, we will be wishing you a very warm welcome to Rubha nan Gall and looking forward to sharing our wonderful island with you!

Getting Here

Driving from Glasgow to Oban takes around 2.5 - 3 hours but can take longer with traffic, so allow plenty of time. Alternatively, there are [train](#) and [bus](#) services from Glasgow to the centre of Oban and from there it is a short walk to the CalMac Ferry Terminal.

Ferries to Mull

The main ferry route to Mull is the Oban–Craignure service operated by [Caledonian MacBrayne](#), from there it is a 40 minute drive to Tobermory. Alternatively there are turn-up-and-go services from Lochaline–Fishnish and Kilchoan–Tobermory. CalMac require vehicles to arrive at the port 30 minutes before departure, foot passengers 10 minutes before departure.

Travel to Tobermory

From the ferry terminals at Craignure and Fishnish, turn right on the main road and drive for 20 miles to Tobermory. Much of the route is along a single-track road, so please use passing places to allow oncoming vehicles to pass and cars behind to overtake. More information on driving on single-track roads can be found [here](#). When you get to Tobermory, take the second exit from the roundabout and follow the road down the hill. Parking is free, both in Ledaig Car Park on your right at the bottom of the hill, and on the main street.

A regular bus service runs from both ferry terminals to Tobermory. See [West Coast Motors](#) for timetable information. Please check before travelling as not all ferries are met by buses. West Coast Motors also provide buses to other locations on Mull, details can be found on their website.

Walking to Rubha nan Gall Lighthouse Keeper's Cottage

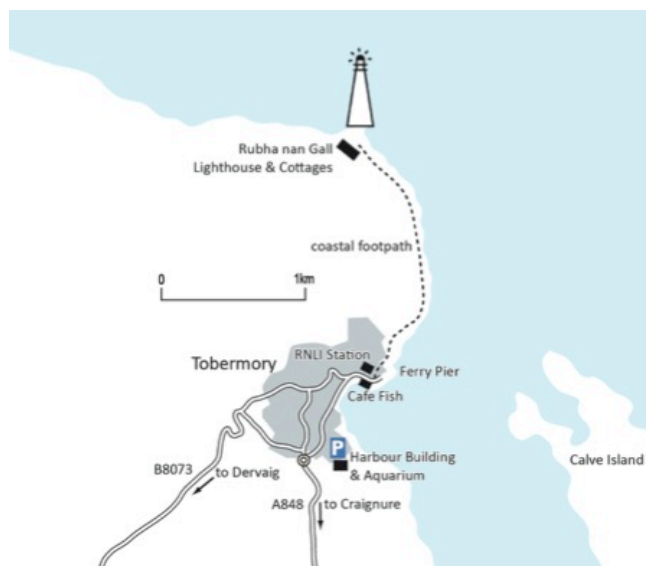
Rubha nan Gall Lighthouse and the Keeper's Cottage are only accessible on foot, along a 2km coastal path, or by boat; there is NO road access.

The footpath starts just beyond the RNLI lifeboat station at the far end of the Main Street after all the shops and restaurants. Follow the coastal footpath, keeping the sea on your right, for 2km (about 25 mins) and you'll find the lighthouse and the cottages. Originally the main access route to the lighthouse for keepers and their families, the iconic footpath is popular with both locals and visitors and can be walked as either a return route or a 4km circuit returning via Tobermory Golf Course (the golf course route is steep in places).

The entire path has recently been upgraded, however it can be slightly muddy and is narrow in places, with steep drops, so care and walking boots are strongly advised. If you'll be out after dark, torches are essential for walking home.

Luggage

Due to the remote location, it is best to bring a rucksack or easy-to-carry luggage.



Your Stay

Arrival & Departure

You are welcome to arrive after 5pm - please let us know your approximate arrival time so we can be here to welcome you. Please depart by 9am and leave some windows and the front door open to air the cottage before leaving.

Power

Rubha nan Gall is completely off-grid and the cottage is powered by a battery bank charged by solar panels and topped up by a generator when necessary. Please use energy thoughtfully and avoid using energy-hungry devices like hairdryers when possible. When the batteries are low, power may be briefly interrupted while the generator starts. If this happens late at night, power to the cottage may be interrupted until 6am.

Smoking

The cottage is strictly NO SMOKING. If you would like to smoke outside, please dispose of your cigarette ends in the ashtray provided.

Septic tank

Waste goes to a septic tank in the garden and there is no way to get a de-sludging lorry to empty the tank, so it is vital that **nothing other than toilet roll is flushed** down the toilets (even "flushable" wipes).

Wi-Fi & Telephone

- The Wi-Fi is "Rubha nan Gall" and the password is "lighthouse"
- Please feel free to use the Wi-Fi but please avoid streaming movies etc. as it slows it down for others. We cannot be held responsible should the broadband signal become unavailable
- Mobile reception is generally quite good on the island but limited in the cottage unless you have Wi-Fi-calling. You can usually get an EE, O2 or Vodafone signal by leaving your phone high on the windowsill in the kitchen or lounge. Otherwise, the end of the causeway near the lighthouse is the best place to get a signal

What is provided

- Washing up liquid, brush, dishwasher tablets
- Tea towels
- Toilet roll
- Cleaning materials
- Selection of books, games, maps (please enjoy but don't forget to return them)
- Wi-Fi
- Bed linen & towels
- Biodegradable soap, shampoo, conditioner (Suma Clear & Simple)
- Tea, coffee, sugar, condiments, oil, etc.
- Television with FreeSat and DVD player

What you need to bring

- Beach towels
- Food supplies
- Torches
- Slippers or indoor shoes
- Walking boots
- Biodegradable toiletries are provided - you are welcome to bring your own providing they are natural and biodegradable

Bed Linen & Towels

Bed linen and towels are provided. Please bring your own swimming/beach towels. As the cottage is off-grid, I don't use an iron, so please enjoy the fresh, but wrinkly sheets!

[Outdoor Clothes and Footwear](#)

Please use the hooks in the porch for any outdoor clothing and leave outdoor shoes and boots there too.

[Heating, Hot Water & Gas](#)

- The heating and hot water are provided by a boiler that uses kerosene. This has to be brought by boat, so please use it sparingly and consider putting on a jumper or using an extra blanket to keep warm!
- The heating is on a timer set to come on early in the morning and again in the evening. The thermostat in the kitchen may be turned down to prevent it coming on during warm weather. If you need it on, turn the thermostat up
- The water you are drinking and washing in comes from an underground spring which fills a stone chamber built by the Stevensons. This is fed to the cottages via particle filters and a UV filter to ensure it is beautifully clear and pure (and is regularly tested by the Council). There should be plenty of hot water for showering and washing, but please use it sparingly
- The cooker uses propane gas. Should it run out, you will need to switch over to the spare cylinder in the right-hand end of the small shed in the front garden. Please use soapy water to check for leaks and let us know so we know to replace the cylinder (please ask if you need help)

[Wood Burning Stove & BBQ](#)

- The stove in the kitchen / dining room is for burning wood only and works best with a bed of ash under the fire. Use 4-5 pieces of kindling on top of 1 firelighter with some small logs on top. Slide the vents at the top AND bottom of the door to the + on the right, then once the fire is burning well, move them both across to –
- Please don't use the open fire in the lounge
- Please only use the BBQ provided and do not light campfires. BBQ coal can be purchased from the Coop

[Dishwasher & Washing Machine](#)

- The dishwasher uses quite a lot of energy, so please only run it when it is full, not more than once per day. Always use the "Quick 45" programme.
- The wash room at the back of the cottage is used to quarantine bedding following Covid-19 precautions. If you need to use the washing machine, please only use it Tue-Thu and wear a mask when in the wash room. Please only use the **20 min cycle**.

[Recycling and Rubbish](#)

All rubbish and recycling needs to be taken to Tobermory.

General waste - please use the public rubbish bin on the street by the post box in Tobermory

Recycling - 2 wheelie bins at the end of the path (glass in one, cans, plastic & paper in the other) Use triangle meter key to unlock

Compostable waste (no meat, fish or cooked food) can be put in the compost frame at the Tobermory end of the back garden (you can sometimes spot slow worms here – they're beautiful and harmless!).

[Your Safety](#)

- The cottage is fitted with smoke alarms and CO detectors. If the alarm sounds, please leave the building immediately. The fire panel is in the porch of the cottage next door and will indicate which alarm has been activated. The system can also be reset here
- There is a fire extinguisher and a fire blanket in the kitchen. There is also a water hose at the back of the cottage outside the washroom door
- There is a first aid kit in the kitchen - please replace anything you use
- If the power supply to the cottage fails, emergency lighting will come on in the hallway and porch. It usually only lasts a few minutes but please let me know if you have any problems
- The fuse box is located in the hallway, between the entrance and bedroom corridor. Should a fuse trip, it can be reset here

[Books & Guest Book](#)

A collection of books and maps are available (please enjoy them but don't forget to return them). These have not been sanitised, so please wash your hands before and after touching them.

[Children](#)

Rubha nan Gall is a wonderful place for children to play, explore and learn about their surroundings, however parents are responsible for supervision of children at all times. The coastal footpath from Tobermory has steep drops and the sea is only a few metres away from the garden gate, so we ask guests to be cautious and to avoid taking unnecessary risks.

[Wildlife](#)

Keep an eye out for birds, seals (common and grey), otters, harbour porpoises, and dolphins, all of which can be seen from the cottage. Red deer and mountain hares can sometimes be seen in the garden. Occasionally you might even be lucky enough to see a basking shark or a minke whale, although they are usually found a little further out to sea. There are ground-nesting birds here too – please try not to disturb them. Sorry, we don't accommodate dogs, no matter how well behaved.

[Departure](#)

Please depart by **9am** and leave some windows and the front door open to air the cottage before leaving.

[Cleaning](#)

Please leave the cottage as clean as you find it - cleaning materials are provided in the built-in cupboard in the kitchen and under the sink.

- Please strip the beds of sheets, duvet covers and pillow cases and place them in one of the blue laundry bags. Please put all towels in the other
- Empty and clean waste bins in kitchen and bathrooms and remove rubbish and recycling
- Please ensure all glasses, crockery & cutlery have been washed in the dishwasher and put away
- Clean kitchen work surfaces, tiles, cooker hob, oven & microwave
- Clean bathroom sinks, shower and toilets
- Empty and clean fridge and freezer
- Clean out barbecue if you have used it

If you need anything or have any questions, please knock next door or call me on 01688 301177 or 07974 318 716

[Use of the Property](#)

The cottage shall be used as a holiday let only and the maximum occupancy of 6 people must not be exceeded. All guests are asked to act in a courteous and considerate manner in respect of their use of the cottage throughout their stay. We are entitled to insist that the hirer, or any member of the party leave the property without any refund if, in our reasonable opinion, the behaviour of the hirer and/or their party is unacceptable. **Candles are not permitted.**

[Damages, Access & Liability](#)

- Please notify us of any accidental damages or breakages so we are able to make repairs or replace items before our next guests arrive. We reserve the right to charge guests for extra cleaning should the cottage require it on departure.
- It may be necessary to gain entry to the cottage during your stay. We will always try to give notice before gaining access but we reserve the right to enter the cottage at any reasonable time without notice should the need arise.
- No responsibility is accepted by us for any accident, injury or mishap to persons while occupying the Property, or whilst engaged in any activity therefrom. We will not be held responsible for any temporary or unexpected condition of the Property or its services (water, electricity) as a result of extreme weather conditions or other factors out with our control.
- We cannot be held responsible for any lost or stolen property. Please leave valuables at home if you are concerned.