

The Ice House is a new addition to our four star VisitScotland accredited self-catering properties that can be booked in Castle Kennedy Gardens. Stay in one of our three charming cottages situated in the most glorious of surroundings – a truly tranquil haven.

NEW SELF CATERING ACCOMMODATION!



Join in our Ranger Activities building bird hides and discovering the many weird and wonderful creatures to be found in the Gardens, including our unique collection of HUGE newts living in and around the two acre Round Pond.

Enjoy learning about plant propagation and seed sowing with our Head Gardener, Clain Chieft John MacArthur of that ilk has been with us for 25 years so offers a wealth of experience and knowledge and fascinating insights in his 1 1/2 hour guided tours.

NEW GARDEN SESSIONS!



You can now book your tickets for entry to the gardens as well as any events or activities on our new website www.castlekenedygardens.com You can also find us on facebook and twitter so you can keep up to date with the latest news and upload your own images during your visit. We look forward to seeing you!

NEW WEBSITE!

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

2015 SPECIAL EVENTS CASTLE KENNEDY GARDENS

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Easter Egg Bonanza

Thursday 2nd April – Sunday 19th April

Dumfries & Galloway Wild Spring Festival

Saturday 4th April – Monday 4th May

OPEN DAY IN AID OF CHARITY

Scotland's Garden Scheme Open Day

Sunday 14th June

RANGER ACTIVITIES

Join our Ranger for exciting adventures throughout the Season, including pond dipping, bug hunting, bird box making, photo safaris and much more.

Please see our Events Guide for more details.

GUIDED GARDEN WALKS

Find out about the history and heritage of the Gardens and the unique plants and trees that grow here on our popular walks taken by our Head Gardener. NEW for this year are sessions on Plant Propagation and Seed Sowing.

Please see our Events Guide for more details.

OPEN AIR THEATRE

'The Sorcerer's Apprentice'
Wednesday 21st July at 5:00pm

'The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes'
Thursday 6th August at 7:00pm

LOCHINCH CASTLE

Charity Christmas Fair
Friday 6th & Saturday 7th November

For more information or to book our events please see our Events Guide available at the Gardens entrance

or visit our NEW website at

www.castlekenedygardens.com

The organisers reserve the right to change dates and events

HOW TO CONTACT US

www.castlekenedygardens.com

info@castlekenedygardens.com

01776 702 024 / 01581 400 225

Follow us on



The Earl and Countess of Stair

We hope you enjoy your time in the Gardens, whether you explore yourself or follow one of our five carefully designed walks of differing length. From snowdrops, spring bulbs, camellias and magnolias early in the year through to beautiful herbaceous borders later in summer, glorious autumn leaves at the close of the season and the enchanting woodland and loch side views, our unique landscape and setting means there is always something new to see and experience on your visit.

This is Scotland's Year of Food and Drink which we're celebrating with the introduction of a new menu in our charming Tea Room. Here you will find the perfect place to enjoy a light meal of sandwiches, soup, baked potatoes, hot drinks, delicious home-baking and a tasty children's menu. Access to the Tea Room only is available without paying admission to the Gardens, making it an ideal journey break or unique location for a business or social lunch.

These include Ranger Activities such as pond and loch dipping, creating bird hides and regular guided garden tours. We are pleased to announce our Open Air Theatre programme this year of 'The Sorcerer's Apprentice', an Illyria production and 'The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes' performed by Chapterhouse. Full details of all our activities and events are listed in our separate Events Guide available in the Gardens Shop or can be booked online at our new website www.castlekenedygardens.com



A HIDDEN SCOTTISH TREASURE

CASTLE KENNEDY GARDENS AT LOCHINCH



'The magnificent Castle Kennedy Gardens are among the most famous in Scotland boasting an impressive and colourful display of rhododendrons.'

— Visit Britain.

'One of Scotland's grandest designed landscapes started in the mid 18th Century and restored under the supervision of J.C. Loudon in the mid 19th Century. It is outstanding in every count and comprises a world famous plant collection, a scheduled ancient monument, several category A listed buildings and a Site of Scientific Interest'.

— Inventory of Gardens & Designed Landscapes, Historic Scotland.

Open Daily, 31st March - 31st October
10.00 am - 5.00 pm

Admission

Adults: £5.50, Concessions: £4.50, Children: £1.50

Disabled: Free, Friends of the Gardens: Free

Families: (2 adults and 2 children) £12.00

Special discounts available for Groups

HOW TO FIND US



Castle Kennedy Gardens is situated 4.5 miles east of Stranraer on the A75, Sat Nav location DG9 8SJ

www.castlekenedygardens.com

info@castlekenedygardens.com

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A HIDDEN SCOTTISH TREASURE



The stunning Avenues in the Gardens were originally planted with a single type of tree, many of which can still be seen today. These include the 150 year old Monkey Puzzle Avenue, the Thuja Avenue and the Dettlingen Avenue which is lined with evergreen oaks. The beautiful two acre Circular Pond filled with rare Victorian water lilies is also a highlight. This year we continue to enhance your visit to our Gardens with a wide range of events and activities for the whole family.

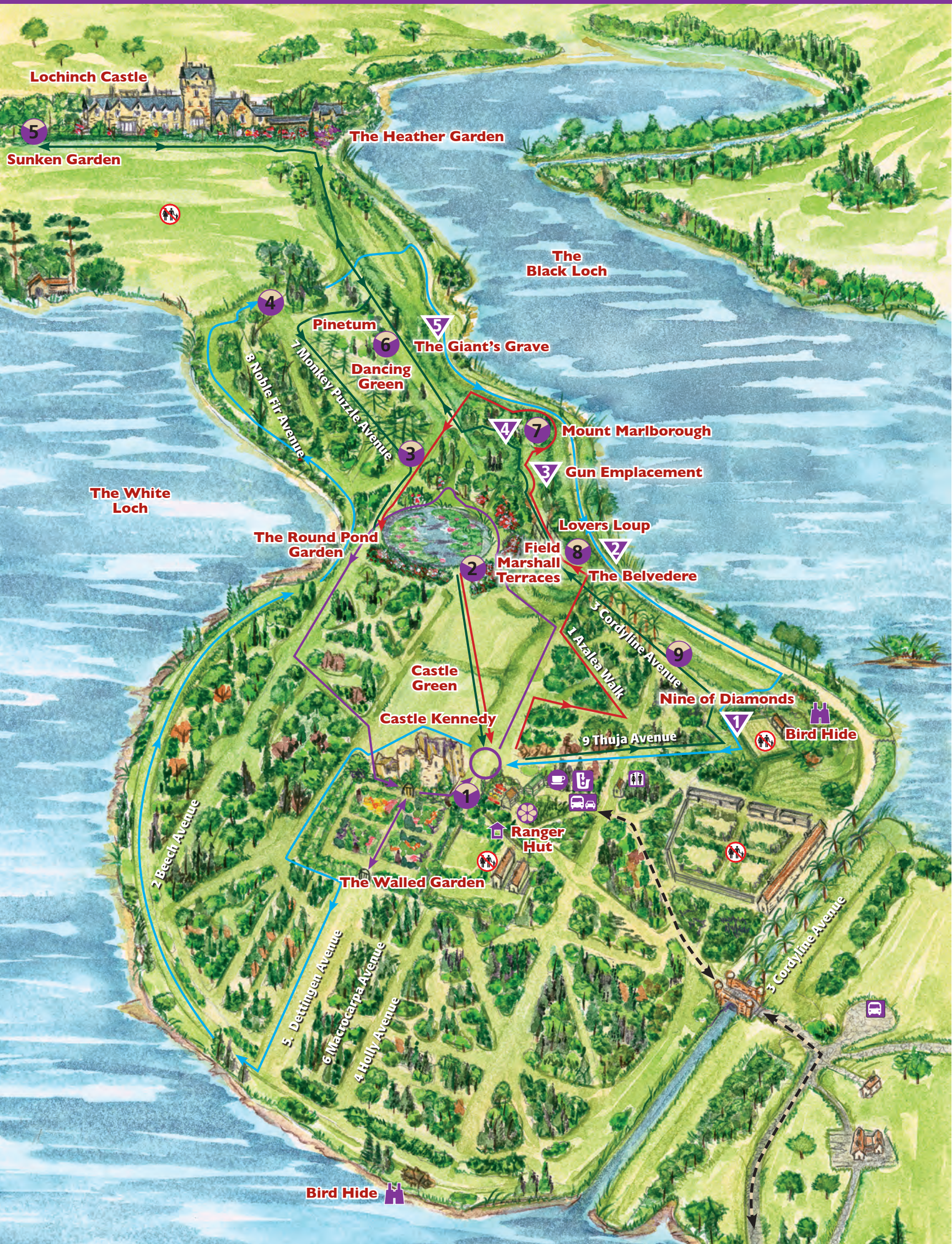
An elaborate series of terraces and land sculptures can be found throughout the Gardens forming stunning patterns of curves and banks. Despite their contemporary look and feel these were constructed in the 1730s using men with carts and horse drawn equipment to move and mould the landscape.

Castle Kennedy.

The Gardens were the inspiration of the 2nd Earl of Stair in the 1730s and are famous for colourful displays of rhododendrons, azaleas and embolothiums, many rare and exotic plants, 20 Champion Trees, a number of spectacular avenues and the romantic ruins of 16th Century

Welcome to Castle Kennedy Gardens, one of Scotland's finest gardens, set in 75 acres and offering something for everyone to enjoy. From stunning fauna to beautiful scenery, sculptured landforms, magnificent walks and popular bird hides, the Gardens are a hidden treasure in South West Scotland and a perfect haven for relaxing and exploring.





MAP KEY

Entrance/Exit Route

SUGGESTED GARDEN WALKS

- Purple: Short walk with easy access. 45 min
- Red: Recommended walk. 1 hour
- Blue: Country walk. 1 hour 30 min
- Green: Full Gardens tour. 2 hours 30 min

VIEWING POINTS

- Castle Kennedy
- The Round Pond Garden
- Monkey Puzzle Avenue
- Lochinch Castle
- The Sunken Garden (temporarily closed)
- The Giant's Grave
- Mount Marlborough
- Field Marshal Terraces
- The Black Loch

AVENUES & WALKS

- Azalea Walk
- Beech Avenue
- Cordyline Avenue,
- Holly Avenue
- Dettingen Avenue
- Macrocarpa Avenue
- Monkey Puzzle Avenue, planted in 1849
- Noble Fir Avenue, planted in 1851
- Thuja Avenue

SCULPTURED LANDFORMS

- Nine of Diamonds
- Belvedere
- Gun Emplacement
- Mount Marlborough
- Giant's Grave

Facilities: Starting Point Car and Bus Parking Gift Shop and Plant Sales No Access Tearoom Toilets Dog Litter Bin Ranger Hut Bird Hide

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR VISIT

WHAT'S ON

There is always something new to experience in the Gardens' unique landscapes and settings. Throughout the year there are a series of events to provide entertainment and interest for all the family. Highlights this year include an Easter Egg Trail for families and our regular Garden Ranger activities which include pond dipping, bird box building and bug and mini-beast adventures. Also available this season are our Open Air Theatre performances of 'The Sorcerer's Apprentice' and 'The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes'. Popular Garden Walks led by our Head Gardener offer first-hand experience and knowledge about the history and heritage of the Gardens as well as particular plants and trees highlighted on these tours. Next door at Lochinch Castle, there will be our much anticipated Charity Christmas Fair. For further details please see our separate Events Guide available at the entrance to the Gardens or visit our NEW website www.castlekennedygardens.com

ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNGER PEOPLE

The Gardens offer a number of activities for children, including quizzes and family trails. In addition there are baby changing facilities and high-chairs available at the Tea Room and a picnic area on the Castle Green. For details of children's events and activities such as pond dipping please see our separate Events Guide available at the entrance to the Gardens or visit www.castlekennedygardens.com

EATING AND DRINKING

This is Scotland's Year of Food and Drink so we are celebrating with the introduction of a new menu. Our charming Tea Room, situated in the Gardens overlooking the ruins of 16th Century Castle Kennedy, offers light snacks of sandwiches, paninis, soup, baked potatoes, hot drinks and delicious traditional home-baking. Access to the Tea Room only is available without paying admission to the Gardens, making it an ideal stop to break your journey or enjoy social or business lunches, morning or afternoon teas.

SHOPPING

The Gift Shop near the entrance to the Gardens sells original gifts, accessories, crafts, books and souvenirs, including a detailed souvenir guidebook and postcards of the Gardens, sourced locally where possible. Next to the Gift Shop is our Plant Centre with a wide selection of plants, including our famous rhododendrons, which we hope you will enjoy growing at home. Many of the plants on offer have been grown by us from seed, collected in the Gardens, and possibly from stock brought to this country over one hundred years ago.

GROUPS

We welcome all groups to the Gardens and provide individual attention prior to your visit to ensure a thoroughly enjoyable day. This can include free time to explore or guided walks from our Head Gardener tailored to your group's specific area of interest. We can offer set menus in the Tea Room to complement your visit. If you would like to find out more about bringing a group to the Gardens and the discounts available, please ring us on 01776 702024 or email us at info@castlekennedygardens.com

ACCESS

Castle Kennedy Gardens is for everyone so we strive to be accessible. There is a wheelchair friendly route limited only by the grassy banks, as well as a wheelchair available at the main entrance and reserved spaces in the car park.

CORPORATE EVENTS AND WEDDINGS

Castle Kennedy Gardens is an inspiring venue which can be hired for weddings, children's parties or corporate or charity events. Similar events may also be held at Lochinch Castle or its Victorian Carriage Houses. To discuss your interest, please ring us on 01776 702024 or email us at info@castlekennedygardens.com

JOIN US AS A FRIEND OR VOLUNTEER

You might value the Gardens for their tranquillity and wonderful walks. Maybe you or your children grew up in the area and visited frequently, or perhaps you attended some of our events in the past. Whatever your connections, we would like to invite you to join as a Friend. You will receive regular updates, invitations to events and free entry to the Gardens, as well as discounts in our Shop and Tea Room. Further information and application forms for both our Friends and Volunteer programmes are available at the main entrance and on our website.

