

## Our Week in Wigtown

August 2021



### Couthay Brae - Wigtown

The bright, airy and modern accommodation at Couthay Brae provides the ideal base from which to explore the delights of the Dumfries & Galloway region. The property is conveniently located in the heart of Wigtown with a selection of cafes on the doorstep and a variety of beautiful coastal walks around the nature reserve to be enjoyed at leisure.

As a family, we found the spacious bungalow well equipped with everything we needed to enjoy our holiday and super comfy beds. The kitchen had all new appliances and was very well stocked with crockery, glasses and cooking utensils. The two shower rooms and family bathroom along with the utility area was ideal for family living and provided areas to store and dry our beachwear and outdoor wear.

The wraparound garden was lovely with a great terrace offering stunning views to the sea and the perfect spot for a morning coffee and sundowner glass of something chilled. We also enjoyed a BBQ in the back garden.

The accommodation has been renovated to a very high standard and is certainly somewhere we would like to visit again in the future.

### The Gem & Rock Museum - Creetown

A great place to visit for all ages. Tickets (£5 each) should be purchased in advance for either a morning or afternoon slot.

Really amazing display of gems and rocks collected from around the World. Upon arrival there are a choice of free quiz fact sheets or treasure hunts to do as you go around with a lucky dip prize at the end. A great fluorescent cave, workshop and gift shop complete the visit.

<https://www.gemrock.net>

### Cream O Galloway – Castle Douglas

Working dairy farm with ice cream parlour offering a host of flavours of ice cream – either served in a cone, sundae or as a milkshake. There's the option for tours, nature walks and to make ice cream or cheese in one of the pre-booked workshops. We enjoyed a round of crazy golf which is a lot of fun for all ages!

<https://www.creamogalloway.co.uk/>

## **Galloway House Gardens - Garlieston**

<https://www.gallowayhousegardens.co.uk/>

A heritage Estate with landscaped mature and ornamental gardens open to explore with the sea beyond. Park here (a £3 charge) and walk through the gardens to the large sandy beach. Close to the village of Garlieston, the gardens cover around 50 acres of parkland, formal gardens and woodland and make a really nice circular walk.

## **Kirroughtree Visitors Centre – Galloway Forest Park**

<https://forestryandland.gov.scot/visit/forest-parks/galloway-forest-park/kirroughtree-visitor-centre>

Great spot for Mountain Biking and walks though the forest, a variety of trails of varying length and elevation/terrain for all abilities. Bikes can be hired and booked in advance for either a morning or afternoon slot. Large car park at the Visitor's Centre (£3 all day parking). Good play area with zip wire and a Visitor's Centre shop and café serving Lavazza coffee and snack, ice cream etc.

Opportunity to go back after dark and star spot.

## **Fish & Chip Van – Wigtown Square**

Tuesdays' from 6pm – Freshly cooked haddock & chips cooked to perfection while you wait and served with all the classic options – curry sauce, mushy peas etc.

## **Crafty Distillery – Newton Stewart**

A modern distillery with panoramic views. You can pre-book a full tasting tour for £21, or just a tour for children and drivers for £10.50.

The gift shop is worth a visit for award-winning spirits (gin, vodka, whisky) and artisan foodie produce and unusual mixers such as pineapple and almond tonic.

<https://craftydistillery.com/>

## **Mossyard Beach, Castle Douglas**

Mossyard is a small, sandy beach, next to the Mossyard Holiday Park. There is a car park in a field that is about a two-minute walk from the beach. This is a safe spot for paddleboarding around the bay and also great for rock pooling and shell collecting.