

“Don’t forget to bring your binoculars as you will have a chance to see seals, otters, porpoise, and a wide variety of sea birds.”

Millport is situated on the magical island of Cumbrae, just off the western shore of mainland Scotland. It looks out over the Firth of Clyde and other Clyde Sea islands, including the stunning Isle of Arran.

Despite being on an island, there are excellent ferry, road, rail, and air connections. It is remarkably accessible, at just 1.5 hours from Glasgow. Millport offers the perfect break away from the city yet has access to a whole range of services and amenities.

Millport Field Centre itself has great eco credentials with a biomass boiler, a green roof and sensor lights in all en-suite bathrooms.

All types of bookings are welcome including singles, couples, groups of adults, families, and extended family groups. However, please note that we do not accept stag or hen parties. Groups have the option to book B&B, full board or it is possible to rent out the whole centre on a self-catering basis. There is also a range of break rooms, meeting rooms and classrooms available for group use.

Your options:

Hire the whole centre

- Suitable for activity clubs, large gatherings or faith groups
- Self-catered, exclusive use of entire centre
- Bed linen, classrooms and common rooms included
- Prices start from £1,450/night + VAT. Stay 2 - 14 nights.
- Catering and activities available on request (chargeable)

Group accommodation with classrooms

- Suitable for special interest groups who need craft or lecture spaces
- Full board accommodation in allocated bedrooms with bed linen
- Classroom facilities with equipment available to hire
- Shared common rooms
- Pricing from £60.00pppn + VAT

Group accommodation

- Suitable for activity groups off-site all day, sports tours, family groups
- Full board accommodation in allocated bedrooms with bed linen
- Shared common rooms
- Prices for Adult groups and U18 groups, from £45.00pppn + VAT

Buildings	2 (Millott & Elmhirst)
No. of floors	2
Bed capacity	139
No of bedrooms	64 (2 x single, 49 x twin, 13 x triple)
No of en-suite/dedicated bathrooms	64
Double beds	0
Accessible bedrooms/wheelchair access	Two en-suite disabled bathrooms, several ground floor rooms have wheelchair access, so has the lecture theatre, dining room, and Clyde laboratory. Please contact us to discuss further.
Linen	Linen hire is included. Please strip your beds upon departure and leave them in the trolleys at the bottom of the stairways. Please note beds are not made for bookings of whole centre hire.
Towels	Please contact us to discuss further, depends on type of booking, can be hired for £2.
Accessible communal spaces/wheelchair access	There are a number of spaces but not all rooms have disabled access and facilities so please contact us to discuss further.
Dining capacity in one sitting	We can comfortably seat up to 90 people in one sitting. It has 15 tables, chairs, and a hot drinks corner. There are two highchairs available, you are welcome to bring your own.
Kitchen	Self-catering only offered to groups that hire out the whole centre. The kitchen is fully equipped with gas oven, bain-marie, microwave, grill, industrial dishwasher, freezer and fridge, fryer.
Lounges/common rooms	There are three sitting rooms on site with board games and a pool table. There is a common room and a games room.
TV	There is a TV available in two of the sitting rooms, in the adult lounge and in the lounge adjacent to the lecture theatre.
Library	There is a large well stocked scientific library.
Conference suitable space	There is a brand new lecture theatre (Allen) which can comfortably seat 150 people. It is equipped with a large projector screen, microphone, flexible seating and benching, carpet flooring, and undisturbed sea-view.
Onsite bar	There is no on site bar.

Drying room	There are three drying rooms (one in Millott, two in Elmhirst) which provide space to dry gear and clothing.
Onsite shop	There is a shop selling drinks, snacks, and souvenirs of your stay as well as a selection of Field Studies Council publications. This is not available to self-catering groups unless special arrangements are made prior to the visit.
Parking	There is plenty of parking on site. Reservation not required. Convenient access for coaches 3-4 fit comfortably.
WiFi	There is Wi-Fi connection throughout the Centre.
Bike storage	There are bike racks for 66 bikes currently installed, more are to come in 2023.
Open fire inside	No
Pets	Pets are allowed by special arrangement and may incur an additional fee.
Smoking	Smoking is only permitted in the designated smoking area.
Grounds	The site has two large grass areas, benches, and outdoor tables. The centre is on the seafront but surrounded by green areas on all other sides.
Space for a marquee	Space can be provided, wind exposure must be considered and therefore suggestion would be rather 5x5m in a sheltered place.
BBQ/fire pit	There is a newly renovated campfire place with seating, Mongolian yurt (available March-October), and solid BBQ. Two bags of firewood can be supplied for £16 per bag.
Music and noise	Please keep noise to a minimum between 11pm and 7am.
Camping	No
Activities	It is possible to book activities for both adults and children during your stay (subject to availability), these are chargeable and must be booked in advance. The Centre can provide environmental and adventure activities to suit your group, such as wildlife walks, archery, boat trips, rock pooling sessions, climbing, snorkelling, beach games and guided visits to the Museum and Aquarium. Please ask for more information.



Bedrooms

There are two accommodation buildings, the Millott (also houses the dining room) which comprises of 32 bedrooms (13 triple and 19 twin) with a total occupancy of 77 and the Elmhirst which comprises a further 32 bedrooms (two single - ideal for guests with mobility issues) and 30 twin bedrooms, sleeping a total of 62.

The modern rooms all have en-suite bathrooms, those in the Elmhirst also have a desk, chairs & wardrobe.

The triple rooms have a bunk bed and one single bed.

There is a selection of sea front rooms that look out over the Firth of Clyde and onto the mainland with Largs, Largs marina, Kelburn castle and Hunterston estate.

Z-beds available on request, but please confirm availability first. We do not have cots, but you are welcome to bring your own.



Drug and alcohol policy

We ask guests to familiarise themselves with and adhere to the behaviour and drug/alcohol policies contained within our [customer information document](#). Some centres may have specific licencing agreements in place in respect of the consumption of alcohol - please enquire with the centre directly for more information.

Entertainment

All of our centres hold a licence to play music, media & radio. If you intend to bring/hire in your own music/entertainment, please enquire with the centre directly for more information as a temporary events licence may be required.

Staff

Some of our centres may have staff living on-site. Whilst their presence will not interfere with your stay, we would ask you to be considerate and respect their privacy.



Bedroom



Sitting Room



Games Room



Aquarium



Class/ workrooms

There are four laboratories and three multi-purpose teaching rooms (including the lecture theatre). All are equipped with interactive smartboards or projector. All laboratories have sea water provision for a variety of experiments, fume hoods, sets of low and high power microscopes, species id guides and much more – please contact us to discuss your requirements.

Allen Classroom: Capacity 30, flexible seating, hard floor, sea view, close proximity to toilets, and tea station

Allen Lecture theatre: Capacity 150, flexible seating, carpet floor, close proximity to toilets, and tea station

Ark: Capacity 30-50, flexible seating, hard floor, sea view, high ceiling.

Clyde: Laboratory, capacity 45, sea water access, suitable for wheelchairs, microscopes, centrifuge, heating chamber, disabled toilet in same building

Eileans: Laboratory, capacity 25, sea water access, microscopes, 2nd floor, two climate chambers, fume hood, close to breakout rooms.

Farland: Laboratory, capacity 30, sea water access, microscopes, fume hood

Research aquarium: Five research cabinets with thermal insulation, sea water access throughout, three rooms are set up as multi-purpose, one set up for behavioural observations, one set up for interstitial and benthic organisms. Freezer, fridge, heating chamber in separate room.

Scotia: Laboratory, capacity 45, sea water access, microscopes



The local area

It is only 1/2 mile away (2 minute drive) from the picturesque town of Millport, which has been a favourite holiday destination for generations. There is plenty to do with children on the Island. Crazy golf, rock pools, beaches, cycle around the Island, golf, snorkelling, paddle boarding and cultural events in the Cathedral of the isles. Annual events like scooter rally, fireworks, Largs regatta and Opera festival are attractive events. The town of Millport has a range of shops, pubs, and a bank with cash machine.

Directions

By car/coach - The motorway network from Glasgow and the M8, takes you to the A737. The A760 then takes you directly to Largs. Many guests choose to leave their car in Largs, either in the car park on the main promenade next to the ferry port (a postcode for those using sat nav. to this location is KA30 8LZ) or on one of the back roads near the ferry terminal. If you choose to come over on the ferry as a foot passenger, once you have parked in Largs or alighted your coach, simply follow the instructions down below from point (1). For those who choose to bring their cars or coaches over on the ferry; when you come onto the island turn left and stay on the coast road (do not take the right turn directing you into Millport 400m from the ferry). Stay on this road for 3 km and the Centre is the first set of buildings you will see as you come into a 30mph zone. Postcode for those using sat nav. is KA28 0EG.

By train/ferry - With the proximity of Largs train station to the Millport ferry and the excellent links to Glasgow Central train station, this is understandably a very popular (and low carbon) way of reaching the Centre.

Many guests find it cheaper to book tickets to Glasgow, and then buy a separate ticket for the last short leg of the journey from Glasgow Central to Largs.

(1) Once you arrive in Largs train station simply head out the main exit, and once on the high street you will see the slip way, from where the ferry departs, 100 metres to your left.

(2) To the left of the slip way there is a small ferry office where you can buy a return passenger ticket for under £5. Then board the ferry. Tickets need to be shown at both Largs and Cumbrae slips.

(3) Eight minutes after leaving Largs you will arrive on the Cumbrae Slip, where a bus will be waiting. Currently tickets are £2 for a single journey. The bus stops, about 5 minutes later, outside the Centre, which is at the start of the Millport town 30mph zone.

By air - There is a regular bus service from Glasgow airport to Paisley Gilmour Street train station (on most days, throughout the day, this runs every 10 minutes), currently this route is served by the no. 66 and takes 14 minutes. This 2 mile journey is also possible by taxi.

From Gilmour Street a regular direct train service to Largs takes approximately 45 minutes. Once you arrive at Largs simply follow the instructions above from step (1). We recommend you take out travel insurance for train and plane in case of unforeseen circumstances.



www.field-studies-council.org/locations/millport/

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Please contact us
and our friendly
team will be happy
to help plan your
stay.