

Isle of Bute, Scotland, United Kingdom

A Victorian seaside gem in the Firth of Clyde — where Glasgow's grandees once escaped 'doon the watter', and where palm trees improbably line the esplanade.

 Tender port  Typical call: 6–8 hrs  GBP (British Pounds)  English / Scots Gaelic

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date:	Arrive:	All aboard:
Excursion:	Notes:	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender to Albert Pier, Rothesay

Walk to centre: 1 min — you step off the pier into town

Best For: Gothic architecture, seal-watching, Victorian history

Don't Miss: Mount Stuart House & the famous Victorian Toilets

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  £5–10 (town); £20–25 (cross-island) ·  **Hop-on hop-off**  City Sightseeing Bute (West Coast Motors)

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Mount Stuart House & Gardens** — One of Britain's most spectacular Victorian Gothic mansions, built by the 3rd Marquess of Bute — once the world's...
- **Rothesay Castle** — A rare circular 13th-century castle complete with a water-filled moat, right in the middle of Rothesay.
- **Scalpsie Bay Seal Colony** — A reddish-sand bay on the west coast that's home to up to 200 harbour seals year-round.
- **Ettrick Bay Beach** — A wide, golden-sand beach on Bute's west coast with views across to Arran.
- **Victorian Rothesay Walking Tour** — Explore the Victorian Toilets (an 1899 ceramic masterpiece on the pier), the Esplanade Gardens with their improbable...

BEST WALKS

- **Rothesay Town Highlights Loop** 1.5 miles · 45–60 min · Flat · Self-guided — From Albert Pier, visit the Victorian Toilets right on the harbour, then walk up to Rothesay Castle, across to Bute Museum, and back...
- **Ardencraig Gardens** 1.5 miles each way · 25–30 min uphill · Moderate — Head up from the pier through Rothesay to the walled Ardencraig Gardens — a beautiful free council garden famous for its fuchsia...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	51°	41°	13d
Jun	61°	52°	16d
Aug	62°	54°	18d
Sep	59°	52°	16d
Oct	54°	48°	19d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:14AM–8:26PM · Jun 4:34AM–10:06PM · Aug 5:52AM–8:55PM · Sep 6:52AM–7:36PM · Oct 7:51AM–6:18PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Book a taxi immediately. Taxis are scarce on Bute. If you want to reach Mount Stuart or Scalpsie Bay independently, walk straight off the tender and call a local firm — or book...
- Pack a waterproof layer. Western Scotland weather changes fast. Even on a sunny morning, a light rain jacket is essential for a comfortable day ashore.

Isle of Bute, Scotland, United Kingdom — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|--|--|---------------------------------|--|
| 1 Mount Stuart | A spectacular Victorian Gothic mansion with stunning gardens. | 2 Rothesay Castle | A unique circular medieval castle ruin in Rothesay town. |
| 3 Ascog Hall Garden and Fernery | Historic Victorian garden featuring a rare, beautiful fernery. | 4 St. Blane's Chapel | Ancient ruins of a 6th-century monastery and chapel. |
| 5 Kerrycroy Bay Beach | A beautiful, secluded sandy beach with scenic views. | P Cruise port / terminal | |