



In Scotland, you can access most land to enjoy the outdoors – however you must follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

**ACCESS RIGHTS**

The Scottish access rights are different to rights elsewhere in the UK. You must behave responsibly and follow the code at all times when outdoors.

Access rights apply to most outdoor spaces (hills, beaches, moorland, woodland and lochs) with some obvious exceptions such as people’s houses, gardens and school grounds. Access rights extend to walking, horse-riding, kayaking, swimming, cycling, climbing and wildlife watching. They do not include activities such as shooting, fishing or access with motor vehicles.

**PRINCIPLES**

- Take responsibility for your own actions
- Respect the interests of other people
- Care for the environment

**WALKING & CYCLING**

Under the code walkers and cyclists can access the outdoors by following these guidelines.

- Follow any footpaths through fields of crops and meadows. If there is no path, keep to boundary fencing.
- A gate must be used where present and closed behind you.
- Cycling on narrow routes often causes problems for other path users such as walkers. Make sure you dismount, walking until clear of other users.
- Give advance warning of your presence.
- Use passing places to allow others to pass.
- Always keep dogs on a short lead in areas where livestock is present.
- Make sure you are prepared when accessing the outdoors. Let someone know where you will be, carry a charged mobile phone, map, compass, food and wear appropriate clothing and footwear.



Please help us to keep it that way

**TAKE ONLY MEMORIES  
LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS**

- Take away all your litter.
- Remove all traces of your pitch and fire.
- Follow guidance before lighting a fire.
- Do not pollute our waterways.

**LOCAL SERVICES**

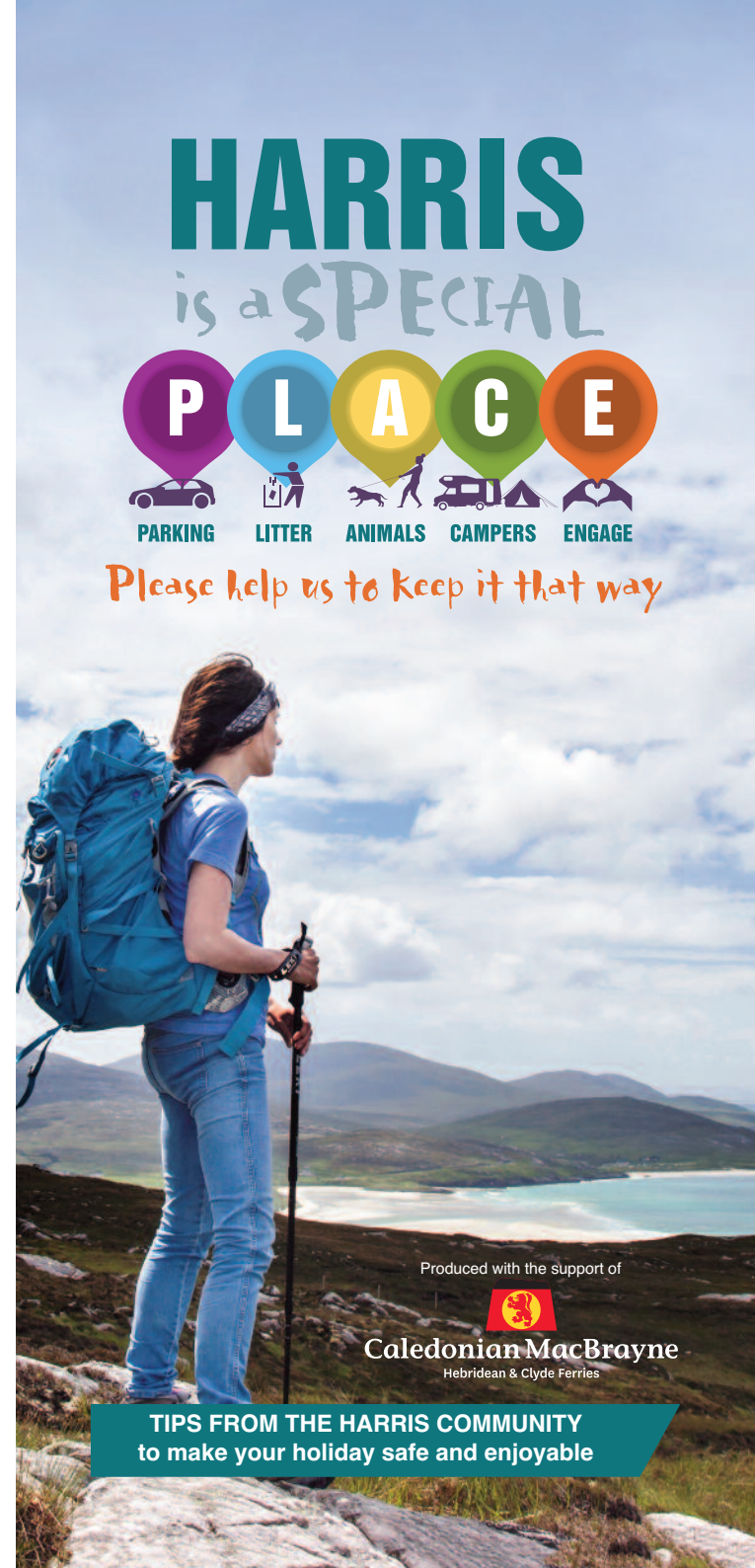
- Public toilets can be found at Horgabost, Luskentyre, Talla na Mara, Rodel, Scalpay Community Centre, Huisinis Gateway, Tarbert and Leverburgh Pier (some are seasonal and not all have 24-hour access).
- Please arrive with your waste tanks empty. Chemical waste disposal public points can be found at Urgha recycling point and Huisinis Gateway.
- Recycling sites can be found at Urgha, Stockinish, Leverburgh, Horgabost, Scalpay and Huisinis.

For more information:

[www.westharristrust.org](http://www.westharristrust.org)

[www.north-harris.org](http://www.north-harris.org)

[www.outerhebridestourism.org](http://www.outerhebridestourism.org)



**TIPS FROM THE HARRIS COMMUNITY**  
to make your holiday safe and enjoyable

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# P PARKING



The Scottish Outdoor Access Code **does not extend to motorised vehicles**. When using your vehicle to access the outdoors you must do so responsibly in order to not cause any

damage or create an obstruction by:

- Not blocking a building or field access (gates, etc)
- Not making it difficult for others to use a road or track
- Leaving room for emergency vehicles and buses to get passed
- Having regard for the safety of others
- Trying not to damage the verge
- Use a carpark if there is one nearby

# L LITTER



Under the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, you must take all waste and litter away with you after spending time outdoors, regardless of recreational activity.

Our landscape is incredibly important, not only to the local community who make a living from the land, but also on an international scale. Please help us to protect it by taking all litter away with you and disposing of all waste appropriately.

- **Remove any bottles, cans, plastic bags.**
- **Don't leave litter next to an already full bin.**
- **Do not leave any scraps of food or food packaging that could be eaten by wild animals.**

If you need to urinate, do so more than 30 metres from open water or rivers. If you need to defecate, use public toilets where possible. If not possible, bring a trowel and bury it at least 15 cm under the soil, replacing turf/vegetation on top. Bury as far as possible from buildings, open water, rivers, streams and animals.

# A ANIMALS



Keep your dog in your sight and under your control at all times - using a lead removes the element of doubt for everyone.

Be alert and do not allow your dog to approach animals or people uninvited. In open country, it may not be obvious when animals are around.

Avoid livestock where possible and always pass cattle at a distance. Do not risk your own safety defending your dog if cattle threaten you.

Remain at a distance from wildlife and leave their habitat undisturbed. Keep as quiet as you can in areas where birds of prey are nesting. Pick up any litter you see to stop it injuring wildlife. Let people know if you see an injured animal.

# C CAMPERS



## WILD CAMPING & CAMPERVANS

Under the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, you can wild camp on unenclosed land. This

type of camping is lightweight, done in small numbers and with only a night spent in any one place.

There are some restrictions on where to camp, for example, in enclosed fields of crops or livestock and away from buildings, roads and historic structures. If you wish to camp anywhere near to a house or building, always seek the owner's permission.

Access rights **do not extend to motorised vehicles**, therefore, when you park your vehicle, it is important not to cause any damage or create an obstruction.

## FIRES

Wherever possible you should use a stove rather than lighting an open fire. Open fires are allowed on the beach as long as they are small, and no trace remains.

**Fires on the machair are forbidden.** These habitats are internationally designated for wildlife and are used for livestock by the local community. Fires can easily get out of control and damage huge areas of land and livestock, especially during the dry summer months.

If you do light a fire, **you have a responsibility to keep it small, under control and supervised.** Never light an open fire during prolonged dry periods or in farmland, grassland or on peaty ground, near buildings or cultural heritage sites.

## HARRIS CAMPSITES

There are several campsites and motorhome hook-up sites in Harris including:

- Horgabost Campsite
- West Harris Camping
- Lickisto Blackhouse Camping
- Huisinis Gateway
- Minch View Campsite
- Flodabay Farm

More details at [www.visitouterhebrides.co.uk](http://www.visitouterhebrides.co.uk)

# E ENGAGE



Please support local businesses, wherever you can, it makes a big difference.

Fuel and a wide range of groceries are available in Leverburgh. Ardhaisaig and Tarbert.

There is a choice of restaurants and cafes throughout the island and a number of food trucks tucked away in various spots with a surprising range of dishes, using local ingredients.

Harris is famous throughout the world for Harris Tweed and a number of weavers are open to the public.

There are a wide range of craft workshops and galleries to visit as you drive around.

# HARRIS

is a SPECIAL



Please help us to keep it that way

