

The Dhoon

Kirkcudbright's closest beach just a few miles out of Kirkcudbright on the road to Borgue is The Dhoon. It is a lovely, secluded beach with a vast area of grass for picnicking, rounders etc. There are picnic benches & a toilet block.

Carrick, near Borgue

One of my favourite beaches & the one we visited most frequently growing up. There are several bays to enjoy here. With a sandier & rockier option & loads of rocks to climb & rockpools to explore. Cream o' Galloway ice cream is just up the road too so can tie in with a visit there.

Cardoness, Gatehouse of Fleet

I am ashamed to admit that I only discovered this one recently! In my defence however, it used to only be open to residents of the caravan park but is now open to the public. It is beautiful and my new favourite! This beach is just off the A75 west of Gatehouse (on the way to my next recommendation Mossyard). There is a small charge for parking, but I would say well worth it and a lovely shop for all you might need too. There are also toilet facilities by the car park.

Mossyard, Gatehouse of Fleet

Further round the coastline from Carrick is Mossyard beach (heading towards Newton Stewart from Gatehouse of Fleet). This is also a beautiful beach & another favourite. Drive through the farm steading (buildings) to get to the beach which is so unspoilt & beautiful. Again, a small charge for parking but well worth it. A restaurant recommendation, Gather, is just up the hill from Mossyard if looking to dine out whilst over that way.

Kippford & Rockcliffe

I love visiting Kippford. It is a quaint little village right on the coastline. Grab a crabbing net from the RNLI shop (of if organised get one in Supersave Kirkcudbright before you leave in case the RNLI shop is closed!) and head to the pier to give crabbing a go whilst watching others sailing. There is a great couple of pubs here (The Mariner & Anchor) offering good pub food as well as a tearoom right at the end of the village. If you walk past the tearoom, you can walk round to Rockcliffe either by the sea or over the hill. Rockcliffe is another beautiful beach & the name gives its terrain away! When the tide is out walk over to Rough island for an explore but TAKE CARE with the quicksand!

Sandyhills

Further round to Solway Coast towards Dumfries is Sandyhills. An expansive sandy beach which looks across to the Lake District. A small parking charge but again good toilet facilities and shop too.

Just getting to these beautiful beaches is an adventure, such pretty scenery that take you off the beaten track. A local tides book has been left for guests – this is sitting on the bookshelf in the sitting room.

There are so many wonderful beaches to explore so pack a picnic and fill the cool bag (there is one for you in the kitchen to use) and enjoy. And, if you prefer not to make your own picnic, stock up on the most delicious sandwiches and tray bakes from Masterpiece Sandwich Shop bang in between 118 High Street and 14 Union Street, a must visit!

@Masterpiece Kirkcudbright (Facebook).