



GALLOWAY AND  
SOUTHERN AYRSHIRE  
BIOSPHERE

# VISITOR CHARTER

Wherever we go and whatever we do here in our UNESCO Biosphere, we have an impact. So, let's make that impact as positive as it can be. Here are 6 simple ways to help Galloway and Southern Ayrshire stay unique and amazing!

## **The colours of nature...**

Our Biosphere is stunningly beautiful, through every mile of moorland, every meandering river, every ancient woodland, to every rugged coast. We are all privileged to share the colours of nature – help us to keep them vibrant by bringing your own reusable refillables and recycling your waste.

## **Explore and discover – or just sit for a while...**

Our Biosphere has clean air and natural soundscapes made of birdsong and breezes. Get out of your car and walk or cycle if you can, for the best possible sensory experience and the chance to happen upon the unexpected – perhaps a new view or a wandering deer. We can tell you where to hire bikes, catch buses, and find walking trails. Slow tourism is our favourite kind, and the best side of our Biosphere is the outside!

## **Love local, be local...**

At least for a time! Our Biosphere is a place where people make, grow, produce and create. We have art, music, knitting and gin; bread and oysters, festivals, whisky and tatties. Live like a local while you are here and immerse yourself in Biosphere life with people who love what they do and want to share it with you.

## **We are a story...**

Our Biosphere is not just a place – we are communities, and a past and present full of stories. Relax, turn your phone off, and enjoy some local conversation. Let us help you find the paths less trodden and the 'best kept secrets' of southwest Scotland (which aren't secret at all – you just have to ask!).

## **Greener together...**

We are building our resilience to climate change, and everyone who visits our Biosphere can take part. We can tell you how to venture across our mountains and bogs, see our diverse wildlife, and visit our ancient heritage sites in ways that never cause damage. We are low carbon, low pollution and we leave no trace.

## **Darkness is beautiful...**

Our Biosphere includes a Gold-Tier Dark Sky Park, so as the sun sets switch off your lights and your devices! On a clear night your reward is an infinity of stars, and even under cloud you will get to experience an exceptional darkness that's hard to find anywhere else in the UK.

**Come and love our UNESCO Biosphere – a place for adventure, discovery and inspiration. Bring your curiosity and an open mind, and help us build here a better future for people and nature.**

