



Thermo2010

12th International Conference on Thermochronology

Glasgow 16-20 August, 2010

3000 Ma of Scottish Geology

Thermo 2010 Pre-Conference Field Trip

7-14th August 2010

The Islands of Mull, Iona and Staffa



A view of the cliffs west of Carsaig, on the south coast of Mull, showing Jurassic sandstones overlain by a thin Cretaceous succession, and Palaeogene lavas and sediments.

We will be holding a pre-conference field trip based on the island of Mull from 7th-14th August 2010. Mull is about 100km north-west of Glasgow, and features an incredible diversity of igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary geology covering an immense span of geological time from the Archaean to the Palaeogene.

We will be staying at Scoor House, near Bunessan at the south-west end of the island. None of the excursions involve major ascent, but some will involve walking (up to 6km or so) across rocky, steep, or boggy ground, often without paths. However, all will have options for less physically fit.

Trips will include:

- Boat trip to Staffa to see Fingal's Cave, and superb columnar basalts and volcanic breccias near the base of the Mull Palaeogene lava pile. (Distance: 0.5 km, terrain: Easy, tourist path/steps/rock)
- Ferry crossing to Iona to see the historic Iona Abbey, and Archaean and Proterozoic orthogneisses, paragneisses, pseudotachylites, and deformed late Proterozoic sedimentary rocks. (Distance: ~6 km, terrain: Moderate-difficult) Alternative option available (terrain: Easy, Road/Beach)
- The Ross of Mull Granite pluton (Silurian/Devonian) at Knockvologan showing superb magma-mixing features, plus amphibolite-facies Proterozoic Moine country rocks at Ardalanish, and elsewhere. (Distance: ~ 3-4 km, terrain: Easy, Road/Path/Beach)
- A road trip to Tobermory and back via Mull's spectacular west coast, with geological stops en route to look at Palaeogene igneous rocks, and a visit to the Isle of Mull Malt Whisky distillery in Tobermory. (Distance: 0.5km, Difficulty: Easy, Road side localities)
- Carsaig: Mesozoic sediments below the Palaeozoic lava pile, plus minor intrusions, and ignimbrites and magma-wet sediment interaction at the base of the lava pile. (Distance: 0.5km, Difficulty: Moderate-difficult). Alternative option available (terrain: Easy, foreshore Beach/Rock/Path)
- Palaeogene intrusive rocks layered Loch Uisg Gabbro and "Granophyre", plus cone sheets) at Loch Buie. (Distance 4-5 km, terrain: Easy, Road/Beach)

We also have a range of shorter excursions in the event of bad weather, or other contingencies. A detailed excursion guide will be provided and will include information about all the planned excursions as well as a range of information on the local area



Columnar jointing on Staffa

Price:

The price of £450 includes all transport, accommodation, food and the field guide. Numbers are limited to 32 because of accommodation; places will be awarded on a first come first served basis. Registration is now open. Please visit the website for more information. If you have any questions please contact the organisers **before** you make your payment.



Tobermory Whisky

Travel:

Leave Glasgow on the morning of 7th August by minibus and travel to Mull. This will include the 45 minute ferry crossing from Oban to Mull. Dinner will be provided by a local hotel, breakfast and lunch will be provided at Scoor House. Travel around Mull will be by minibus and on Iona and Staffa will be by foot.

Accommodation & Catering:

Accommodation will be in shared twin/triple dormitory style rooms at Scoor House, a converted farmhouse with a number of self contained flats or cottages. Please state on your registration form if there is anyone in particular you want to share with, we will try and accommodate everyone but as space is limited. If the trip is full there will be no single occupancy rooms. Please contact the organisers if you have a problem with shared accommodation as more expensive accommodation in the local area may be possible. **ALL BEDDING IS PROVIDED, BUT YOU MUST BRING A TOWEL.**



Wild Red deer Stag at Scoor House.

Terrain & Equipment:

The terrain is not steep but can be very uneven and boggy in places. All participants **MUST** have suitable, safe footwear (walking boots) and waterproofs as the weather on Mull can be changeable and is often wet, even in mid summer.



Scoor House

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT THE ORGANISERS BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR PAYMENT.

Email: Thermo2010@ges.gla.ac.uk
Phone: +44 141 330 5442



Beach on Mull



Duart Castle



Golden Eagle



Iona Abbey



Dolphins



The Berg, Mull



Otter