



THE BUTE COLLECTION
MOUNT STUART, BUTE
THE HUNTERIAN, GLASGOW
INSCAPE RETREAT

Friday 15 September - Monday 18 September 2017

One of Europe's finest privately owned collections, from Old Master paintings to exquisite pieces of porcelain, glass and silver to a collection of archives, letters and books, the Bute Collection is a testament to the taste and vision of succeeding generations of the Bute Family. The passion of John Stuart, Third Earl of Bute, the Bute Collection was later housed at Mount Stuart, their ancestral home on the Inner Hebridean island of Bute. Controversial First Lord of the Treasury to George III, Stuart became the target of xenophobic abuse and withdrew to Luton Hoo, his country estate outside London, where he dedicated himself to building a true connoisseur's collection of paintings, prints and books and to being a literary and artistic patron to leading intellectuals of the day. Today academics come from the universities of Oxford and Yale to work on the collections in Mount Stuart's libraries.

This year in celebration of the tercentenary of the building of the original Mount Stuart, the Seventh Marquess of Bute has kindly permitted highlights of the Collection to be displayed in two exhibitions: one to be displayed at Mount Stuart and other in the Hunterian in Glasgow. The paintings alone deserve international recognition. To stand before them is to engage with rumbunctious scenes of domestic life in Dutch sitting-rooms by Jan Steen, inquisitive cows up to their ankles in a bog by Aelbert Cuyp, misty dawns by Claude Lorraine, hoary cottages in a forest by Meindert Hobbema, a powerful portrait of George III by Ramsay, a magnificent Reynolds of Lord Bute himself, a querulous portrait of Viscount Stafford by Van Dyck, and gloriously rendered silks by Zoffany. The exhibitions will include not just masterpiece paintings, but also intricate silver and jewellery, some extraordinary letters, botanical drawings and devastating political engravings. The Mount Stuart furniture collection is impressive with pieces of distinction by or attributed to names such as Robert Adam, Thomas Chippendale and the great English clock maker Thomas Tompion.

FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

ARDGOWAN

- 09.30 Virgin Train leaves Euston
Independent Lunch on train
- 2.01 Arrive Glasgow for minibus to Ardgowan in Renfrewshire
- 3.30 Arrive Ardgowan
- 4.00 Tea served in Ardgowan drawing room
- 6.30 Opening Sherry reception and Introductory Remarks by Sir Ludovic Shaw-Stewart
- 7.30 Opening Group dinner in Ardgowan

SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

ARDGOWAN

- 10.30 Meet for Coffee
- 11.00 Lecture "The Third Earl of Bute, John Stuart: Career, Corruption and Collections"
- 12.30 Lunch served in the Dining Room
- 2.00 Lecture resumes
- 3.30 Tea served in Drawing Room
- 4.00 Tour of Ardgowan House and gardens and Castle ruin with Sir Ludovic Shaw-Stewart
- 8.00 Group Dinner

SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

MOUNT STUART, Isle of Bute

- 09.00 Leave by minibus for Ferry
- 09.10 Arrive Wemyss Bay Ferry landing
- 09.25 Ferry leaves
- 10.00 Ferry arrives for minibus to Mount Stuart
- 10.30 Coffee at Mount Stuart in the Visitor's Centre
- 11.00 Guided tour of 'Art of Power' Bute Collection Exhibition
- 12.00 Private tour of Mount Stuart house
- 1.00 Group Lunch at Mount Stuart in a private room
- 2.00 Private visit to Bute Archives with Archivist
- 3.00 Tour of Mount Stuart gardens
- 4.00 Private tea served in a Mount Stuart Drawing Room
- 4.45 Leave for ferry
- 5.30 Ferry leaves for Wemyss Bay
- 6.05 Arrive Wemyss Bay Ferry landing
- 6.15 Arrive Ardgowan for free time and rest
- 8.00 Group Dinner

MONDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

CHECK OUT

GLASGOW

- 09.00 Bags to Hall
- 09.15 Minibus leaves for Glasgow
- 10.15 Arrive Hunterian for coffee
- 10.45 Tour of Hunter Collection
- 12.15 Leave for Group Lunch at Number 16, West End; their Pastry Chef Helen Vass, took 'BBC Bake Off' title last year!
- 12.30 Group Lunch
- 2.00 Tour of Bute Collection Exhibition at Hunterian with curator Dr. Peter Black
- 3.00 Leave for Glasgow Station.
- 3.40 Depart from Glasgow Station
- 8.12 Arrive London Euston



Ardgowan
Inverkip
Renfrewshire
01475 521 656

Recently opening their ancestral home's doors to visitors for the first time in 600 years, the Shaw-Stewart family have cordially invited us to be their guests at Ardgowan. The house is protected as a category A listed building, and the grounds laid out from 1800 by James Ramsay are included in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland, the national listing of significant gardens. Within the peaceful ambience of a house much lived in and loved over the centuries, our stay will be restful as well as inspiring.

Awaiting our pleasure are grand high-ceilinged reception rooms with elegant antique furniture and furnishings, and bedrooms with antique four poster beds made up with the highest quality 19th century linens. There will be roaring fires in the Library, ancestral portraits in the Drawing Room, and Nicholas would love to be challenged to a game of billiards in the Billiard Room. The estate includes the remains of the three-storey 15th-century Ardgowan Castle, also known as Inverkip Castle. We will learn the fascinating story of Ardgowan - one that weaves together the fortunes of Robert the Bruce, Princess Pocahontas, Charles I, the Emperor Napoleon and Florence Nightingale amongst others, all played out against a backdrop of political and dynastic manoeuvring. Our meals will be filling and delicious, accompanied by excellent wines.

COST £1595 Members, £1645 non-members, no Single Room Supplement, £250 deposit, includes three nights' accommodation at Ardgowan with breakfast, morning coffee, all lunches with wine including lunch in private room at Mount Stuart, all dinners in Ardgowan with wine, tea including tea in drawing room at Mount Stuart, all private and other visits and all coach and ferry travel during the tour. Excludes travel to and from Glasgow.