

What is the Ardtornish Piano Retreat?

The retreat is an annual gathering for amateur pianists of all standards to develop, perform and be inspired in the spectacular Ardtornish Estate. We offer one-on-one lessons, group music, rhythm and movement sessions, masterclasses, informal concerts for participants and formal concerts for you to enjoy beautiful music in one of Scotland's finest country houses. Concerts and lessons will take place in the impressive library on an exquisite Bluthner piano and also on a selection of **Kawai** pianos, provided by Gordon Bell Pianos, throughout the mansion.

There will be plenty of time to enjoy the estate during the day and relax in the evenings as well as 'working'. Everyone is welcome to attend the evening recitals and join in group classes.

The course will be led by Ancuța Nițe who enjoys a career as a concert pianist, teacher at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, and St Andrews University. She has performed across the UK and Europe including in the Usher Hall, Edinburgh and the Purcell Room in the Southbank Centre.

The Setting

Ardtornish house is a magnificent nineteenth century mansion house, half French chateau, half Victorian engineering triumph, sitting at the head of Loch Aline. Around its feet are gardens filled with veteran trees and century-old Himalayan rhododendrons, officially described as 'stunning'. At every turn are elegant and decorative cottages. It would be difficult to find a place in which more care has been taken.

Set in some of Scotland's most stunning scenery, giant white tailed eagles vie with golden eagles for nest-sites here. The offlying skerries are the haunt of seals and terns. Otter territories ring Ardtornish. Grey geese overwinter on the pastures; barn owls and woodpeckers, falcons and siskins are here year-round. Ardtornish is one of the few remaining refuges of the native wildcat. Pine martens hunt in the woods. A walk in the hills is a journey into the world of golden plover and red deer.

The Cost

Double bed £910 p/p
Single bed £860 p/p

A deposit of £250 is required by the 1st of January 2024 to secure a place at the retreat with full payment by the 1st of April. Discounted rates are available for deposits received before the 1st of December 2023.

Cancellations:

We regret that participation fees are non-refundable and participants are therefore encouraged to take out appropriate insurance.

Contact

ardtornishpianoretreat@yahoo.co.uk

Further Information

www.ancutanite.co.uk/ardtornish-piano-retreat.html
www.gordonbellpianos.com



What does the retreat involve?

After helping yourself to breakfast, a day at the retreat would begin with solo lessons followed by group musicianship classes. After a sumptuous lunch you will have the opportunity to enjoy the house and estate followed by more solo lessons and then before a delicious dinner, guests will be treated to masterclasses and recitals from professional musicians. Please note that each participant will need to make their own travel arrangements to Ardtornish.



Meals throughout the week will be prepared by our resident chef. Jamie has worked in the catering industry for over twenty years across the UK including the kitchens of Buckingham Palace.



Getting There

The quickest way to drive to Ardtornish is to take the Corran Ferry across Loch Linnhe just 8 miles south of Fort William. The ferry takes about 5 minutes and saves a good hour's driving around the top of the Loch. The cost of a one way trip is roughly £8 and there are usually two sailings every hour. The latest Corran Ferry Timetable can be found online at www.calmac.co.uk

1. As you drive off the Corran Ferry onto the Ardnamurchan Peninsula, turn left onto the A861 and continue straight ahead for 12.5 miles.
2. Turn left off the A861 onto the A884 at the top of Loch Sunart where the turning is signposted to Lochaline and Mull Ferry, and continue straight ahead for 15.7 miles.
3. Turn left off the A884 onto the estate road where the turning is signposted Ardtornish. You are now only a few minutes from your destination.

The drive from the Corran Ferry to Ardtornish takes under an hour. If you get to Lochaline village you have gone a bit too far!

Ardtornish Estate
Argyll,
Ardtornish,
PA80 5UZ

ancutanite.co.uk/ardtornish-piano-retreat

All information correct as of 20/09/2023.
Please check the website for any updates.



Ardtornish Piano Retreat

in association with
Gordon Bell Pianos and Kawai UK

"an unforgettable musical journey in the remote and stunning Morvern hills of Argyll"

Saturday 15th - Thursday 20th
June 2024

