

→ ISLAY MARATHON AND RELAY

EXPERIENCE THE BEAUTY OF THE QUEEN OF THE HEBRIDES WHILE RUNNING IN ONE OF THE MOST SCENIC MARATHONS AND RELAY EVENTS! THIS MARATHON IS RUN IN THE MEMORY OF CORP MENZIES MACAFFER RM WITH ALL PROCEEDS GOING TOWARDS LOCAL CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS.

SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2026





HOW TO ENTER

If you are already signed up for the Islay Marathon & Relay and/or are looking for more information we hope our briefing pack will help prepare you for your weekend on the Isle of Islay.

Entries for 2026 will remain open until Friday 28th August 2026 via [entrycentral.com](https://www.entrycentral.com).

If you enter before Wednesday 1st July you will save £10 on either your solo or relay team entry.

Relay teams can be made up of 2 or 4 team members. We appreciate life happens so we are happy to swap team mates around at registration (within reason). There will be more information in the following pages on how the relay race will work.

Entries are non-refundable therefore we would recommend you take insurance cover with entry central or travel insurance.

ISLAY INFO



ISLAY INFO

HOW TO GET HERE



BY SEA

Caledonian MacBrayne (Calmac)

For details of timetables and vehicle reservations (advisable), contact Calmac on 0800 066 5000 or visit the [Calmac Website](#).

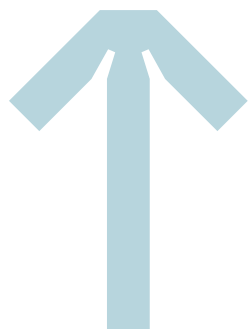


BY AIR

Loganair & Hebridean Air Services

Islay Airport operates daily flights to and from Glasgow (Loganair), with once-weekly flights to nearby Colonsay and Oban (Hebridean Air Services)

FOR MORE ISLAY INFO PLEASE VISIT [ISLAYINFO.COM](https://www.islayinfo.com)



ISLAY INFO

GETTING AROUND

BY BUS

There are two bus routes on Islay running between 7am and 6pm Monday to Saturday, but not on a Sunday. Check the [latest timetable](#) to plan your journey.

BY CAR

You can take your own car to Islay via the ferry service.

Car hire is also available that [Cresswell Cars Ltd](#) and [Islay Car Hire](#) offer from the terminal building at Islay Airport.

BY BIKE

Offering a selection of both electric and non-electric bikes for hire, choose a bike that suits you best. Cycling is a fun and easy way to explore Islay. You can find out more from [Islay E-Wheels](#) or [Islay-BikeHire](#).

BY TAXI

Attic Cabs	07944 873323	Islay Taxis	07771 921157
Bodachs Islay Taxi	07513 066029	Islay tours	07474 686367
Bowmore Taxi	07899 756159	Lamb Islay Taxi	07846 055399
Bruichladdich Taxi	078999 42673	McIntyre Private Hire	07359 489038
Daly Cabs	07436 558007	RML Taxis	07708 608051



RACE DAY

Registration will open from 8am, Saturday 12th September, at Bruichladdich Hall.

You can either make your own way there or arrange a lift with one of our pre-booked taxis via entry central.

There will be a vehicle available to take any bags to the finish line (one bag person where possible).

Registration will close at 10am sharp followed by an essential pre race briefing.

Toilets and water will both be available.

Race start is at 10:30am from the Rhinns Boat Club gate.

The Islay Running Club will be holding a bake sale at the start line for final carb loading or to keep your supporters happy!

RACE DAY continued...





RACE DAY

There will be aid stations every 5km
(as near to).

5km	Water
10km	Water, isotonic drink & first aid
15km	Water & sweets
20km	Water, isotonic drink, bananas & first aid
25km	Water, sweets and oranges
30km	Water, isotonic drink, sweets & first aid
35km	Water & sweets

If you need to drop any rubbish, please
do so in the aid areas to make it easier
for our volunteers to collect.

RACE DAY continued...





RACE DAY - RELAY POINTS

Take note of your relay change over point depending on team size.

START	ISLAY BOAT CLUB GATE, BRUICHLADDICH
Relay change 1	ISLAY GAELIC CENTRE, BOWMORE
Relay change 2	ISLAY AIRPORT
Relay change 3	PORT ELLEN PRIMARY SCHOOL
FINISH	RAMSAY HALL, PORT ELLEN

Toilets on course: Bruichladdich Hall, Bridgend Public Toilets, Gaelic Centre, Bowmore Public Toilets, Ramsay Hall.

RACE DAY continued...





RACE DAY - RELAY

Due to safety concerns last year, we have decided to make some small changes to the relay change over points. This unfortunately does mean that the relay is not in equal parts but we hope this adds a layer of strategising to your race. Which team mate suits which section?!

Races can be ran as a two or four person relay team.

At registration we will confirm the names of the runners in your team and the order in which you will compete. For safety reasons we ask you to please not change the order after you have recieved the "relay baton".

STRAVA ROUTES



STRAVA ROUTES

FULL AND RELAY

FULL MARATHON 42KM

LEG 1 - 12KM

LEG 2 - 10.72KM

LEG 3 - 8.46KM

LEG 4 - 10.73

FINISH LINE

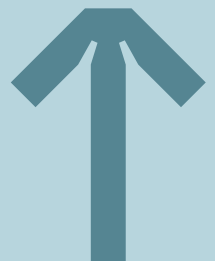




FINISH LINE

The race has a cut off time of 6 hours. Runners should try and ensure they are across the finish line by 1630.

We would then like to invite all runners and supporters into the Ramsay Hall to celebrate, award the prizes and raise a glass to Corp Menzies MacAffer RM.



IN LOVING MEMORY

CORP MENZIES MACAFFER RM



Not only does the Islay Marathon take place on a special island, but it's also run in memory of a remarkable individual: Menzies MacAffer.

Born and raised on Islay, Menzies joined the Royal Navy after leaving Islay High School, later being promoted to Corporal in the Royal Marines. Throughout his distinguished career, he was awarded the Commando Medal, an honor bestowed upon those who demonstrate courage, determination, unselfishness, and cheerfulness in the face of adversity.

He bravely served his country during the initial invasion of Iraq in 2003 and was also deployed on HMS Argyle, HMS Northumberland, and HMS Monmouth.

Beyond his exceptional military career, Menzies was a talented athlete, participating in various sports teams including biathlon, skiing, and running. He famously ran the London Marathon, finishing an impressive 4th for the Royal Navy. As one of the best athletes, Menzies also dedicated his time to coaching the Biathlon team.

While his determination and athleticism might suggest an abstemious warrior monk, Menzies also had a vibrant side. On one memorable occasion whilst in Kenya, he was out drinking until 3am. Yet, later that very morning, he competed in an Ironman, leaving many sober and well-rested competitors far behind, despite minimal sleep and perhaps being slightly over the legal limit.

Menzies consistently put others before himself. This was powerfully demonstrated when he was offered a spot on Team Great Britain but declined, valuing the camaraderie with his mates above personal glory.

Tragically, Menzies died from cancer on February 8th, 2012. Having continued to serve right up until his passing he faced his illness with unwavering courage, fighting it with everything he had, all while remaining incredibly positive and cheerful.

It is truly an honor and a privilege to have such an inspirational man associated with the Islay Marathon