COME AND VISIT BEAUTIFUL LOCH BHASAPOL Thigibh gun loch àlainn Bhasapol

The loch's name comes from the Viking farm that stood on its shore, called **vassr** (water) **pol** (farm). There is an old story that the loch was home to a malicious spirit who could assume the shape of a man or a horse.

It is a special place - and the area is protected by environmental laws, and by the crofters whose sensitive management of cattle grazing enriches the wildlife.

There is a parking area for all visitors on the north shore.

PLEASE RESPECT THE LOCH, AND ALL WHO USE IT.

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LOCH BHASAPOL

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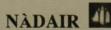
DESIGN Colin Woodcock Blue Beyond • 01879 220510



Supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund









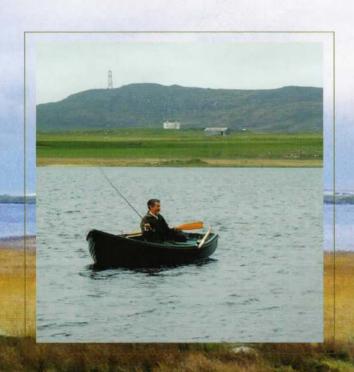
ANGLING Iasgach-slaite

The clear rich waters of this shallow machair loch are also home of the Tiree Angling Club. Wild Brown Trout, thrive in the deeper waters at the southern end of the loch. The Loch Leven strain was introduced at the end of the 19th century. Trout weighing up to four pounds have been caught by fly fishing. European eels and sticklebacks are also found in the loch.

Tiree Angling Club issues permits for the season - March to September - on both Loch Bhasapol and Loch a' Phuill.

> FULL PERMITS are available from: Bill Campbell 01879 220334

DAY PERMITS are available from: I & F MacLeod, General Store at Crossapol





BIRDWATCHING Na h-eòin

From the open waters of the loch to the dense cover of the reedbeds, there is a wide range of habitats for many species of birds.

Ducks, geese, swans, gulls and terns can be seen from the shore. Lapwings, snipe and redshank breed in the fields, whilst corncrake, water rail and sedge warblers skulk in the reedbeds. Ravens, buzzards, peregrine and merlin are all regular visitors.

The bird hide, situated overlooking the western shore, and easily accessible from the road in Kilmoluaig, is an ideal location to observe all these birds. For the patient and lucky visitor, dragonflies and otters may also be seen.

WINDSURFING Seòladh-bùird

Tiree Windsurfing Club at Loch Bhasapol was set up in 1989 to provide islanders and visitors with an opportunity to try the sport. Tuition and equipment hire for windsurfing or kitesurfing are available for all at the Loch, provided by Wild Diamond Windsurfing.

There is a unisex changing hut but no shower or toilet facilities.

In the summer a line of buoys marks deeper water. You are asked to avoid surfing into the reedbeds, where birds nest.



