

WAITROSE
& PARTNERS



FOOD

JUNE 2022

ONE LOVE

Summer recipes to celebrate and share, Joe Wicks talks family and food, plus why we should all be eating the rainbow

Edd Kimber's
tie-dye
rainbow biscuits
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£3.00 or
FREE

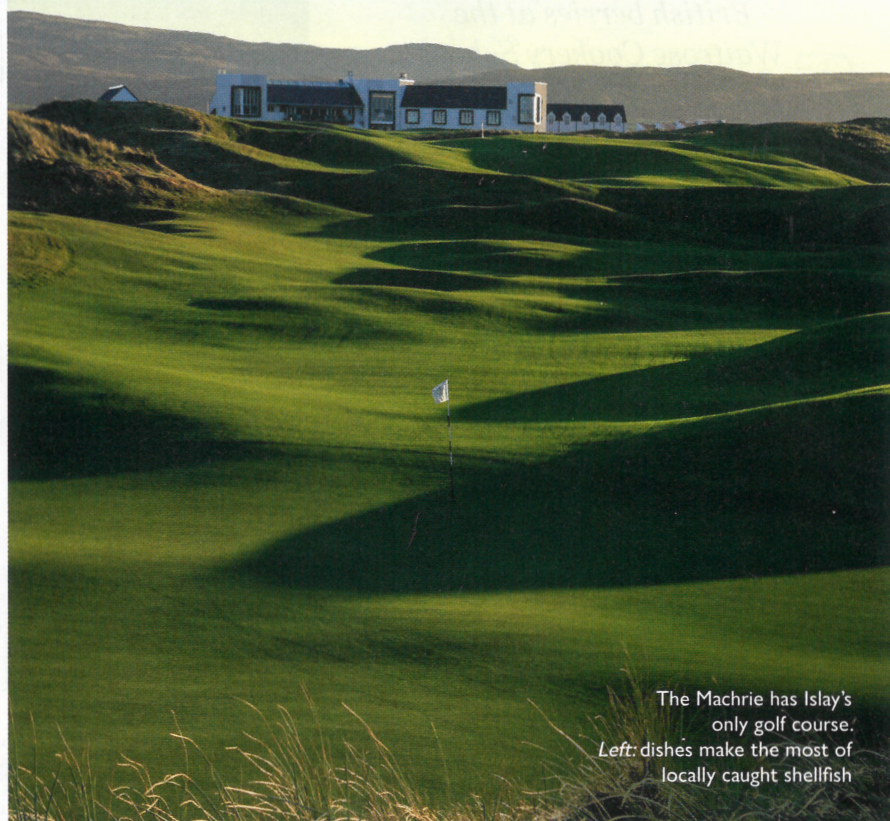
to myWaitrose members

**DON'T MISS YOUR ULTIMATE SUMMER BUCKET LIST,
FATHER'S DAY COFFEE CAKE & FULLY LOADED NACHOS**





'ISLAY'S UNIQUE PEAT INFUSES ITS MOST FAMOUS DRAMS WITH THE TASTE OF SMOKE AND SEA'



The Machrie has Islay's only golf course. Left: dishes make the most of locally caught shellfish

WHISKY in Islay, Scotland

There are nine whisky distilleries on the small but perfectly formed Scottish island of Islay; more than there are schools, supermarkets and police officers. The spirits they produce are hard to pronounce but exquisitely easy to drink. Little wonder that people from all over the world are drawn to these whitewashed distilleries, which seem as natural a part of the landscape as the wind-whipped cliffs and bleakly beautiful grasslands.

Perched above a sandy beach, The Machrie hotel is the ideal base for island adventure, whether you're into whisky, wildlife or golf (the hotel has Islay's only golf course, right on the dunes). It's modern and stylish yet cosy; think colourful art, supersized fireplaces and plush velvet armchairs you may well require prising away from come check-out. Staff (who must be among the warmest and friendliest in the UK) are happy to help arrange tours and tastings at the distilleries, where you'll learn how Islay's unique peat infuses its most famous drams with the taste of smoke and sea. Happily, each one is different so there's plenty of reason to get round as many as you have time for. At Bruichladdich

(bruichladdich.com), founded in 1881 but still happily experimenting, you can sip everything from the fruity, unpeated Classic Laddie to Octomore, among the most powerfully peaty whiskies in the world.

If Scotch doesn't float your boat, there are plenty of other island-made liquid assets available to fill your glass. Islay Ales is the island's first brewery, while 22 native plants are hand-picked to infuse The Botanist gin. Sample one or the other (or both) in The Machrie's tranquil lounge – where the floor-to-ceiling window makes the most of the 'edge of the world' location – before heading into its relaxed restaurant, 18, for dinner. The chefs here don't have to look far for delicious ingredients – expect dishes such as island venison with black garlic and hazelnuts, or scallops with sea buckthorn. If you make it to the dessert menu, you'll discover the iconic cranachan contains a generous splash of the golden spirit of Islay, too.

Doubles from £150 b&b; themachrie.com. Loganair flies from Glasgow to Islay; loganair.co.uk