

Scottish archaeological museum in Kilmartin nominated for the prestigious Museums + Heritage Award, the Oscars of the museum industry.



One of the key attractions in Argyll and Bute, Kilmartin Museum has been nominated in the Permanent Exhibition of the Year category: arguably, the 'Best Movie' equivalent!



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Kilmartin Museum is custodian of the artefacts that come from Kilmartin Glen, one of Scotland's richest archaeological landscapes. The Museum houses a collection with Nationally Significant status, offering visitors of all ages a fascinating insight into the lives of our ancestors who inhabited the area over the last 12,000 years. Now, this fantastic work has been recognised, and the Museum is nominated for a prestigious Museums + Heritage Award. Winners will be announced at a ceremony in London on 15 May.

Dr Sharon Webb MBE, Director and Curator at Kilmartin Museum said: *“We’re absolutely delighted to be nominated for this Award after so many years of hard work. That our wee Museum on Scotland’s West Coast has stood out amongst such heritage giants is really down to the incredible archaeology and the stories that it tells, and we’ve been privileged to work with a fantastic team to interpret and display it.”*

Kilmartin Museum re-opened in September 2023 after being closed for a major building renovation. This provides a much larger exhibition space and a stunning Learning Centre which is used to deliver cultural and educational activities. There are now new galleries housing temporary art exhibitions, a state of the art collection store and laboratories to process new finds and acquisitions.



The new Museum building, designed by Reiach and Hall Architects, highlights its unique location, celebrating the immediate connection between the artefact collection and the surrounding prehistoric landscape. The Permanent Exhibition has been a collaboration between the Museum’s curatorial and interpretation specialists Dr Sharon Webb and Dr Aaron Watson, working alongside Lyndsey Clark (Project Manager) and Edinburgh based Exhibition designers Studioarc.

Kilmartin Museum is currently closed and will re-open on 25 April. In the meantime, visitors to Kilmartin Glen are encouraged to drop into the Museum’s Learning Centre to enjoy the [St Columba touring exhibition](#) between 1 – 23 April, or visit the newly opened Glen Bistro on site.

Museums + Heritage, often known simply as M+H, has been at the centre of connecting the world of museums, galleries and heritage visitor attractions since 1991 with the Awards launched in 2002. Often referred to as the Oscars of the museum world, M+H Awards have seen many of the world’s greatest museums feature on its shortlist, from the British Museum to the Met in New York, from Sydney Maritime Museum to Edinburgh Museums.

Hundreds of impressive submissions were read, discussed and scrutinised and finally whittled down to the most innovative and inspiring projects. Featuring exceptional individuals, fantastic collaborations and brilliant exhibitions that have captivated audiences, this year’s shortlist truly represents the best in the museum industry – and Kilmartin Museum is delighted to feature on it!