



**MACHRIHANISH DUNES NAMED ‘RESORT EXPERIENCE OF THE YEAR’—
AND ALSO WINS ‘GEO SUSTAINABILITY AWARD’—
AT GOLF TOURISM SCOTLAND AWARDS**

Argyll, Scotland, December 2, 2013 – The Village at Machrihanish Dunes announced today that it was the winner of two top awards at the Golf Tourism Scotland Excellence Awards, which were presented at the group’s annual dinner held on Friday, 22 November. The two awards it received were the ‘Resort Experience of the Year’ award and the ‘Golf Tourism Scotland GEO Sustainability Award for outstanding environmental practices. Machrihanish Dunes was also a finalist in the ‘Club and Course Experience of the Year’ (Green fee of £75 or less) category and its Ugadale Hotel was a finalist for ‘Accommodation Experience of the Year’ (22 rooms or less).

“We couldn’t be prouder of what the team at Machrihanish Dunes has accomplished in a few short years,” said David Southworth, President and CEO of Southworth Development. “It’s an honor and privilege for The Village at Machrihanish Dunes to win these two prestigious awards, particularly as it was our peers voting, most of whom have first-hand knowledge of all the historic and famous courses, hotels and resorts in Scotland. As the owner of Machrihanish Dunes, it reinforces the investment Southworth has made in the property and the people in Kintyre.”

The Village at Machrihanish Dunes consists of two restored hotels, newly built luxury cottages, and the Machrihanish Dunes Golf Course. It was the second time Machrihanish Dunes was recognized in the Golf Tourism Scotland Awards. In 2012, its Ugadale Hotel was named ‘Hotel of the Year’ (Small Hotels and Guest Houses category). These latest Golf Tourism Scotland awards add to the growing list of accolades the resort has received. Also in 2012, Machrihanish Dunes took second place in *Golf Inc. Magazine’s* global ‘Development of the Year’ competition, won the Scottish Alliance Award in the Enterprise category, and was named the top eco course in the world by ABTA Magazine.

Machrihanish Dunes Golf Course, a 7175-yard links course that was designed by Scotland’s David McLay Kidd, opened to critical acclaim in 2009. The first 18-hole links course in the UK to earn certification by Golf Environmental Organization (GEO), the course was the first links course built in Western Scotland in 100 years, and the first ever to be built on a Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI). In the construction of the course only seven of the course’s 259 acres were altered, and Machrihanish Dunes maintains strong environmental and sustainable practices, including no use of chemical pesticides or herbicides and no mechanical fairway irrigation. At Machrihanish Dunes, the black Hebridean sheep continue to act as ‘natural lawnmowers’ and tame the rough as they have been doing for hundreds of years. Machrihanish Dunes Golf Course is consistently named to the lists of best golf courses by the likes of *Golf World*, *Golfweek*, *LINKS* and *National Club Golfer* magazines.

The resort’s two historic hotels, The Ugadale Hotel in Machrihanish and The Royal Hotel in downtown Campbeltown, were fully restored and reopened in 2012. Both hotels have earned luxury four-star status, having undergone a rigorous review process by VisitScotland. Since its opening in 2012, The Ugadale Hotel has earned a slew of awards, including ‘Best New Hotel,’ ‘Best Golf Hotel,’ and ‘Best Small Hotel’ from the Scottish Hotel Awards and Golf Tourism Scotland, while The Ugadale Cottages have themselves earned the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence for the past two years running. The Ugadale Hotel features 22 rooms and suites, many with stunning golf course and ocean views, the boutique Serenity Spa, a fitness center, and dining options that include The Kintyre Club for more formal dining and The Old Clubhouse Pub for a casual bite. The Royal Hotel offer 23 rooms, all overlooking picturesque Campbeltown Harbour, along with the lively Black Sheep Pub and a fine-dining restaurant, the Harbourview Grille.



For a complete listing of winners and more information on Golf Tourism Scotland, please visit www.golftourismscotland.com.

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About The Village at Machrihanish Dunes

The Village at Machrihanish Dunes is a world-class seaside resort featuring a U.K. Top-100 links golf course, four-star accommodations, five casual and fine dining options, plus a host of other resort amenities, all located in one of Scotland's most beautiful regions. The Ugdale Hotel & Cottages in Machrihanish offer 22 rooms and suites plus 8 luxurious two-bedroom cottages. The Royal Hotel, with 23 rooms all overlooking Campbeltown Harbour, is located in downtown Campbeltown, a mere 5 miles away. The resort is ideally suited for golfers; non-golf visitors; golf group visits; family reunions; corporate meetings, events, and retreats; weddings and other social functions; and more. The course, the first 18-hole course in the U.K. to earn certification from the Golf Environmental Organization, is consistently ranked as one of the most ecologically-friendly courses in the world. Designed by David McLay-Kidd, it opened in 2009 on a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), the first course ever to be built on such a site and also the first to be built on the west coast of Scotland in over 100 years. For more information on The Village at Machrihanish Dunes or to book reservations, visit www.machrihanishdunes.com.

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[Southworth Development LLC](#), through its affiliated companies, is the primary owner, developer and manager of [Machrihanish Dunes Golf Club](#) and luxury accommodations in both Machrihanish and Campbeltown, Scotland.



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Editors Note:

Grants to the restoration of the Ugdale Hotel in Machrihanish and The Royal Hotel in Campbeltown in cooperation with: Highland and Islands Enterprise (HIE) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funding support; the Campbeltown Town Centre Regeneration Project (Argyll & Bute Council), a special grant to the Royal Hotel by the Scottish Ministers, through Historic Scotland under the Historic Environment Regeneration Fund.

