



EXCEPTIONAL HOUSE ON THE ISLE OF BUTE BY ALEXANDER 'GREEK' THOMSON

TOR HOUSE
ARDENCRAIG ROAD, ISLE OF BUTE, PA20 9LA

savills



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Drawing room ♦ Dining room ♦ Kitchen ♦ Utility room ♦ Sitting room ♦ Ground floor bathroom
♦ Studio ♦ WC ♦ Larder ♦ Pantry ♦ Stores ♦ 4 Bedrooms ♦ Wet room ♦ Tower room
♦ Gardens ♦ Garage

Directions

Travel west on the M8 to Greenock and then continue on the A78 to Wemyss Bay. Take the Caledonian MacBrayne ferry to Rothesay (35 minutes). Upon arrival, drive south along the A844 and, beyond the pier at Craigmore turn second right into Albany Road and continue into Crichton Road which leads into Arden Craig Road. Tor House is on the right hand side.

Situation

Tor House is set in a fine elevated location on the Isle of Bute, taking full advantage of its raised position with views over the Firth of Clyde towards the Ayrshire coast.

An outstandingly beautiful and historic island, Bute is situated at the heart of the Firth of Clyde, off Scotland's verdant west coast. The island possesses areas of great scenic beauty and has been a popular holiday destination since Victorian times. Due to its proximity to the Gulf Stream, the island enjoys a particularly mild climate and it has become known as the "Madeira of Scotland". Rothesay is about 2 miles from Tor House. The town has a population of approximately 5000 with an extensive range of amenities including primary and secondary schooling, shopping, a hospital, swimming pool, sports centre and golf course.

Regular ferries (Caledonian MacBrayne) operate from Rothesay to Wemyss Bay (35 mins) with Glasgow city centre and the international airport generally reached in about an hour from the ferry terminal. Wemyss Bay has a direct train link to the city centre. A second ferry from Rhubodach, in the north of the island, to Colintrave, allows easy access to Argyll and the West Highlands.

The Isle of Bute also offers wonderful hill and coastal walks, golfing, sea fishing and trout fishing.

Owing to the island's superb location in the Firth of Clyde, with Arran to the south and marinas at Troon, Gourock, Largs, Inverkip and Rhu on the mainland, Bute is an extremely popular sailing destination.





Description

Tor House was originally commissioned for Mr John Wilson, a book seller and stationer in Rothesay. The architect was the now world famous Alexander 'Greek' Thomson. Few architects have stamped their architectural mark on a nation in the way that Alexander 'Greek' Thomson did, through his extraordinary achievements in Scotland. He is recognised throughout the world as an architectural genius, comparable in stature to Charles Rennie Mackintosh. His finest work includes the renowned St Vincent Street Church, Great Western Terrace, Moray Place, Caledonia Church, The Egyptian Halls and Holmwood House. Between 1850 and 1875 he designed a large number of buildings in the Roman/Greek style. These captured the essence of a massively influential Victorian urban architectural movement and stand amongst the most profound architectural statements in 19th century Britain.

Alexander 'Greek' Thomson heavily influenced many architects including America's most famous architect, Frank Lloyd Wright and this is clearly seen in Wright's many Prairie Houses and the Darwin D Martin House. Both Wright and Thomson, in their classic innovative periods, employed low pitched roofs with wide overhanging eaves, allowing their villas to merge with the surrounding landscape and both intended the landscape to be part of the interior through large window frames.

Tor House is a Category A listed villa displaying all the hallmarks of Thomson's Greek revival villas and the building includes a squat Italianate tower at the centre of the property. Tor House has a shallow pitch roof, overhanging timber eaves, decorative barge boards and internally there are many original features including ornate plaster work (including sun ray ceiling roses), decorative doors and woodwork and stained glass windows. The accommodation on the ground floor begins with a reception hallway with stained glass windows and original staircase and a cloakroom with two further storage cupboards. A beautiful front facing drawing room has retained the original Thomson-designed doors and has picture windows overlooking the gardens and beyond to the Firth of Clyde. A sitting room and dining room are two further reception rooms on the ground floor. To the rear of the property there is a dining kitchen with Rayburn range cooker and a U shaped former service block comprising: studio/playroom, utility room and bathroom with access doors leading to a rear courtyard. The first floor accommodation is dominated by the master bedroom with white marble fireplace and original cornicing and plaster frieze to the ceiling, again with original Thomson carved doors. One picture window also allows access to the balcony. There are two additional double sized bedrooms and bedroom four which is a single sized bedroom. There is a modern wet room on the first floor. The turret room is accessed by a timber ladder from the reception hallway with windows on all four sides showcasing the magnificent views.

The surrounding mature gardens are mainly lawned with a wide variety of mature trees and shrubs. There is a single garage located to the rear of the property.

General Remarks

Local Authority Argyll & Bute Council

Council Tax Band G

EPC Rating F

Servitude rights, burdens and wayleaves The property is sold subject to and with the benefit of all servitude rights, burdens, reservations and wayleaves, including rights of access and rights of way, whether public or private, light, support, drainage, water and wayleaves for masts, pylons, stays, cable, drains and water, gas and other pipes, whether contained in the Title Deeds or informally constituted and whether referred to in the General Remarks and Stipulations or not.

The Purchaser(s) will be held to have satisfied himself as to the nature of all such servitude rights and others.

Possession Vacant possession and entry will be given on completion.

Offers Offers must be submitted in Scottish legal terms to the Selling Agents. A closing date for offers may be fixed and prospective purchasers are advised to register their interest with the Selling Agents following inspection.

Viewing Strictly by appointment with Savills – 0141 222 5875

Purchase price Within 7 days of the conclusion of Missives a deposit of 10% of the purchase price shall be paid. The deposit will be non-returnable in the event of the Purchaser(s) failing to complete the sale for reasons not attributable to the Seller or his agents.



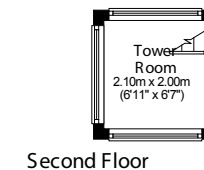
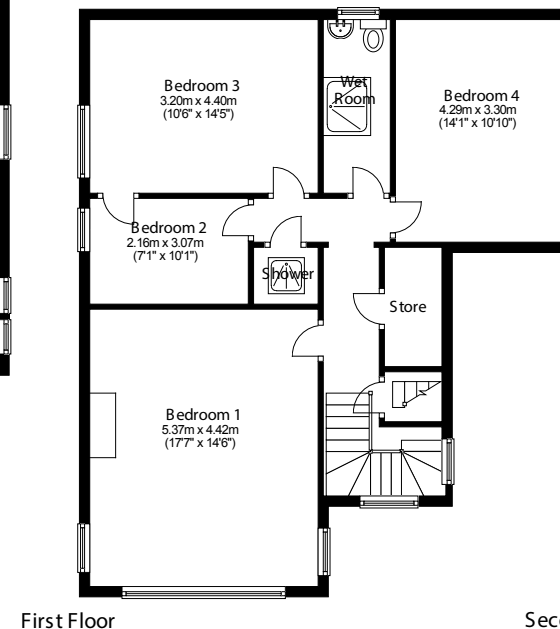
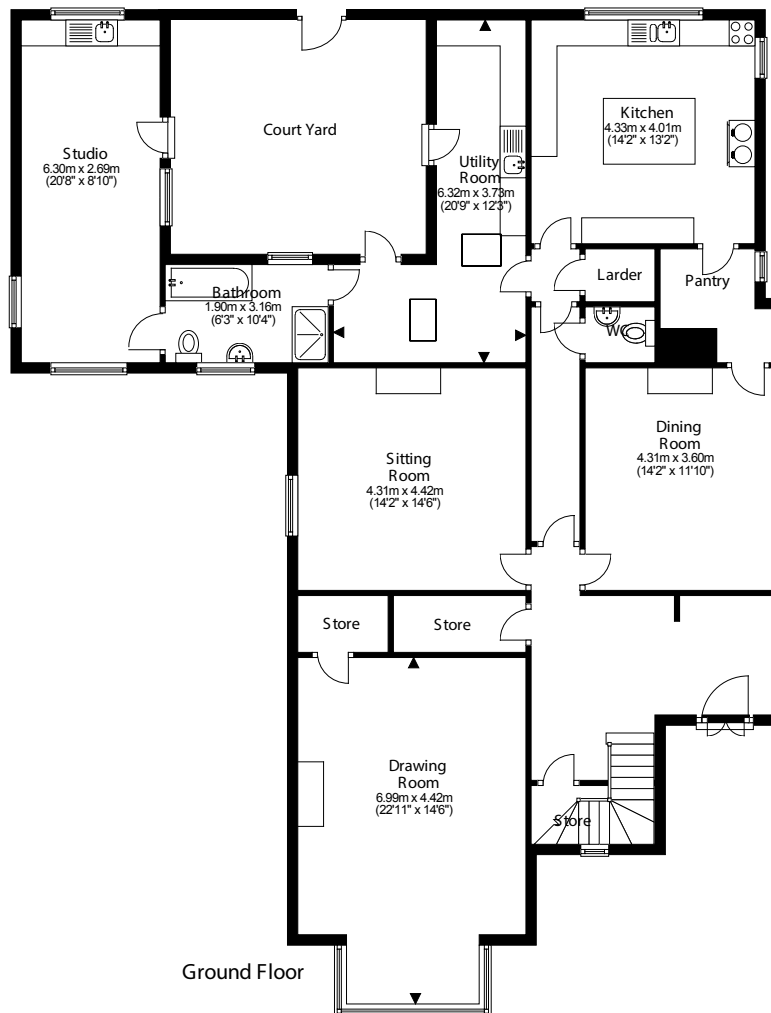


FLOORPLANS

Total gross internal area (approx): 2,593 sq ft, 240 sq m

For identification only. Not to Scale.

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