

Walkislay 2011

*A walking week for all on Islay, Jura and Colonsay
("guaranteed midge free, we believe")*

Saturday 16th April Our first walk this year is led by Iain MacPherson. The starting point will be from the car park at the entrance going into Islay House Square at 10.15 for 10.30 start (NR334628). We will set out from there and walk out past Eallabus, up past Knockdon and up to Loch Cam. From Loch Cam we return down by Loch Skerrols back to our starting point. A good 3* walk to start the week off. This is around 13.5 km of moderate walking, highest point is 138m, remember to bring your lunch with you. See note at end relating to our stars!



Sunday 17th April This morning we meet up at Ardnave with our leader at 10am. (Start point NR284722, finish point NR 236706 Ardnave returns to start point) The intention is to walk round Ardnave Point initially and then walk on along the coast to Sanaigmore. For those not wishing to proceed to Sanaigmore, they can return to their vehicles once we reach Traigh Nostaig. This is the same walk that James led a few years back when the Colonsay trip was cancelled due to ferry problems. The initial loop round

Ardnave is around 7 km, with an additional 5 km to Sanaigmore. At Outback Art at Sanaigmore there will be an opportunity for those wishing to purchase a hot chocolate & goodies if they so wish! We will provide transport back from Sanaigmore to Ardnave for car drivers to pick up their vehicles. Another great 3* walk to go towards your "prize".

At 9pm in the Port Charlotte Hotel, there will be some light music along with some of the locals, so come along for a pint and enjoy the craic! No stars for this one, sorry folks.

Monday 18th April Today's walk is led by Florrie MacAllister and Maggie Pollard, we meet up with the intrepid duo at the car park outside Bowmore Primary School at 0915 for shared transport. From Red Lodge (NR341572) we will proceed down the Burma Road to Corrary where we cross the Low



road and proceed on to Laggan. From Laggan we will walk out to Laggan point and head North up past Port Mor and Rubha Buidhe to Gartbreck. We then head back to Bowmore along the shore and The Battery. Transport will be provided to take you out to Red Lodge to the start point where

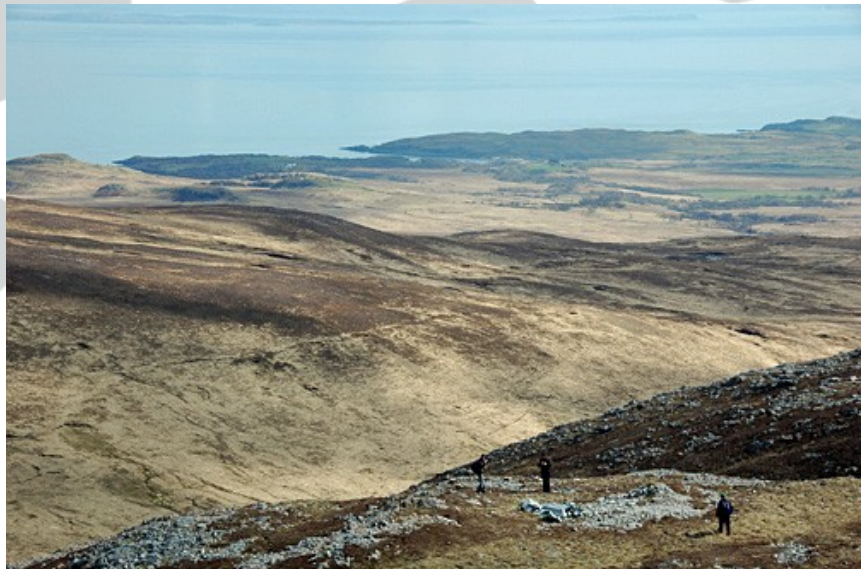
you will commence the actual walk. A great walk, taking in some tremendous scenery, not too arduous. A 3* walk of around 14km of medium walking. We would appreciate if you could notify Ian on +44-(0)1496-850 382 if you intend to go on this walk, to allow us to arrange transport

An alternative walk is being held over on Texa in the afternoon, and due to the logistics of getting transported across to Texa, numbers will be limited to 30, so please contact Ian on +44-(0)1496-850 382 to confirm your place. Should the weather be inclement, the alternative walk will be out from Ardbeg out to Solum. Our leaders today are James and Mary MacAulay.

Please meet up at 13.30 sharp at Lagavulin Distillery. Sorry folks only a 1* walk...Initial start point will be at Lagavulin regardless!!!



Tuesday 19th April This morning we meet up with Neil Park, Tom Dunne and Niall Colthert for a walk in the South east of Islay. Our starting point will be at Kynagarry NR369594 for shared transport at 9.15am for transport down to Kintore. Our walk will commence from Kintore NR457514 and follow the Kintour River inland and head up the shoulder between Cruaidh Ghleann and Gleann Leora. We shall follow this shoulder all its length and then



drop at its' Northerly end Sruthan Allallaidh and follow the burn down along the track past Monadh a' Choilich and finishing at Kynagarry. Another great 3* walk of around 13.5 of challenging walking. Obviously your cars will be at the end point....Again please phone Ian to allow transport to be booked.



An alternative, shorter walk will be led by a member of RSPB staff, starting from the car park (NR281422) at the RSPB Oa reserve, Upper Killeyan at 10am sharp. This is a circular walk taking in the American Monument returning along the coastline to Upper Killeyan. On a clear day, Rathlin Island and the Irish coast can be seen. Apart from the tremendous views that may be seen, there is a good chance to see some of the birds and other wildlife on the reserve.

This is about 6 km of moderate walking and 3 hours of your time and is a 2 * walk. Light snacks advisable for those who wish one.

Wednesday 20th April Today is Colonsay day for those that fancy a trip with CalMac. We meet up at Port Askaig at 9.15 sharp with James How to catch the ferry over to Colonsay. Depending on the tides there may be an option to walk over to Oronsay and view the Priory there, or if the tides/weather is unsuitable the option will be to walk to Kiloran Bay and Balnahard. We shall be taking vehicles with us to save you doing some of the road work! On our return to Scalasciag there may be time for refreshment before joining the ferry back. Either walk will be around 6-7 miles of moderate walking. We should return to Islay around 7.30pm so remember your lunch again but you may wish to get your dinner on the way home on the ferry! James's walk is another 2* for your card.



Thursday 21st April Our main walk today is from Bunnahabhain. (NR418733) It will be led by Scott Brown and Alan MacDonald. Their walk will go out over the hill to Bolsa, then follow the coast to Rhuvaal and return back to Bunnahabhain. It should take around 6-7 hours of your time and is about 19km miles of moderate walking. Meet up with Scott and Alan at 10 am. A great 3* with a good chance to see Red Deer out on the hill.



There will be a shorter walk at R.S.P.B. Loch Gruinart Reserve, meeting at the visitor centre for 10.00.m. start. On leaving the visitors centre we head out onto the moorland and head North and return to the road beside Moulin, from there we walk along the road to Gruinart farm and then down through the fields and back along the sea wall and return alongside one of

the "corncrake corridors". A moderate walk, 6km long, about 2.5 hours allowing for bird watching en route! (Sorry folks, Only 1*).

There is also another walk from Bunnahabhain, (NR418733) starting at 4pm prompt, with Paul Capper as your leader. Paul will take us up the Peat road, through the woods and on past Loch Staoisha and on to Balulive. From Balulive we go on the road until we meet up with the road between Ballygrant and Port Askaig, we will then join the path leading to Ballygrant. There will be transport laid on for vehicle drivers to return to pick up their cars from Bunnahabhain. Paul's is another 2* rating for your card. A 10 km walk all on tracks!

After Paul's walk there will be informal buffet in the Ballygrant Hall from 7 pm onwards to which everyone is invited.

Friday 22nd April, our last day and we head over to Jura to meet up with Donald Ewan Darroch. We will meet at Port Askaig at 9.15am and go over to Jura as foot passengers on the 9.30 am ferry. We will meet Donald Ewan at Inver. On reaching Feolin on Jura we will walk along the track to



Inver where we will head inland on the track out to Cnocbreac and then head inland and up along the track to Lochan Gleann Astaile where Donald Ewan will tell us all about the new Hydro electric scheme recently installed by Inver Estate. From there we will continue along the track along the base of the Paps, and then continue on round and back to Inver and then on to Feolin for the ferry back to Port Askaig. Another great 3* star walk for your card, not that you will be needing any more stars by then!

A nominal fee will be charged for each walk, and suitable footwear and clothing is strongly recommended. We regret that no dogs will be allowed on any of the above walks, with smoking only at the discretion of the walk leader. We have tried to grade the walks as easy, moderate, challenging and strenuous.

*For those of you who had been wondering what the new star rating are for, well here goes. This year as an incentive for you to come and join us on the walks we will be giving you another **walkislay** prize. If you attain 8* we will give you one of the prizes, and another prize if you manage to get another 8*. All you have to do is to do the walks to attain the stars to aim for your **walkislay**.*

We wish to thank our sponsors, [Sandbaggers](#) and also [Stormcats](#), along with the various land managers who kindly gave us permission to hold **walkislay** over their properties, and all those who gave their valuable time and help to make the walks possible.

If you require further information on **walkislay** or to provide your transport needs for a walk, phone Ian Brooke on +44-(0)1496-850 382, or e mail us on footsteps@walkislay.co.uk

This is an initiative by Islay & Jura Tourism & Marketing Group – visit www.islayjura.com