



28 HIGHLAND BARRISDALE TO INVERIE

▶ Distance: 8½ miles/13.8km ▶ Time: 4½ hours ▶ Grade: Challenging



On the shore of Loch an Dubh-Lochain.

PHOTO: RACHEL BROOKHEAD



CHOSEN BY... JENNY WALTERS

Day two of this trail through remotest Knoydart takes you from Barrisdale Bay to Inverie on Loch Nevis, from where ferries run to Mallaig. Inverie is a small village but after two days in the wilderness it feels like a metropolis. Despite being wild and lonely country, the paths are clear throughout, following an ancient route over the pass at Mam Barrisdale and down by Loch an Dubh-Lochain to the coast, and spectacular views out to the Small Isles. The remotest pub in Britain, Inverie's Old Forge, is a good spot for a celebratory tipples to round off an awesome weekend.

1 Start With bothy behind you, turn R on track and cross bridge over river. Keep with track ahead (path to R leads round into Coire Dhorrcail beneath Ladhair Bheinn) and soon pass turn to L which leads to white house. Go past another L turn 300m later (this leads into Gleann Unndalain) and continue ahead on main track up the hill. Keep climbing with path, swinging R and then L around small woodland, until you reach top of pass (1500 feet/450m) where a gorgeous view down Gleann an Dubh-Lochain rewards all your sweat.

2 miles/3.1 km The main path begins to descend easily down R-hand

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking

Bothy at Barrisdale Bay: only accessible on foot (see Walk 27 from Kinloch Hourn), grid ref NG871042.

Is it for me?

Very remote terrain but clear paths throughout; one long climb to the pass.

Stiles

None

PLANNING

Nearest town

Mallaig

Refreshments

Café, pub & shop at Inverie

Public toilets

Inverie

Public transport

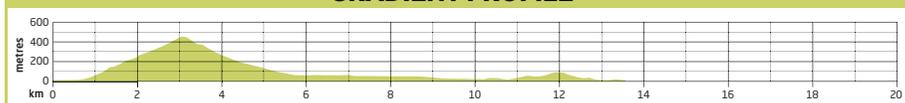
None to start. Regular ferries from Inverie to Mallaig: www.westernislescruises.co.uk

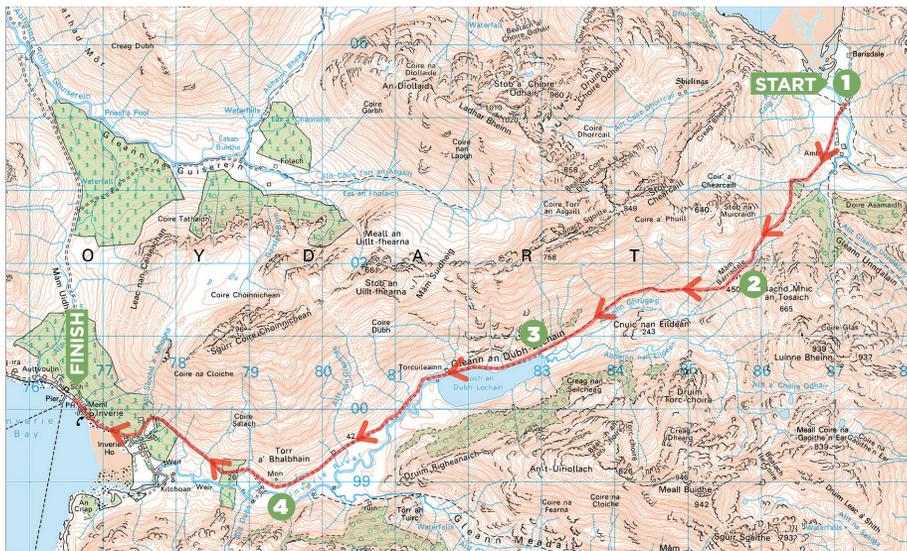
Maps OS Explorer 413; Landranger 33

side of glen, crossing a series of bridges and fords across burns, to reach east tip of Lochan an Dubh-Lochain. (Alternatively, you can divert here to walk the high ground,



GRADIENT PROFILE



28 HIGHLAND
BARRISDALE TO INVERIE▶ OS Explorer map 413 ▶ Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop

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heading NW across trackless ground and up a steep 'ramp' to the ridge just left of Stob a' Chearcaill. You can then either scramble up and over the narrow ridges of Ladhair Bheinn, or the lower rocky spur of Anach Sgoilte, to descend to Inverie. Both are tough underfoot and to navigate.)

3 3¾ miles/6km

Continue on clear track along northern shore of the

Loch an Dubh-Lochain, and on beside meanders of Inverie River. Ignore track turn to L and keep going until you're alongside a small hill to your R – Torr a' Bhalbain. A short detour takes you to the monument at its summit, built by the unpopular landowner, the 2nd Lord Brocket, in honour of his parents.

4 6½ miles/10.3 km

Keep heading west along

the main track, ignoring the turn to the L and passing through a small conifer plantation. You'll now have a wall to your L, and soon a woodland. Continue past the gate into woods on your L, and curve gently L with the main track which becomes a lane. Ignore all turnings and follow the lane round to R and along Inverie's shore, past shop, café and pub, to reach pier and ferry. **CW**

The view out to sea from Inverie.



PHOTO: RACHEL BROOMHEAD

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