

Crinan, Argyll, Scotland

At the western end of the 200-year-old Crinan Canal, this impossibly small harbour punches above its weight — ancient kingdoms, an Atlantic rainforest, beavers, and langoustines landed metres from your plate.

 Tender (anchor in Loch Crinan)

 Typical call: 5–7 hrs

 Currency: GBP

 English (Scottish Gaelic heritage)

 Small ships & expedition vessels only

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: Arrive: All aboard:

Excursion: Notes:

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender — ships anchor in Loch Crinan; tenders land at canal sea-lock pontoon

Best For: History, nature walks, Atlantic rainforest, Scotland's finest seafood

Walk to centre: 0 min — village is the pontoon; end-to-end in 10 min on foot

Don't Miss: Kilmartin Glen prehistoric monuments & Dunadd Fort (needs transport)

Getting around:  Taxi  £17–£21

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Kilmartin Glen — Scotland's Prehistoric Heartland** — Over 800 ancient monuments — stone circles, burial cairns, and standing stones — pack a six-mile valley rated among the most important Neolithic and...
- Dunadd Fort — Throne of the Gaelic Kings** — Climb this dramatic rocky crag rising from the Moine Mhòr wetlands to stand where early Scottish kings were crowned.
- Knapdale Beaver Trail** — Walk the trail around Barnluasgan Loch in Knapdale Forest — the site of Scotland's first licensed wild beaver reintroduction.
- Corryvreckan Whirlpool Boat Trip** — The world's third-largest whirlpool churns in the Gulf of Corryvreckan between Jura and Scarba.
- Crinan Wood — Atlantic Rainforest Walk** — Follow the 1.5-mile loop trail through ancient oak woodland draped in moss and ferns directly behind the Crinan Hotel.

BEST WALKS

- Canal Basin & Towpath Stroll** 1–2 miles · Easy · 45 min — From the sea-lock pontoon, walk east along the canal towpath watching yachts work the hand-cranked locks.
- Crinan Wood Viewpoint Loop** 1.5 miles · Moderate · 1 hr — Take the signed trail uphill behind the Crinan Hotel through ancient oak and birch.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		50°	40°	14d
Jun		60°	51°	17d
Aug		61°	53°	20d
Sep		59°	51°	18d
Oct		54°	47°	21d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 6:16AM–8:29PM · Jun 4:35AM–10:10PM · Aug 5:53AM–8:58PM · Sep 6:54AM–7:39PM · Oct 7:54AM–6:20PM

 Currency: GBP

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Midge season is real. June–September brings biting midges, especially near the wood and canal edges at dawn and dusk. Bring DEET or 'Smidge' repellent — sold locally but best packed from home.
- No ATM in the village. Nearest cash machine is Lochgilphead (6 miles). Cards accepted at the hotel; small stalls may be cash-only.
- Order the langoustines. The Crinan Hotel's seafood bar serves prawns caught by local boats and landed metres away — widely regarded among the best in Scotland.
- Four seasons in one day. West-coast Scotland weather is famously changeable. Pack a waterproof jacket and sturdy shoes regardless of the forecast.
- Book transport early for inland sites. There's no public bus or taxi rank at the pier. Ship excursions or a pre-booked private taxi are your only options to reach Kilmartin Glen and Dunadd.
- The Crinan Hotel is also an art gallery. Co-owned by painter Frances Macdonald, the walls are hung with original Scottish landscape paintings — well worth a look even if you're not dining.

Crinan, Argyll, Scotland — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Knapdale Scottish Beaver Trail | Walk trails to spot wild beavers in their natural habitat. | 2 Nether Largie Standing Stones | Ancient, mysterious standing stones from the Bronze Age. |
| 3 Achnabreck Forest | Explore a beautiful forest with walking and cycling trails. | 4 Carnasserie Castle | Explore the impressive ruins of a 16th-century tower house. |
| 5 Dunadd Fort | Climb an ancient hill fort, once a Scottish royal seat. | 6 Argyll Beaver & Wildlife Visitor Centre | Learn about beavers and local wildlife at this visitor centre. |
| 7 Dunchraigaig Cairn | Visit a large, ancient Bronze Age burial cairn. | 8 Nether Largie South Cairn | Explore an ancient, impressive Bronze Age burial cairn. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |