

Isle of Arran, Scotland, United Kingdom

Known as 'Scotland in Miniature,' Arran packs Highland peaks, medieval castles, whisky distilleries, and seal-watched beaches into a single island day. Most cruise ships tender into Brodick Bay — and the reward is worth every minute.

 **Tender (Brodick Bay)**

 **Typical call: 6-8 hrs**

 **Currency: British Pounds (GBP)**

 **Language: English**

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ **Arrive:** _____ **All aboard:** _____

Excursion: _____ **Notes:** _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender — ships anchor in Brodick Bay; tender to Brodick Ferry Terminal pontoon

Best For: Scenic walks, whisky distillery tours, Brodick Castle, prehistoric standing stones

Walk to Centre: 5-10 min flat walk from tender pontoon to Brodick village shops & cafes

Don't Miss: Arran Cheese Shop and a dram of Arran Single Malt before re-boarding

🚗 Getting around: 🚗 **Taxi** ✅ £4-£6 to Brodick center · 🚗 **Rideshare** ❌ not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Brodick Castle & Country Park** — A dramatic red-sandstone baronial castle (National Trust for Scotland) packed with antiques and art, surrounded by rhododendron gardens with sweeping...
 - Arran Single Malt Distillery Tour (Lochranza)** — The Isle of Arran Distillery in the scenic north produces award-winning unpeated single malt whisky.
 - Machrie Moor Standing Stones** — Six Neolithic and Bronze Age stone circles on an atmospheric moorland plateau — one of Scotland's
- most important prehistoric sites.

 - Kildonan Beach & Seal Colony** — A sandy south-coast beach famous for its resident harbour seals, which can almost always be spotted basking on offshore rocks.
 - Goatfell Summit Hike** — Arran's highest peak at 874m (2,867ft) offers panoramic views across the Firth of Clyde to the Scottish mainland — and as far as Ireland on a clear...

BEST WALKS

- Fisherman's Walk: Brodick to Brodick Castle** 2 miles one way · Flat · ~40-50 min · Free — The best walk from the tender pontoon.
- Glen Rosa Valley Walk** 2-4 miles · Easy to moderate · 1.5-2.5 hrs — A classic Scottish glaciated glen walk starting about 30 minutes on foot from Brodick village.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		50°	43°	12d
Jun		60°	53°	17d
Aug		61°	55°	18d
Sep		59°	53°	16d
Oct		55°	49°	20d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 6:15AM–8:26PM · Jun 4:37AM–10:05PM · Aug 5:53AM–8:54PM · Sep 6:53AM–7:37PM · Oct 7:51AM–6:19PM

 **Currency: British Pounds (GBP)**

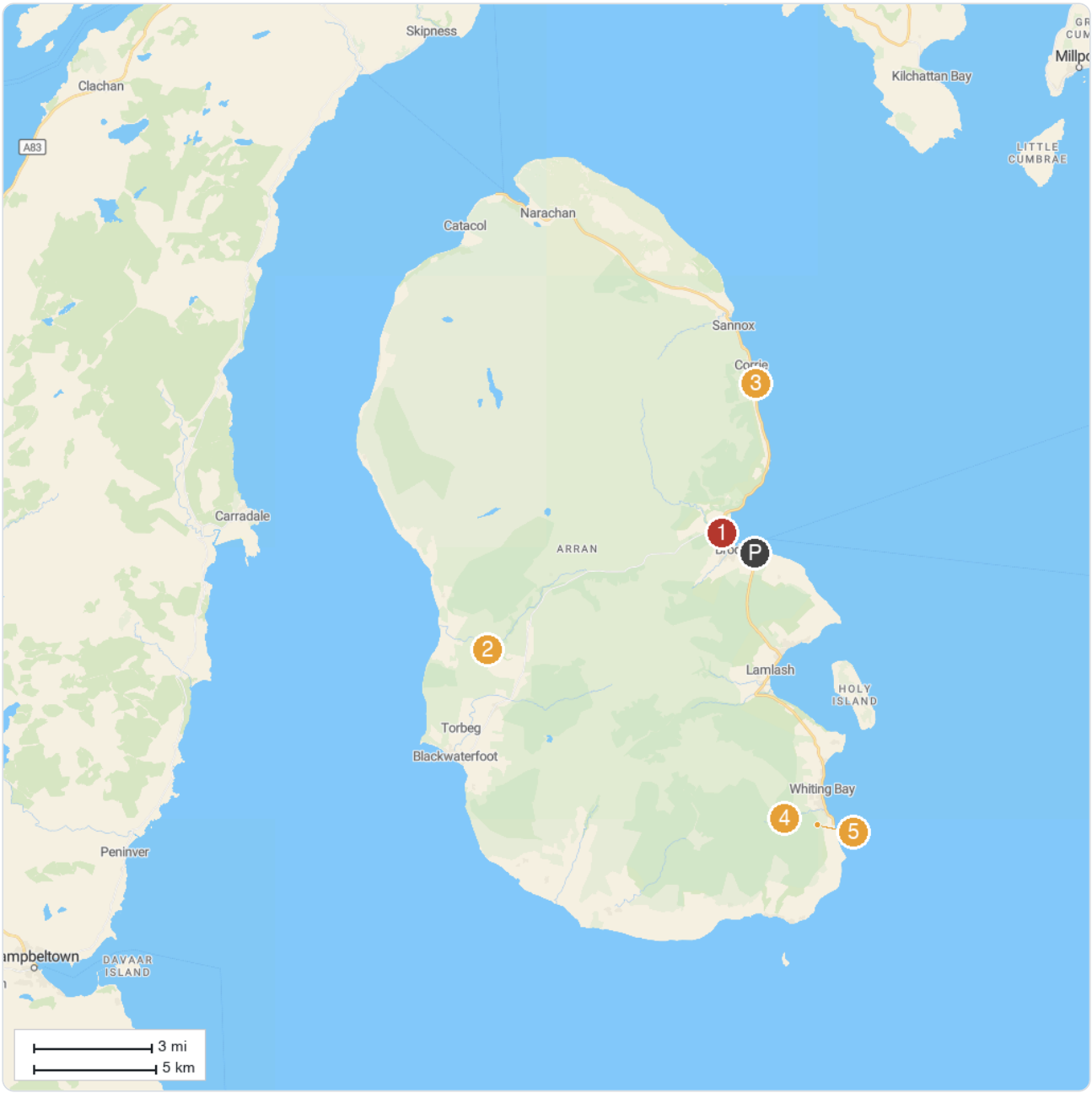
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Buy a Day Rider bus pass at the ferry terminal. Stagecoach buses circle the whole island and connect to both distilleries, Machrie Moor, and Kildonan — it's the only practical way to explore beyond Brodick without pre-booked transport.
- Stop at the Arran Cheese Shop (10 min walk from the tender pontoon, just past Brodick village). Arran cheddar — especially the caramelised onion or whisky-infused varieties — travels well and makes a great souvenir.
- Pack midge repellent if visiting June–August. Highland midges can be relentless in still, damp weather — especially in the glens. Local brand Smidge is sold in Brodick shops.
- Weather changes fast. Even a sunny tender ashore can turn wet by lunchtime. Bring a waterproof jacket and wear sturdy shoes if you plan to walk beyond the village.
- Don't rely on taxis. There are very few on the island and they book up days or weeks ahead. Plan everything around the excellent bus network instead.
- Look for red squirrels in the woodland around Brodick Castle. Arran is a stronghold for native red squirrels — grey squirrels were never introduced here, so they're thriving.

Isle of Arran, Scotland, United Kingdom — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



1 Rosaburn Ducks See wild ducks and other birds at Rosaburn.

3 Sheep Harbour Cleats A small, scenic harbour with historic mooring cleats.

5 Giants' Graves Neolithic chambered cairns, ancient burial sites of Arran's past.

2 Machrie Moor Standing Stones Ancient stone circles on a moor, dating back millennia.

4 Eas a' Chrannaig A beautiful, cascading waterfall hidden in a scenic glen.

P Cruise port / terminal