

Isle of Gigha, Argyll, Scotland

Seven miles of white sand and wild gardens off the Kintyre coast — Gigha punches well above its size. Community-owned and car-free for most visitors, it's one of the Hebrides' best-kept secrets.

 Tender port  Typical call: 5–7 hrs  Currency: GBP (cash useful)  English / Scottish Gaelic  Best: Apr–Jun for gardens

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender to Ardminish pier — no cruise berth

Walk to centre: Ardminish village is right at the pier; Achamore Gardens ~20 min

Best For: Gardens, beaches, walking, wildlife

Don't Miss: Twin Beaches (An Dòirlinn) and Achamore Gardens

 Getting around:  Taxi  By negotiation ·  Rideshare  not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Achamore Gardens** — A celebrated west-coast island garden established in 1944 by Sir James Horlick, growing rhododendrons, camellias, New Zealand tree ferns, and bamboo...
- **Twin Beaches (An Dòirlinn)** — Two white-sand coves either side of a narrow tombolo linking Gigha to the islet of Eilean Garbh — turquoise water, no crowds, cattle grazing nearby.
- **Kilchattan Chapel & Standing Stones** — The ruins of a 13th-century chapel sit uphill near Ardminish, with the inscribed Ogham Stone just to its west.
- **Kayak & Paddleboard Hire** — Gigha Boats and Activity Centre rents kayaks, paddleboards, wetsuits, and snorkels.
- **Wildlife Walk** — Otters, seals, red deer, and a variety of seabirds are regulars on Gigha.

BEST WALKS

- **Ardminish to Achamore Gardens** 1.5 miles · ~20 min · Easy — Follow the single-track road south from the pier through Ardminish village and into the gardens.
- **Village to Twin Beaches** ~5 miles · ~1.5–2 hrs · Long (bike recommended) — Head north from the pier along the island's single main road to the northern end, then take the signed path west to An Dòirlinn.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:18AM–8:29PM · Jun 4:38AM–10:08PM · Aug 5:55AM–8:57PM · Sep 6:55AM–7:39PM · Oct 7:54AM–6:21PM	
Apr	50°	43°	13d	 Currency: GBP (cash useful)	
Jun	60°	52°	16d		
Aug	61°	55°	20d		
Sep	59°	53°	17d		
Oct	55°	49°	21d		

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Watch the tender schedule. The ship will not delay departure for late tenders. Gigha has no comms office — know your last tender time before you leave the pier.
- Bring cash. There is no ATM on the island. GBP notes are useful for garden admission (~£8 honesty box), the Wee Isle Cafe, and bike hire.
- Hire a bike. The Gigha Boats and Activity Centre near the pier hires bikes by the hour — well worth it if you want to cover more ground in a short call.
- Pack layers. Argyll weather is changeable. The Gulf Stream keeps it mild, but wind and showers can arrive fast. Waterproof jacket is essential.
- Give cattle space. Free-roaming cattle graze near the Twin Beaches path — walk calmly around them and keep dogs on leads.
- Wee Isle Cafe near the pier serves coffee, snacks, and excellent artisan ice cream — a good stop before the tender back.

Isle of Gigha, Argyll, Scotland — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



- 1 Achamore Gardens** A beautiful island garden with exotic plants and rhododendrons.
- P Cruise port / terminal**

- 2 Seal Point** A scenic coastal spot to view wild seals.