

THE COCK OF ARRAN

Distance: 7.5miles/12km

Further Information: Brodick Tourist Information Centre,
The Pier, Brodick, Isle of Arran

O/S Map Reference: Landranger 69 (Isle of Arran)

This is a splendid coastal walk, which takes you round the north end of the beautiful island of Arran, starting and finishing at the fine ruin of Lochranza Castle.

Walking over a variety of terrain you can take in the wonderful views over the sea to the north and the Arran mountains to the south. The initial part of the walk is a steady climb with the views of the mountains improving all the time. After a while, the path reaches a high point and then begins to descend towards the shore. You follow the coastal path where the caves in the cliffs are the highlight of the walk. One of the caves is associated with the mythical bard Ossian. The path is quite rough and rocky in places but as you continue along the coast you are rewarded with the variety of bird life to be seen and in spring and early summer there are lovely wild flowers to identify.

The path climbs again to join a better track, which gives excellent views across to the peninsula of Kintyre before the final walk along the road back to Lochranza Castle.