

GOAT FELL

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

OS Map Reference: Landranger 69 (Isle of Arran)

Arran provides many challenges to the walker, and none greater than the route up Goat Fell, the Isle's highest point.

There are two routes to the top - details of both can be obtained from the Tourist Information Centre in Brodick or from the Brodick Ranger Service.

Both routes converge to a single path, which stretches to the top of the Fell. If the weather is good, the views over Arran and the Mull of Kintyre and out towards Ireland, the Ayrshire mainland and down into Galloway are spectacular. However, as with all mountainous terrain, the weather can be fickle, and visibility reduced very quickly, so this isn't a walk for the casual or unprepared walker.

On the way to the top, there's plenty of time to take in the local natural history - including the birch, alder and rowan that are the remains of Arran's ancient forest.

The craggy slopes of the north of the island are home to red deer, although these can be camouflaged in the heather. Lucky visitors may also catch sight of the rare golden eagle on the slopes, as well as ptarmigan, hen harriers and peregrine.