

Walk description:

Smirisary is a small ancient village in an idyllic spot overlooking the Sound of Arisaig. There is an intriguing mixture of old and new cottages spread around the coastline. It is a great walk for kids and there is ample opportunity to explore this magnificent coastline. Our route begins in a small bay not far from Glenuig which is an excellent picnic spot in itself. It follows an old coastal path which is a little obscure at one part but never too far away from the road which is our return route. If you are in the area, I can really recommend this one for a sunny afternoon or evening, with the chance of a brilliant sunset over the Sound of Arisaig.

Access information:

Turn off the A861 at Glenuig and continue on a single-track road to a lay-by opposite Samalaman Island. The beach here is a popular picnic spot. There is ample parking space.

Start grid ref: NM662777**OS map:** Explorer 398: Loch Morar & Mallaig**Walk length:** 3.11 miles**Duration:** 90 minutes**Height gain:** 30 metres**Contributor:** Jim Lowery**Weathercall:** Get a local forecast for this walk.

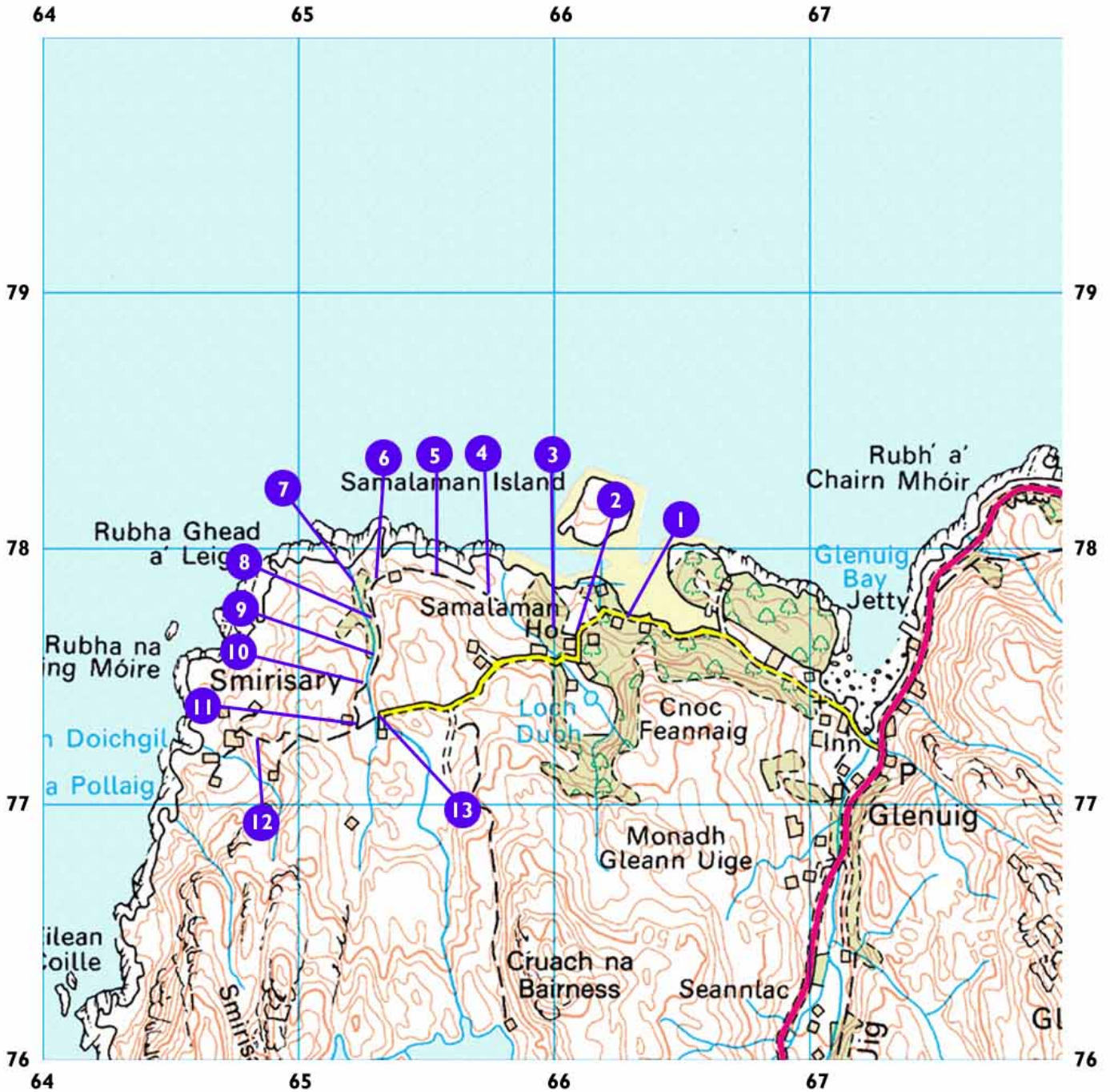
Call 09068 020 525 from your phone or mobile. Or dial 09065 22 45 06 from your fax machine to receive a fax.
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Features:

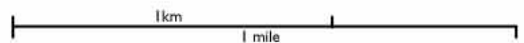
- Hills or Fells
- Sea
- Pub
- Birds
- Great Views
- Good for Kids
- Woodland

1:50 000 (x2)





Samalaman - Smirisary



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- 1**  Park in a large lay-by opposite and overlooking Samalaman Island. (There is an excellent beach for a picnic here and a great place for a swim!) Our route continues westwards along the road gently climbing towards Samalaman House. (Grid ref: 662777)
- 2**  As you reach Samalaman House there is a double gate. The one to the left is the one we take, which follows the fence and passes close to the house as it turns to the right. Follow the fence to a gate. (Grid ref: 660775)
- 3**  Go through the gate and turn left, following a fence on your left through oak and pine woodland. The path gently falls to open land, crossing through a gate with a sheepfold on the left. (Grid ref: 660776)
- 4**  Round the sheepfold on the seaward side and follow a fenced wall for 150m to a double gate ahead. There are views to the right across the Sound of Arisaig. (Grid ref: 658778)
- 5**  Look behind and see the peaks of An Stac and Roshven on the shores of Loch Ailort. Go through the iron gate on the left and climb a gentle track through woodland, levelling into a more distinct track towards a headland with good views towards Muck, Eigg and Rhum. (Grid ref: 656778)
- 6**  Walk past a cottage on the left and our path drops gently into a gully leading to the shore. Bear left to a stile. (Grid ref: 654778)
- 7**  Ahead is a stile which will take you onto a rocky beach, however our route turns left (south) here, along a line parallel to the fence and 10 yards from it (don't take the wider track to the left). The track you need is obscured by bracken, but follows the line of the fence and the burn. It passes a craggy rock close on the left and goes through oak and beech woodland, then into a clearing where it meets the fence coming from the right. (Grid ref: 653779)
- 8**  Fence and gate in clearing. Continue through the gate and follow the fence, now on the left. The route is between the fence and a deep gully, with the burn on the right. Arrive at a second gate and another clearing. About fifty yards beyond the gate there is a sleeper bridge over the burn to the right. Cross here and follow the burn to a stone slab bridge some thirty yards further upstream. (Grid ref: 653777)
- 9**  Stone slab. Cross again and follow the edge of the stream past the barn to another stone bridge and a pair of gates. (Grid ref: 652775)

- 10**  Turn left through the gates and up the track to a junction of paths - Smirisary. (Grid ref: 652773)
- 11**  Clearing with cottages, Smirisary. Follow the path right beyond the corner of the fence and climb gently on a good track to a gate. Go through the gate and continue to a viewpoint above the other houses of Smirisary on the shore. (Grid ref: 652774)
- 12**  Viewpoint. There are several tracks to the shore from here. Explore at your leisure and enjoy the views before returning towards Waymark 11. On the way, look ahead and across the open flats to electricity pylons ahead. There is a gate to a road. (Grid ref: 648772)
- 13**  Looking ahead to Waymark 13. Go through the gate onto the road and turn left. Follow the road, which meanders over open countryside back to our starting point. (Grid ref: 653773)