



27 HIGHLAND KINLOCH HOUN TO BARRISDALE

► Distance: 6½ miles/10.5km ► Time: 3½ hours ► Grade: Challenging



Looking along Loch Hourn from Skiary.

PHOTO: RACHEL BROOMHEAD



CHOSEN BY... JENNY WALTERS

The Knoydart Peninsula is one of

Britain's remotest and most spectacular places: a wild world of glens, lochs, burns, mountains – and no roads. This walk is the first day of a 15-mile weekend backpacking trail from Kinloch Hourn to Inverie, a village you can only depart by ferry or by retracing your steps. Unless you plan to walk back – and it's a path you'd happily tread twice – the logistics in this lonely country take planning. Your best bet is to start at Fort William (leave your car or arrive by train), then take the bus to Invergarry and taxi to Kinloch Hourn to start walking. From trail-end

at Inverie it's then a ferry to Mallaig and a train back to Fort William. It's a good bit of travel, but the rewards are immense for this is staggeringly beautiful terrain, and memories of wildest Knoydart will make you smile for years to come.

1 Start From car park, turn L on lane and walk towards loch, passing footpath sign for Inverie (15 miles). Continue as it turns to broad track along southern shore of Loch Beag, with water to R. The track soon narrows to a path: it's clear but rocky and rough underfoot and a bit overgrown in places. Continue on path close to loch for ¾ mile and then curve inland to L as

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking

Car park near road end at Kinloch Hourn, 23 miles west of Invergarry, grid ref NG950065

Is it for me? Clear but rocky paths through very remote countryside. A couple of climbs and a number of fords (some impassable after heavy rain)

Stiles None

PLANNING

Nearest town Fort William

Refreshments Seasonal tearoom at start www.kinlochhourn.com

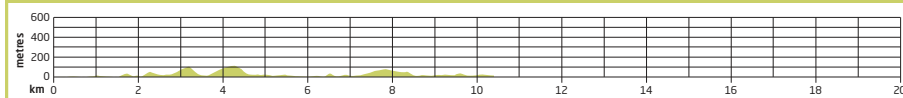
Public toilets None

Public transport None. Citylink bus to Invergarry, then taxi. Great Glen Travel (£40, greatglentravel.com) recommended.

Maps OS Explorer 413 & 414; Landranger 33

you approach the house at Skiary, to reach a footbridge. ➡

GRADIENT PROFILE



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► OS Explorer map 413 & 414 ► Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop



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2 1½ miles/2.5 km
Cross bridge and continue ahead in westerly direction, following path as it climbs uphill and then drops to two fords by Camas Bàn. Cross both rivers and keep with path as it climbs uphill again, swinging L to bypass outcrop of Creag Raonobhal, and then drops back towards loch beyond buildings at Runival.

3 3 miles/4.9 km
Keep going on path as it contours above loch, then

descends to shore. You'll cross a number of small burns, and climb a couple more little bumps, before reaching footbridge after 1½ miles. The fjord-like loch begins to widen here and the vistas expand.

4 4½ miles/7.5 km
Keep with the path as it climbs gently away from loch, bearing more sharply L when you reach top of rise above Barrisdale Bay, then soon back to R to drop down gully and meet a track. Turn L on this and

walk along edge of bay with incredible views of Ladhar Bheinn. Pass a big house to R to reach a small huddle of buildings and your accommodation for the night. There is a campsite (£1pp/pn, wild camping nearby is discouraged); a bothy (£3pp/pn); and a self-catering cottage in The Stables (from £50/pn for 2). See www.barrisdale.com for info. Or if you're feeling fit, you can carry straight on to Inverie (see Walk 28 Barrisdale to Inverie). **CW**

PHOTO: RACHEL BROOMHEAD



The mountain-fringed bay at Barrisdale.

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH



OS MAPS



Ordnance Survey

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