

Isle of Islay, Scotland, United Kingdom

The Queen of the Hebrides enchants with ten legendary whisky distilleries, windswept Atlantic beaches, and a coastline alive with seabirds and seals. Most cruise passengers arrive by tender at Port Ellen — and the famous Three Distilleries Path starts right from the pier.

Tender port (most ships)

Typical call: 7-9 hrs

British Pound (GBP)

English

Whisky island

MY DAY IN PORT

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

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender to Port Ellen pier (or Port Askaig for some itineraries)

Best For: Whisky lovers, wildlife, dramatic coastal scenery

Walk to center: 2 min from tender pier to Port Ellen village

Don't Miss: The Three Distilleries Path to Laphroaig, Lagavulin & Ardbeg

Getting around: **Taxi** £27–£33 · **Hop-on hop-off** Islay Coaches (Tour Islay Ticket)

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Three Distilleries Pathway Walk** — The signature Islay experience: a flat, paved path from Port Ellen along the south coast passing Laphroaig, Lagavulin...
 - Kildalton High Cross** — One of the finest surviving 8th-century Celtic ringed crosses in Europe, standing in a peaceful ruined churchyard about...
 - Whisky Distillery Tour** — Go deeper with a guided tour at one of Islay's legendary distilleries — Laphroaig, Lagavulin, Ardbeg (south coast)...
- American Monument & The Oa** — A dramatic clifftop memorial to the American servicemen and British crew lost when the troopships Tuscania and Otranto...
 - Wildlife & Birdwatching Tour** — Islay hosts over 100 bird species, including barnacle geese in winter, hen harriers, golden eagles, and choughs.

BEST WALKS

- Three Distilleries Path** 3.5 miles one way | Easy, flat | 2-3 hrs walking — Islay's signature walk follows the south coast from Port Ellen through moorland and sea-views to three world-famous distilleries.
- Kilnaughton Bay & Singing Sands** 3-4 miles round trip | Easy | 1.5-2 hrs — From Port Ellen, walk around Kilnaughton Bay to the distinctive square Carraig Fhada lighthouse (built 1832), then follow the...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	50°	42°	13d
Jun	59°	51°	16d
Aug	61°	54°	19d
Sep	59°	53°	17d
Oct	55°	49°	20d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:19AM–8:30PM · Jun 4:40AM–10:09PM · Aug 5:57AM–8:59PM · Sep 6:57AM–7:41PM · Oct 7:56AM–6:23PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Pre-book transport or get stuck in Port Ellen. Islay has almost no taxis available on the day and buses are infrequent. If you want to see Bunnahabhain beaches, or the west coast...

cruiseports.org

This map shows the Bowmore area on Islay, Scotland. The coastline is prominent on the left and bottom. Major roads are highlighted in orange. Key locations marked include Bowmore, Port Charlotte, Port Ellen, and Lagavulin. The map also shows the surrounding sea and some inland features like Gleneedale and Cornabus. A scale bar indicates 1 mile and 2 kilometers. A north arrow is located in the bottom right corner.

- Map © MapTiler © OpenStreetMap contributors