

Boarding the Misty Isle at Elgol's jetty, the Cuillin in cloud across Loch Scavaig

Before you go

A boat trip with a short walk in the middle: about 0.55 km each way ashore, around 10 minutes each way, Misty Isle says. On either company's Standard trip the whole outing takes about 3 hours, with about 1½ hours ashore. The path is rough, often wet and boggy, with two short fords: wear sturdy shoes or walking boots.

The regular sailings stop at the end of October for the winter. Bella Jane starts again on 1 April 2027 and runs to 31 October; Misty Isle has given no dates for 2027. Ring Misty Isle on 01471 866288 or Bella Jane on 01471 866244. Every sailing depends on the weather.

In 2026 Misty Isle's Standard trip was £34.50 an adult and Bella Jane's Standard Return £36. Parking at Elgol Jetty is free, Bella Jane says. Elgol has public toilets, and Bella Jane's boat has one on board. Dogs are welcome on Misty Isle's trips, though some need carried up the steps at the landing; Bella Jane asks you to contact it first.

After the walk

Elgol Bistro is in the village, in a converted croft house looking over Loch Scavaig to the Cuillin, and Amy's Place, a purple tea room baking its own cakes, is at Torrin on the road back. Check their winter hours before you go.

The walk online, with its photographs and map:
hiddenscotland.com/walks/loch-coruisk-by-boat-from-elgol

It starts at Elgol's jetty, at the end of the B8083, NG 515 136.

In an emergency, call 999 or 112 and ask for the police.

BY BOAT AND ON FOOT TO

Loch Coruisk



A HIDDEN SCOTLAND WALK

Across Loch Scavaig from Elgol, and Ashore into the Cuillin

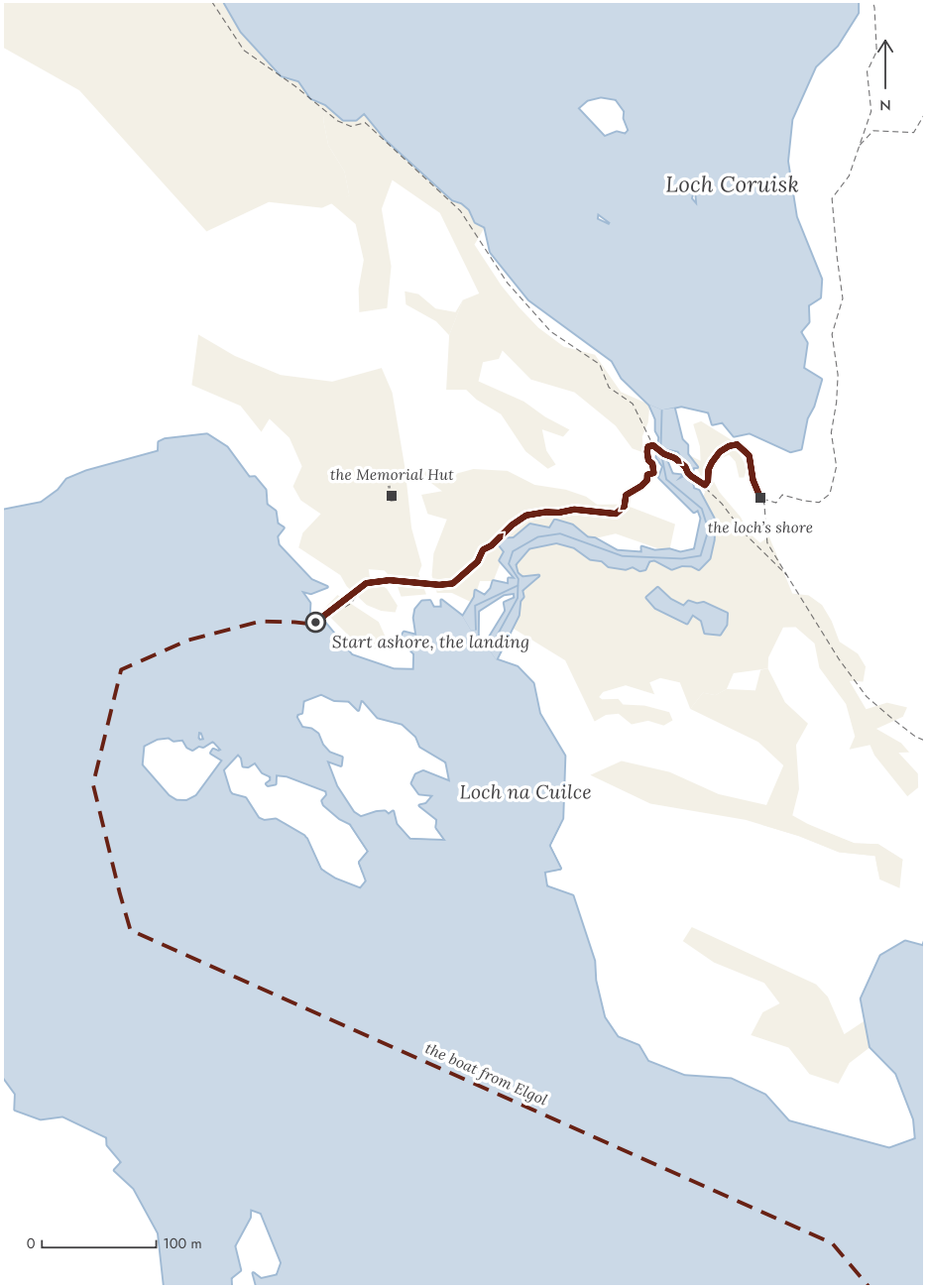
Loch Coruisk lies deep in the Black Cuillin, ringed by bare rock peaks. Two boat companies sail to it from Elgol, at the end of the road on Skye's Strathaird peninsula, across Loch Scavaig and past the seal islets to a landing by the Scavaig River. From there a short path runs to the loch's shore.

words // Hidden Scotland *photography* // Hidden Scotland

The boats leave from Elgol's jetty, where both companies sell their tickets: Misty Isle's white kiosk at the end of the road, and Bella Jane's blue office near the top of the jetty. The crossing of Loch Scavaig runs under the Cuillin; Bella Jane puts its one-way trip at about 45 minutes. Near the head of the loch the boats pass the islets where a resident colony of harbour seals hauls out; Bella Jane puts it at 150 to 200, with new pups from mid June.

The boat ties up at a landing in Loch na Cuilce, with metal steps up from the water that some dogs find hard, Misty Isle says. The path heads north-east past the Coruisk Memorial Hut, built as a climbers' hut in 1958 by the father of Misty Isle's skipper. It then runs by the Scavaig River, where two short stretches of a few metres each are mapped as fords. The ground is often wet and can be boggy underfoot.

The path ends on the shore where the river leaves Loch Coruisk, about 0.55 km from the landing and around 10 minutes each way, Misty Isle says, with the Cuillin rising all round and Sgùrr na Strì to the east. Red deer may be about, and sometimes a white-tailed sea eagle overhead. The path that carries on south-east along the coast leads to the Bad Step, on the way out to Camasunary, and is not part of this walk. Head back the same way to the landing in good time for your boat.



The walk ashore: about 0.55 km each way. The dashed line is the boat from Elgol.

Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors