Before you go

No public body gives a distance or a time for this walk. By our map it is about 10 km (6 miles) there and back with about 750 metres of climb, and it takes about 4 to 5 hours, more with stops, in poor weather or under snow. Leave plenty of daylight for the way down. Under snow it is a winter mountain, and no avalanche forecast covers it: the Lochaber avalanche forecasters have called the hills east of Loch Treig "no man's land", between their two areas. Having no forecast does not mean there is no risk.

Check the mountain forecast, and under snow the snow and avalanche conditions too. Even on a clear summer day it is often much colder and windier on the hill than below. Wear good walking boots and carry warm, waterproof clothing, plenty of food and drink, and a torch. Carry a map and compass and know how to use them, and do not rely only on a phone or GPS: one guide rates the navigation here demanding. There are no waymarks or signposts on the hill.

The Loch Treig road leaves the A86 about 13 km east of Spean Bridge and runs south for about 6 km to Fersit. By our map it is one lane wide. Park at the road's end, just before the houses. Do not count on a toilet, a shop, fuel or a phone signal near the hill. Corrour Estate calls stalking a vital part of its habitat management, so follow any signs on the day.

After the walk

Most walkers join Stob Coire Sgriodain to Chno Dearg, about two kilometres further east, in a round from Fersit: a longer day, and not this walk. Corrour Estate gives the name as Pinnacle in the Corrie of the Ravine.

The walk online, with its film and map:
hiddenscotland.com/walks/stob-coire-sgriodain-from-fersit

It starts at the parking area at the end of the Loch Treig road at Fersit, just before the houses, NN 350 781.

In an emergency, dial 999, ask for the police and then for mountain rescue, Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team says.

A MUNRO WALK UP

Stob Coire Sgriodain



A HIDDEN SCOTLAND WALK

From Fersit

Stob Coire Sgriodain, 979 metres, stands above the east shore of Loch Treig, between Glen Spean and Corrour. This is the usual way up, from Fersit at the end of the Loch Treig road: across a wet moor to the north ridge, up it over Sron na Garbh-bheinne to the summit, and back the same way. The moor is boggy and the ridge steep and rocky, with crags falling to the loch: a day for hillwalkers who can find their way with a map and compass.

words // Hidden Scotland

From the parking, walk east down the track and over the River Treig and the railway by their bridges. Go through the gate and on past the houses and the farm. One walker tells of cattle roaming the fields beyond the farm: give them a wide berth. About a kilometre from the start, where the track bends, a path leaves it and heads south over the moor. It is faint in places, and the ground is wet and tussocky.

After nearly 2 km of moor the path reaches the foot of the north ridge. By our map it crosses a small burn, the Allt Fhearghais, near here, with no bridge. Burns can rise fast in a day, so after heavy rain turn back if the crossing looks unsafe. Then the climb begins in earnest, up the steep, rocky nose of Sron na Garbh-bheinne. There are crags on the way up, which can generally be bypassed, one guide says, and false tops before the summit.

The last few hundred metres run along the ridge above Coire Sgriodain, whose crags fall steeply to Loch Treig. Keep well back from the edge, above all in wind or cloud. If the cloud is coming down, the wind is rising or anyone is tiring, turn back. Come down the way you came, the nose with care. In cloud take a bearing for the north ridge from the summit, because the path also runs on south towards Chno Dearg.



Up Stob Coire Sgriodain by the north ridge and back the same way: about 4 to 5 hours.

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