

# PWA7 Port Appin Sea Arches

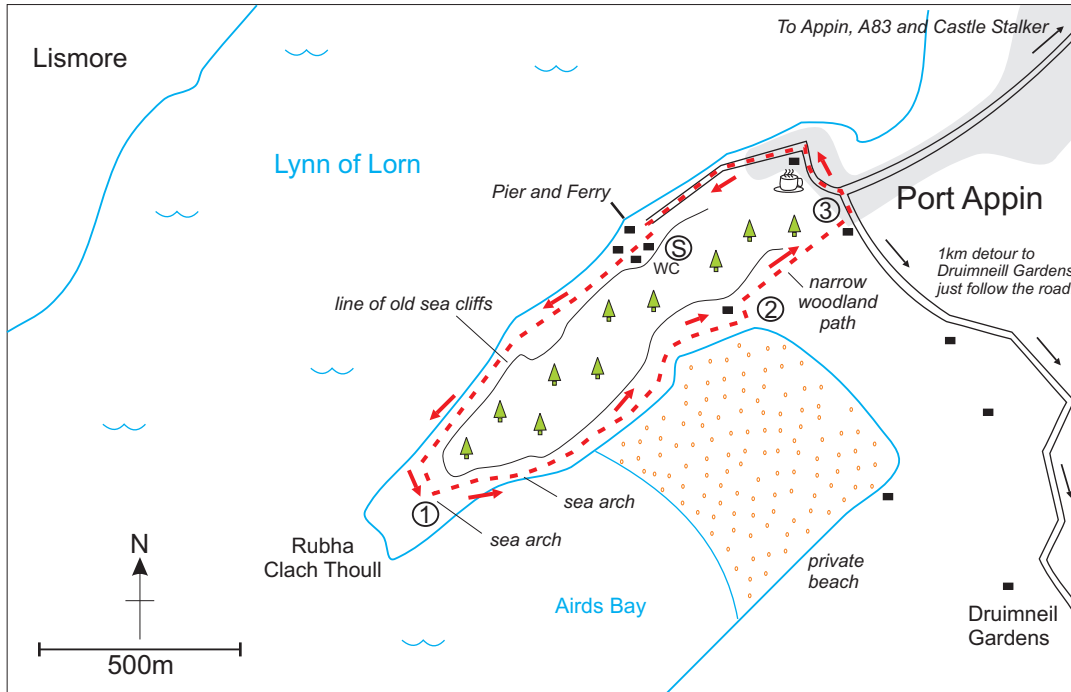


## Outline Information

Distance: 1.5 miles (2.5 km)  
Time: 1 hours  
Grade: Easy  
Map: OS Explorer OL376  
Grid Ref: 904453

This is a level walk around a beautiful headland below sea cliffs which were cut when sea level was higher than it is today. At the end of the headland you are rewarded not only with stunning views over the sea and the Isle of Lismore, but 2 old sea arches, now stranded several metres above the water. Not only that, but there's a great view of Castle Stalker as you drive to the car park!

The track is good most of the way, but there is a section of about 300m of narrow and sometimes wet woodland path to meet the road. However it is just wide enough for a double buggy! ATPs only for the full round trip.



## Getting there

Turn off the A828 by the garage in Appin, signposted to Port Appin (Castle Stalker to your right!). Go through the village and park in the car park above the pier. Toilets.

**S.** From the car park, follow the signposted track between the two white houses. Head along between the houses, the last two of which have turrets! Carry on along the track under the cliffs with lovely views over to the Isles of Lismore and Mull and the Moidart peninsula across the sea.

Keep following the track, past a small pebbly beach to a gate. Go through the gate and just continue along the track until you reach the headland, where there is a bench to admire the view.

*To your left right all along this walk you can see the old sea cliffs cut in the quartzite rocks. Sea level is not constant and has gone up and down repeatedly during geological time and at present is actually very low. These cliffs were cut when sea level was just a few metres higher than present. This could either be because actual sea level has gone down, or because the land has rebounded up since the glaciers retreated after the last ice age. Do this walk before the effects man is having on sea level rise make them sea cliffs once again!*

**1.** As you reach the bench, the sea arch, Clach Thuoll, appears. Once you've admired the arch and the view down the coast, follow the track around the arch and continue around the other side of the headland, which is slightly more sheltered and more wooded. Look out for the second smaller arch, hidden in the trees to your left and also small sea caves.

Continue along the track beside Airds Bay until you reach a white house, where the track ends.

**2.** Go in front of the house and through a small metal gate marked "Footpath to Port Appin". This brings you to a narrow path through the woods which is awkward and can be muddy. Cross the drainage ditch and follow the path for about 300m until you come to a house.

**3.** By the house, go through the gate and join the road for easy going once more. Turn left and then left at the T-junction to walk back into Port Appin. If you want a detour, turn right along the road to visit Druimneil Gardens, open April - October: dawn to dusk, entry by donation. It's just over 1km each way, teas available, lunches by appointment (01631 730228).

Pause at the lighthouse exhibition by the village hall for information on the village and surrounding area. This was the light chamber for the lighthouse you can see just offshore. When demolition was threatened, the locals painted the lighthouse pink and painted a sad face on it! It was saved from demolition!

Follow the road back to the pier and the car park. The village has a shop, post office and craft shop which sells toys and takeaway tea and coffee! There's also a posh restaurant by the pier.

Enjoyed this walk? Then why not try [PWA2 Crinan](#) or [PWA5 Lower Black Loch](#)?