

# Mingulay, Berneray and Pabbay



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KEY			
1	Lighthouse	7	Burial mound & symbol stones
2	Càrnan (273m)	8	Dùnán Ruadh Iron Age building
3	Biulacraig <i>Eagle Cliff</i>	△	Area for tents Please contact the Trust before camping
4	Hèacla (219m)	—	Berneray footpath walk
5	Ruined village & Mingulay Bay		
6	Cnoc Mhic-a-Phi <i>MacPhee's Hill</i> (224m)		



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## A walk on the wild side



### Description

Mingulay, Berneray and Pabbay lie at the southern tip of the Western Isles and are sometimes called the Barrahead Isles. You can reach them by charter boat from Barra.

### Grade

Please wear walking boots or sturdy shoes. There are no landing facilities on Mingulay or Pabbay and it's a scramble up rocks to the village. All paths are uneven.

### Terrain

These are wild islands with sheer cliffs in places. Please take responsibility for your own safety. Plan ahead – weather conditions can change suddenly, even in summer, so be properly equipped. Take care – Mingulay, Berneray and Pabbay are remote from rescue services and medical care.

### OS Map

Landranger Sheet 31



### MINGULAY

The last inhabitants left in 1912, leaving behind a precarious existence based on crofting, fishing and fowling. Today the beautiful sands of Bàgh Mhiùghlaigh (Mingulay Bay) are creeping inland. Eventually they will cover Mingulay's old village but for now remains can still be seen of the houses, fields, graveyard, priest's house, chapel and school.

On a clear day the peaks of Càrnan and Cnoc Mhic-a-Phì (MacPhee's Hill) offer magnificent views. Biulacraig – one of Europe's highest cliffs – is an ideal spot for bird, whale and dolphin watching.

### BERNERAY

Also known as Barra Head, Berneray is at the southernmost edge of the Outer Hebrides. The lighthouse, built by Robert Stevenson, perches on the sheer cliffs of Sròn an Dùin and dominates the landscape.

### PABBAY

Pabbay, meaning priest's (or hermit's) island, refers to this island's early Christian settlement. Rich in archaeology, the island is home to one of only two Pictish symbol stones in the Western Isles. In summertime Pabbay's wildflowers attract hundreds of butterflies.



Puffins on Mingulay



The schoolmistress and pupils outside the school on Mingulay, c1907



Pictish carved stone on Pabbay

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