

Shortest distance 204km, suggested route 208km.

The new cycletrack past Ganavan to Dunbeg is a good alternative to the A85, but after that you've no choice but major roads to Inverary. I've included short chunks of old road along Loch Fyne.

The 4.5km you're carried on the ferry doesn't count to your cycling distance, but the time taken counts to your cycling time.

Dunoon Gourock ferry last sailing 2330, <http://www.western-ferries.co.uk/mptimes.shtml>.

I've found the A78 OK as far as Ardrossan but busier further towards Irvine and Ayr so the route cuts up and inland after Largs to approach Ayr from Tarbolton..

Travelodge at <http://www.travelodge.co.uk/hotels/324/Ayr-hotel> but I've not stayed there.

Log from 2007 using Girvan instead of Ayr.

W9B (230km). Girvan, Ardrossan, Gourock, Dunoon, Inverary, Oban.

10/09/07 (Sunday), 144m on the clock, 14hr55, 0507 – 2002, dry sunny day with a moderate westerly.

Left the A77 for the A719 and continued all

the way to Ayr, out of my way but a pleasant coastal ride. Thru Prestwick I had to join the A78

and took the first left for Ardrossan to an estate shop nearby. It saved going right down to the harbour. Back to the A78 on a scenic and fairly quiet coastal run before turning onto the A770

to Gourock. Here I took the Western Ferries boat from McInroy's Point to Dunoon. The Calmac Ferry is further on into Gourock. Right off the ferry round the coast and right at a T onto the

A815. Good pie shop at the T. The road leads very pleasantly past Loch Eck to the head of Loch Fyne. Here I joined the A83 which was a bit busier. Controlled at the chippie in Inverary but

there seemed to be plenty of pubs and shops there. Nice climb up Glen Aray before dropping to the head of Loch Awe. A85 through the Pass of Brander and all the way to Oban and the YH.

The next day was a rest day.

