

MALLAIG RAILWAY STATION FERRY PORT Interchange Audit

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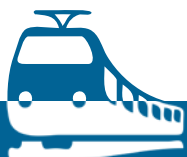
Linking cycling with
public transport



Introduction

Purpose of the Interchange Audit

Transform Scotland has carried out a series of 'Interchange Audits' to assess how easy it is to combine cycling with other forms of sustainable transport. Railway stations, bus stations, and ferry terminals have been audited with consideration given both to cyclists who might want to park their bike and to those who plan to take their bike with them (for instance on the train or ferry). Each audit has involved an on-the-ground survey using the [Interchange Toolkit](#) which was developed for this project. The survey considers aspects that could make a cyclist's journey easier or more difficult, starting from the station or terminal approach, through entering, to locating parking or the appropriate boarding point. Features such as signage, suitable routes, and access to facilities have been included. However, the project did not assess cycle carriage (for example, the number of cycle spaces on a train or ferry).

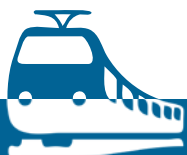


overview of station and terminal

The railway station and ferry terminal in Mallaig are located next to each other and so the proximity of these facilities makes it possible to switch between rail and ferry with ease.

Local authority area
Highland Council

Location
In the centre of the village which has a population of 790



Mallaig Railway Station

The railway station in Mallaig is the terminus station for the West Highland Line with services from Fort William.

Number of passengers

Used by 83 ,000 passengers in 2012/13

Station manager

ScotRail

Number of entrances/exits

2

Number of platforms

2

Services

Terminus for west coast trains from Fort William; 4 return services except Sundays when there are 3; served by the Jacobite steam train in the summer with 2 services from Fort William and one returning

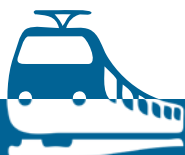
References: Mid-2010 Populations Estimates for Settlements and Localities in Scotland (General Records Office Scotland); Estimates of Station Usage 2012/13 (Office of Rail Regulation); National Rail Enquires; ScotRail; Caledonian MacBrayne

Caledonian MacBrayne Ferry Terminal

The Caledonian MacBrayne Terminal provides services to and from the Small Isles (Canna, Rum, Muck and Eigg) as well as to Armadale on Skye. (There is also a return service to Lochboisdale on South Uist which does *not* run between 4 April - 26 October.) Armadale return services run daily. The Small Isles services change daily Monday through Thursday, while on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, all the islands have services.

Audit Summary

Given the compact nature of Mallaig, the railway station, and the ferry terminal, it is relatively easy to move about with a bicycle. However, there was no signage to the railway station on the A830 main approach into Mallaig. While the railway station had cycle parking, it was uncovered which is not ideal in the west Scotland climate. However, at least parking was provided and it was possible to take bicycles into the station. In contrast, the ferry terminal did not provide any cycle parking. This was compounded by CalMac's Scotland-wide policy of prohibiting bicycles in ferry terminal buildings. Some signage, covered parking, and a more cycle-friendly policy would greatly improve the experience of the cyclist.



Signage

There are two routes into town, the A830 (which is the main road) and the B8008.

Mallaig Railway Station

- ▶ Where the A830 meets Station Road, there was no signposting for the railway station. It should be noted that the station is visible from this road, if one is paying attention, but it may escape someone not familiar with the area and focusing on signs and the road. Where the B8008 meets Station Road, there was good signage for the railway station.

CalMac Ferry Terminal

- ▶ Both the junction between the A830 and Station Road and the B8008 and Station Road had good signage to the ferry terminal.

Suitable Routes

- ▶ The roads in Mallaig were quiet and easy to navigate on a bicycle.

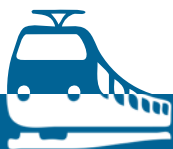
Facilities

Mallaig Railway Station

- ▶ There were five uncovered Sheffield stands with good natural surveillance and CCTV coverage. The spacing between was 54cm, which is significantly smaller than the recommended 100cm. The recommended spacing ensures each Sheffield stand can easily hold a bicycle on either side with panniers loaded.

CalMac Ferry Terminal

- ▶ There was no cycle parking provision at the ferry terminal, although staff suggested the railings outside as an option for locking up bicycles.
- ▶ Bicycles were not allowed in the ferry terminal.



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