

AND FRANCE SO FULL OF WINE

While this song sounds pretty traditional, it was written by Scottish singer-songwriter Ian McCalman and released on his 1975 album, **Smuggler**. Ailsa Craig is an uninhabited island 10 miles off Scotland where granite is quarried to make curling stones. There is a Hazleholm in Cumberland County in Northwest England. There is another song called **The Lads of Lendalfit**, but I could not identify it geographically. You can hear a fine performance of this song by the Sheringham Shantymen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0kbRCiog-E>.

THE SMUGGLER

by Ian McCalman

C **G** **C** **F** **C** **G**
The boat rides south of Ailsa Craig in the waning of the light

F **G** **C** **Am** **F** **C** **G**
There's thirty men in Lendalfit to make our burden light

C **G** **C** **F** **C** **G**
And there's thirty horse in Hazleholm with the halters on their heads

F **G** **C** **Am** **F** **C**
All set this night upon your life if wind and water speed

CHORUS:

Am **Em** **Am** **Em** **G**
Smugglers drink of the Frenchmens wine and the darkest night is the smugglers time

F **C** **Am** **C** **F** **C** **G**
Away we run from the excise man. It's a smugglers life for me. It's a smugglers life I

C (**Am** in last chorus, then repeat last line as shown).
lead.

Oh lass you have a cozy bed, and cattle you have ten
Can you not live a lawful life and live with lawful men?
But must I use old homely goods while there's foreign gear so fine?
Must I drink at the waterside and France so full of wine

CHORUS

Though well I like to see you Kate, with a baby on your knee
But my heart is now with the gallant crew that plough the angry sea
The bitter gale, the tightest sail, and the sheltered bay our goal
It's the wayward life, it's the smugglers strife, it's the joy of the smugglers soul

CHORUS

And when at last the dawn comes up and the cargo safely stored
Like sinless saints to church we'll go. God's mercy to afford
And It's champagne fine for communion wine and the parson drinks it too
With a sly wink prays "forgive these men, for they know not what they do"

CHORUS

C F C G C
It's a smuggler's life for me. It's a smuggler's life I lead.