

Onward, Voyager!

to Orkney & Shetland



Your 2024
guide to
Scotland's
Northern Isles



www.northlinkferries.co.uk

Operated by **serco**



The Northern Isles are breathtaking and wild, rich in Norse and Scottish history, wildlife, delicious food and drink, unique folklore, music, poetry and prose. Orkney and Shetland are both quite unlike anywhere else in the UK. With NorthLink Ferries they're closer than you think.



MV Hjaltland, along with MV Hrossey, sails from Aberdeen to Shetland

NorthLink Ferries sail from the Scottish Mainland to the islands, with up to four sailings a day to Orkney and nightly sailings to Shetland.

Sailings routinely depart from Scrabster (near Thurso) to Stromness in Orkney and from Aberdeen to Lerwick in Shetland. Up to four sailings a week from Aberdeen also call in via Orkney's capital, Kirkwall.

For islanders and visitors alike, NorthLink Ferries provides a comfortable and reliable service that is a vital link to and from mainland Scotland. Purpose built for the routes, NorthLink's modern passenger vessels, MV Hamnavoe, MV Hjaltland and MV Hrossey, offer the highest standards of safety and comfort. On board, travellers can expect a service that is a testament to the islands' warmth and friendliness.

Whether you are exploring all of Scotland's wonderful wilderness or discovering the Northern Isles for the first time, get in touch by phoning our call centre on 0800 111 4422 (free from UK landlines and mobiles) or visiting www.northlinkferries.co.uk to plan and book your trip.

Why not consider experiencing both Shetland and Orkney during your visit? Our regular sailing schedule makes island-hopping easy!

Travelling from Aberdeen

The Aberdeen ferry terminal is conveniently located in the heart of the city, close to the rail and bus stations at Union Square. NorthLink Ferries has partnered with Stagecoach to offer passengers the 727 Jet Bus service to (and from) Aberdeen International Airport.

...to Lerwick

There is a daily service to (and from) Lerwick, leaving Aberdeen in the evening and arriving at 07:30 the following morning in Shetland's capital.

...to Kirkwall

There is also a direct link to Orkney from Aberdeen. The service to (and from) Lerwick calls into Kirkwall frequently, arriving in the late evening before sailing on to Lerwick (or Aberdeen). The Stagecoach X10 bus service in Orkney connects with arrivals and departures.

Travelling from Scrabster

Scrabster is located in the far north of mainland Scotland, near Thurso in Caithness. There are road, rail and bus links from Inverness to Thurso. By car, a journey from Inverness to Thurso takes around 3 hours.

...to Stromness

NorthLink Ferries operate a 90-minute crossing up to three times a day between Scrabster and Stromness in Orkney. MV Hamnavoe is the only ferry crossing to Orkney which passes the breathtaking sea stack, the Old Man of Hoy.

Services On Board

NorthLink Ferries prides itself on making journeys to Shetland and Orkney as comfortable as possible. Enjoy a range of services on board MV Hamnavoe, MV Hjaltland and MV Hrossey including:



The Feast Restaurant

The Feast Restaurant

Enjoy a variety of delicious freshly prepared meals, made using locally sourced produce.

Bars

All three NorthLink Ferries ships have bars serving a wide range of drinks, many from Orkney and Shetland.

Magnus Lounge

Purchase entry to this premium lounge; a quiet place to work or unwind. Alternatively, buy an Executive or Premium cabin to receive complimentary access to Magnus' Lounge.

Children's play area

The Vikling's Den has a range of fun activities to keep children entertained.

Accessible Facilities

A range of accessible facilities are available to allow easy access for all passengers. These include specially designed cabins, accessible toilets, wheelchair access, boarding assistance and Changing Places facilities.

Cabins

Relax in a comfortable en-suite cabin. Includes a TV with live channels, plus on demand movies and box sets. 2, 3 and 4-bed cabins, accessible cabins, and pet-friendly cabins are available.



Sleeping pods

Sleeping pods (MV Hjaltland and MV Hrossey)

A premium reclining chair with footrest, blanket and pillow. Shower facilities are also provided.

Reclining seats

Comfortable seats which, on MV Hjaltland and MV Hrossey, can be reserved at the time of booking.

Keeping You Entertained

Enjoy free wifi, and on MV Hjaltland and MV Hrossey, the games zone and cinema showing the latest movies.

Shop

Purchase drinks, snacks, a keepsake or gift from your visit to Orkney and Shetland.

Hamnavoe Bed and Breakfast

Board the night before an early sailing from Stromness for a good night's sleep.



The dog lounge on MV Hamnavoe

Traveling with Pets

Kennels and pet friendly cabins are available onboard all ships, and MV Hamnavoe has a dog lounge where you can sit with your pet for the sailing.

2024 Timetables and Visitor Fares

Fares from 1st April to 31st December 2024

(Prices in £'s) All fares single passage	Scrabster – Stromness			Aberdeen – Lerwick			Aberdeen – Kirkwall			Lerwick – Kirkwall		
	Low	Mid	High	Low	Mid	High	Low	Mid	High	Low	Mid	High
PASSENGERS												
Adult Single (16yrs & over)	£19.45	£21.05	£22.65	£25.50	£32.50	£39.50	£23.95	£31.00	£37.00	£16.30	£19.15	£23.10
Child Single (5-15yrs)	£9.85	£10.55	£11.40	£12.65	£15.95	£19.15	£12.05	£15.10	£18.30	£8.20	£9.65	£11.60
Infant (0-4yrs)	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Concessions	£17.51	£18.95	£20.39	£22.95	£29.25	£35.55	£21.56	£27.90	£33.30	£14.67	£17.24	£20.79
VEHICLES												
Car (< 6m)	£63.00	£65.00	£70.00	£103.00	£131.00	£138.00	£95.00	£124.00	£131.00	£61.00	£86.00	£98.00
Motorhome <= 6m	£63.00	£65.00	£70.00	£103.00	£131.00	£138.00	£95.00	£124.00	£131.00	£61.00	£86.00	£98.00
Long and towed vehicle (supplement per m)	£11.40	£13.40	£14.70	£13.80	£17.05	£20.30	£12.70	£15.10	£17.05	£12.20	£14.70	£16.30
Bicycle	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Motorcycles/Scooters	£18.65	£21.05	£23.55	£27.00	£30.50	£33.00	£21.05	£25.50	£30.50	£21.05	£24.30	£27.50
ACCOMMODATION												
Premium Outer 2 berth	£80.00	£80.00	£80.00	£120.00	£154.00	£167.00	£120.00	£154.00	£167.00	£120.00	£154.00	£167.00
Premium Outer 2 berth - Pet Friendly*	–	–	–	£120.00	£154.00	£167.00	£120.00	£154.00	£167.00	£120.00	£154.00	£167.00
Executive Outer 2 berth	–	–	–	£120.00	£154.00	£167.00	£120.00	£154.00	£167.00	£120.00	£154.00	£167.00
Outer 2 berth	£61.00	£61.00	£72.00	£87.00	£122.00	£134.00	£87.00	£122.00	£134.00	£87.00	£122.00	£134.00
Outer 2 berth - Pet Friendly*	–	–	–	£87.00	£122.00	£134.00	£87.00	£122.00	£134.00	£87.00	£122.00	£134.00
Outer 3 berth	–	–	–	£87.00	£122.00	£134.00	£87.00	£122.00	£134.00	£87.00	£122.00	£134.00
Outer 4 berth	£61.00	£61.00	£72.00	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Inner 4 berth	–	–	–	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00
Inner 4 berth - Pet Friendly*	–	–	–	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00
Inner 2 berth	£46.00	£46.00	£52.00	£69.00	£84.00	£101.00	£69.00	£84.00	£101.00	£69.00	£84.00	£101.00
Inner 2 berth - Pet Friendly*	£46.00	£46.00	£52.00	£69.00	£84.00	£101.00	£69.00	£84.00	£101.00	£69.00	£84.00	£101.00
Premium Accessible 2 berth inside cabin with hoist	–	–	–	£94.00	£129.00	£141.00	£94.00	£129.00	£141.00	£94.00	£129.00	£141.00
Accessible 3 berth inside cabin	£61.00	£61.00	£72.00	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00
Accessible 2 berth inside cabin with hoist	£61.00	£61.00	£72.00	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00	£84.00	£119.00	£131.00
Sleeping Pods	–	–	–	£18.00	£18.00	£18.00	£18.00	£18.00	£18.00	£18.00	£18.00	£18.00
Reclining Seats	–	–	–	£3.50	£3.50	£3.50	£3.50	£3.50	£3.50	£3.50	£3.50	£3.50
* plus supplement per pet	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00	£15.00
EXTRAS												
Magnus' Lounge	£7.50			£20.00			£20.00			£20.00		
Kennel Small	£8.65			£8.65			£8.65			£8.65		
Kennel Large	£11.50			£11.50			£11.50			£11.50		
Valet Parking	£21.95			£21.95			£21.95			£21.95		
Priority Boarding (Stromness to Scrabster only)	£20.65			–			–			–		

Low season: 7 January to 23 March;
1 November to 17 December.

Mid season: 1 to 6 January; 24 March to 14 June;
1 September to 31 October; 18 to 31 December.

Peak season: 15 June to
31 August.

LERWICK – KIRKWALL – ABERDEEN (SOUTHBOUND)								ABERDEEN – KIRKWALL – LERWICK (NORTHBOUND)							
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN		MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
DEP LERWICK	1730 ¹	1900	1730	1900	1730	1900	1900	DEP ABERDEEN	1900	1700 ¹	1900	1700	1900	1700	1700
ARR KIRKWALL	2300 ²	–	2300	–	2300	–	–	ARR KIRKWALL	–	2300 ²	–	2300	–	2300	2300
DEP KIRKWALL	2345 ²	–	2345	–	2345	–	–	DEP KIRKWALL	–	2345 ²	–	2345	–	2345	2345
ARR ABERDEEN	0700	0700	0700	0700	0700	0700	0700	ARR LERWICK	0730	0730	0730	0730	0730	0730	0730

¹ Departure Lerwick 19:00 from 2 Jan-31 Mar & 1 Nov-30 Dec

² No Kirkwall call from 2 Jan-31 Mar & 1 Nov-30 Dec

¹ Departure Aberdeen 19:00 from 2 Jan-31 Mar & 1 Nov-30 Dec


² No Kirkwall call from 2 Jan-31 Mar & 1 Nov-30 Dec

2024 Scrabster to Stromness Timetable

Timetable subject to change

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Monday	1			1			1					
Tuesday	2			2			2			1		
Wednesday	3			3	1		3			2		
Thursday	4	1		4	2		4	1		3		
Friday	5	2	1	5	3		5	2		4	1	
Saturday	6	3	2	6	4	1	6	3		5	2	
Sunday	7	4	3	7	5	2	7	4	1	6	3	1
Monday	8	5	4	8	6	3	8	5	2	7	4	2
Tuesday	9	6	5	9	7	4	9	6	3	8	5	3
Wednesday	10	7	6	10	8	5	10	7	4	9	6	4
Thursday	11	8	7	11	9	6	11	8	5	10	7	5
Friday	12	9	8	12	10	7	12	9	6	11	8	6
Saturday	13	10	9	13	11	8	13	10*	7	12	9	7
Sunday	14	11	10	14	12	9	14	11	8	13	10	8
Monday	15	12	11	15	13	10	15	12	9	14	11	9
Tuesday	16	13	12	16	14	11	16	13	10	15	12	10
Wednesday	17	14	13	17	15	12	17	14	11	16	13	11
Thursday	18	15	14	18	16	13	18	15	12	17	14	12
Friday	19	16	15	19	17	14	19	16	13	18	15	13
Saturday	20	17	16	20	18	15	20	17	14	19	16	14
Sunday	21	18	17	21	19	16	21	18	15	20	17	15
Monday	22	19	18	22	20	17	22	19	16	21	18	16
Tuesday	23	20	19	23	21	18	23	20	17	22	19	17
Wednesday	24	21	20	24	22	19	24	21	18	23	20	18
Thursday	25	22	21	25	23	20	25	22	19	24	21	19
Friday	26	23	22	26	24	21	26	23	20	25	22	20
Saturday	27	24	23	27	25	22	27	24	21	26	23	21
Sunday	28	25	24	28	26	23	28	25	22	27	24	22
Monday	29	26	25	29	27	24	29	26	23	28	25	23
Tuesday	30	27	26	30	28	25	30	27	24	29	26	24
Wednesday	31	28	27		29	26	31	28	25	30	27	25
Thursday		29	28		30	27		29	26	31	28	26
Friday			29		31	28		30	27		29	27
Saturday			30			29		31	28		30	28
Sunday			31			30			29			29
Monday									30			30
Tuesday												31

SAILING TIME 90 MINUTES	OFF PEAK		PEAK			WEEKEND	
STROMNESS TO SCRABSTER	0630	1645	0630	1100	1645	0900	1645
SCRABSTER TO STROMNESS	0845	1900	0845	1315	1900	1200	1900

 No sailing

*County Show Day: 1745 & 2000 sailings

The 'Landbridge' offer

This offer enables passengers to travel from Caithness to Shetland, routing via Scrabster to Stromness, and then onwards from Kirkwall to Lerwick, for a reduced fare. The special rate will also apply on the journey from Lerwick to Kirkwall, and Stromness to Scrabster the following morning.

Concessions

10% discount available on standard fares to senior citizens (aged 60 years and over), those in full-time education and passengers with a disability.

Kids Go Free

With the 'Kids Go Free' promotion children can travel for free on direct Lerwick to Aberdeen and Aberdeen to Lerwick routes. The offer is open for travel all year round and is available to families who book a car and a cabin.

Discover the Shetland Islands

Shetland is a place of drama. "Nature", wrote one visitor, "appears in her wildest dress" in these, Britain's most northerly islands, and it is the wildness and grandeur of the Shetland landscapes and seascapes which inevitably become visitors' most enduring memory.

There are more than 100 islands here, each forged by the waves of the North Atlantic. Everywhere one goes, there are dramatic cliffs, perfect deserted beaches, huge vistas across awe-inspiring voes and inlets, the isles beloved Shetland Ponies and above, the cry of seabirds.

Shetland also has a packed event calendar which begins in January with Up Helly Aa, a fire festival honouring the isle's strong Viking heritage, Shetland Folk Festival in April, and Shetland Wool Week in September. Shetland truly is an unforgettable destination to visit.

Did you know?

- Shetland ponies are the smallest horse breed, but in relation to their size, they are also the strongest and can pull up to twice their own weight. On the island of Foula there are more ponies than people; they outnumber humans there 50 to 1!
- Shetland and Orkney were colonised by the Norse during the 8th and 9th

centuries and belonged to Scandinavia until 1469, when Princess Margaret of Denmark married James III of Scotland. The islands were part of her dowry.

- Shetland is home to the highest density of otters in Europe. These shy animals are most active at dusk and dawn, so quietly looking for them along Shetland's shores is an enjoyable way to spend an evening.

'Must-see' places in Shetland



St Ninian's Isle

1 on the map

Beautiful St Ninian's Isle is joined to the Shetland mainland by a thin strip of sand called a tombolo, the largest in the United Kingdom. St Ninian's Isle has featured twice in the BBC's Shetland series. When standing in the middle of the tombolo; experiencing the waves lapping at either side of you is quite unique!



Sumburgh Head

2 on the map

Sumburgh Head is a 100m high cliff at the southern tip of Shetland. Tidal streams from east and west meet here, and the mixing of water provides food for seabirds and whales. The lighthouse at Sumburgh has recently been converted into a superb visitor's centre, and from May to July, the area is one of the best places to see puffins.



Jarlshof

3 on the map

Jarlshof is an archaeological site which was occupied for 4,000 years. The site is layered, with later generations of dwellers building with materials from previous houses. Neolithic pottery was found here, an Iron Age broch, and several Norse houses. On top of it all sits a medieval house.



Shetland Museum and Archives – A fascinating place on Lerwick's waterfront.



Mousa Broch – One of the best preserved Iron Age brochs.



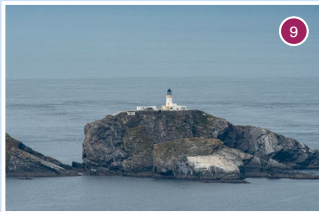
Meal beach – A lovely sandy beach.



Scalloway Castle – A castle with a brutal history built in 1599.



Eshaness – Dramatic cliffs and volcanic scenery.

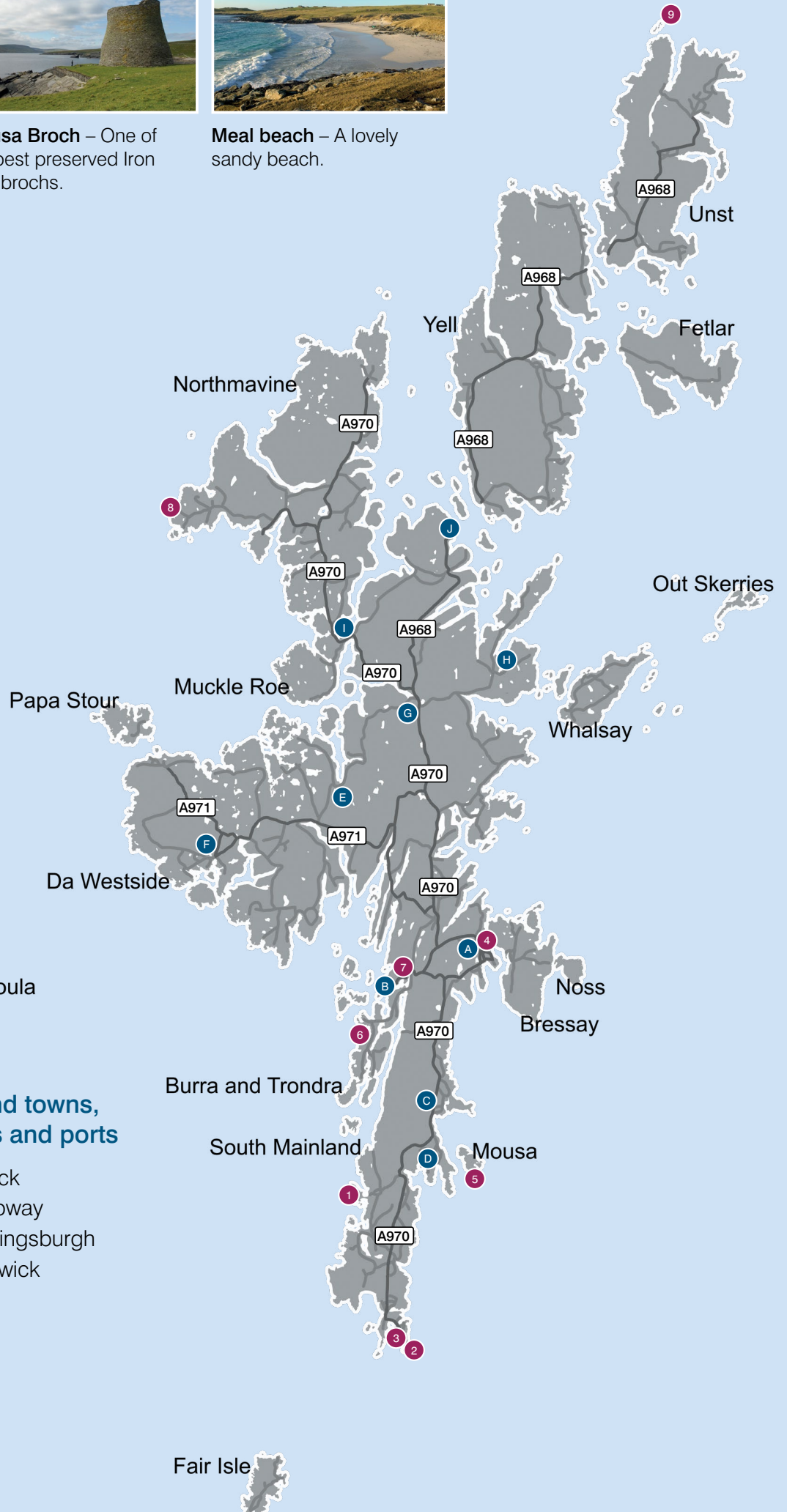


Muckle Flugga – Britain's most northerly lighthouse.



Shetland towns, villages and ports

- A** Lerwick
- B** Scalloway
- C** Cunningsburgh
- D** Sandwick
- E** Aith
- F** Walls
- G** Voe
- H** Vidlin
- I** Brae
- J** Toft



Explore the Orkney Islands

With green rolling fields bordered by huge seascapes, Orkney has an incredible allure and huge range of attractions. Visitors can enjoy extraordinary remains of villages, stone circles and tombs and the sunken fleet at Scapa Flow – there is over 5,000 years of human history to uncover here.

Orkney's striking sea cliffs are home to thousands of birds, whilst seals, whales, and dolphins are frequently spotted in the clear waters surrounding the isles. There are tranquil beaches to stroll along and award-winning food and drink to sample. The abundance of entertainment and activities on offer includes festivals and shows, island-hopping, golf at midnight, traditional music, and shopping for crafts handmade in Orkney.

There is always something special going on in the Orkney Islands for you to discover.

Did you know?

- 15% of the world's grey seal population can be found in Orkney. Seals often haul out on quiet island beaches or may follow you in the water as you walk along the shore.
- At the end of World War 1, the surrendered ships of the German Fleet anchored in Scapa Flow were scuttled by Rear Admiral Ludwig von Reuter. Though many ships were salvaged, three battleships and four light cruisers remain in shallow water, and Orkney is a popular destination for divers.

'Must-see' places in Orkney



Skara Brae

1 on the map

Discovered under a sand dune after a windstorm in 1850, Skara Brae is a settlement of ten clustered houses which were occupied over 5,000 years ago. The stone-built furniture has been perfectly preserved in the sand; cupboards, beds and boxes are all intact. Skara Brae is one of the must-see attractions of Orkney, offering an amazing glimpse into Neolithic life.



The Italian Chapel

2 on the map

Built in 1943 by Italian prisoners of war (who were working at the time on The Churchill Barriers), the Italian chapel was built out of two Nissen huts, concrete, and scrap metal. The tabernacle was made from wood obtained from a wrecked ship and the light holders made out of corned beef tins. The interior was exquisitely painted by Domenico Chiocchetti.



The Ring of Brodgar

3 on the map

On a dark moor between the Loch of Harray and the Loch of Stenness, there is a vast circle of 36 standing stones. When the Ring of Brodgar was built 4,000 years ago there may have been over 60 stones. The reason why the Neolithic people erected this monument remains a mystery. Just as churches today are used for various events, it is possible that the stone circles served a number of roles.



Stromness – Picturesque port for MV Hamnavoe.



Standing Stones of Stenness – Four imposing standing stones.



Maeshowe – Large Neolithic tomb with Viking runes.



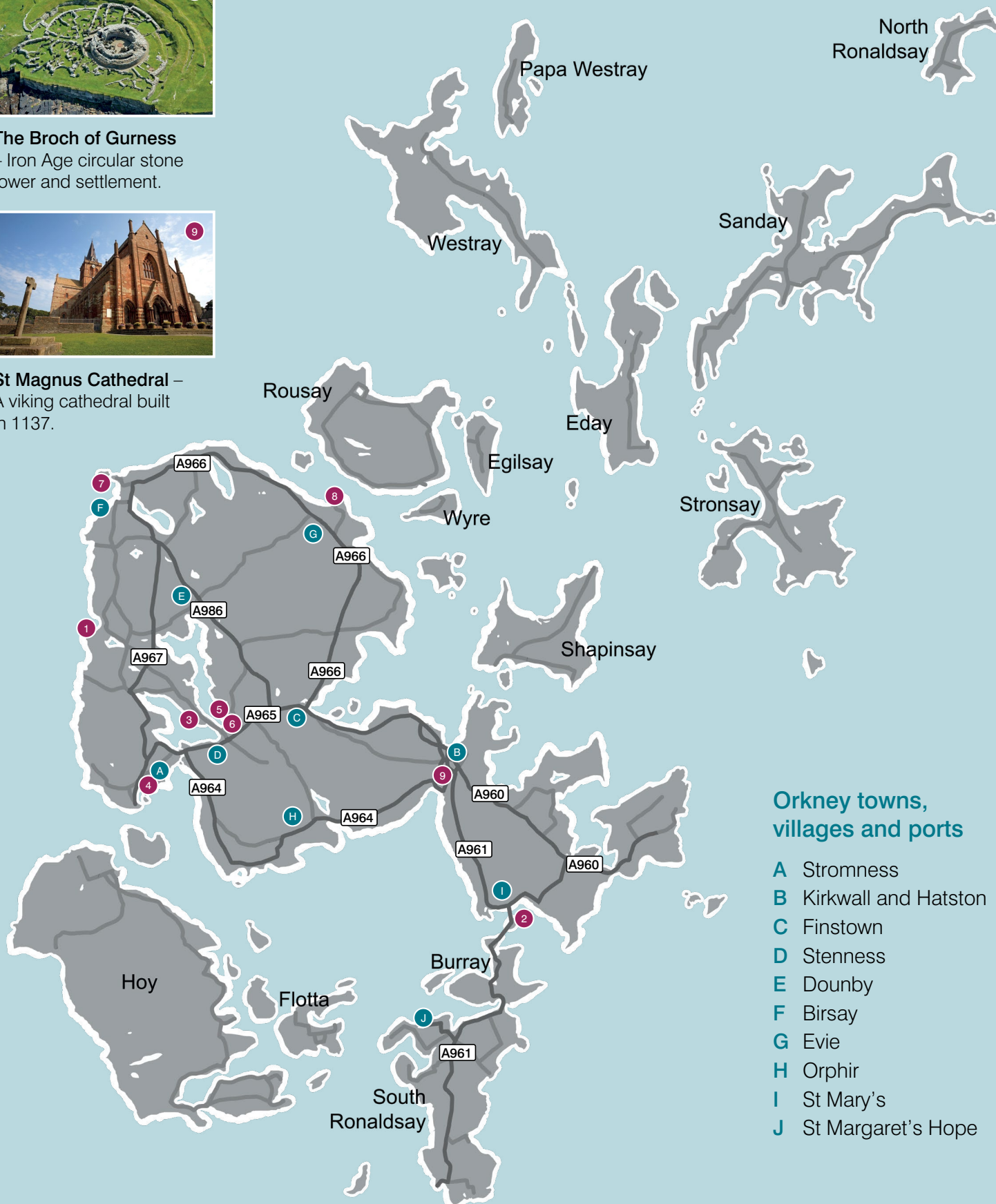
The Brough of Birsay – Walk to this island when the tide is low.



The Broch of Gurness – Iron Age circular stone tower and settlement.



St Magnus Cathedral – A viking cathedral built in 1137.

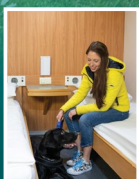


Orkney towns, villages and ports

- A Stromness
- B Kirkwall and Hatston
- C Finstown
- D Stenness
- E Dounby
- F Birsay
- G Evie
- H Orphir
- I St Mary's
- J St Margaret's Hope

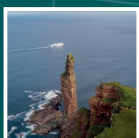


Highlights of travelling with NorthLink Ferries



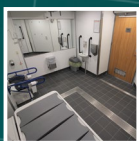
Pet friendly cabins

Let your four-legged friend enjoy the open spaces of Orkney and Shetland! NorthLink ships have comfortable cabins available which are ideal for your pet. MV Hamnavoe also has a dog lounge.



The Old Man of Hoy

One of the most iconic sea stacks in the UK, the Old Man of Hoy stands at 137m high. Make sure you travel to Orkney on MV Hamnavoe to see it for yourself!



Facilities for those with accessibility requirements

NorthLink ships and ports are built with easy access in mind. Accessible facilities include cabins, lifts, boarding assistance and Changing Places toilets.



Local food and drink

NorthLink Ferries use delicious food and drink from Orkney and Shetland on board wherever possible. Enjoy a taste of the isles before you even arrive!



Friendly local staff

NorthLink ports, ships and offices are manned by knowledgeable local staff who are more than happy to assist you with your sailing.



The Heart of Neolithic Orkney

The prehistoric Skara Brae, Maeshowe and the Ring of Brodgar are an easy cycle ride from Stromness. Bicycles are free of charge on NorthLink Ferries ships.



Your dream holiday is closer than you think...

Simply travel to Aberdeen and catch the teatime ferry. You will be in Orkney before midnight or in Shetland by the following morning.



Download our app now. Available for iOS and Android

0800 111 4422

www.northlinkferries.co.uk

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