



cycling



LOCATION: WESTRAY

ROUTE: WESTRAY EXPLORER ROUTE



DISTANCE

32.2km



GRADE

Grading 4



ASCENT/DESCENT

327m

OPTION TO SHORTEN



OPTION TO EXTEND



A fine day out in the Queen o' the Isles, taking in beautiful beaches, a vibrant village, and some stunning coastal scenery.

ROUTE GUIDE

- 1) From the pier at Rapness, turn right to head north then northwest on the main road which runs up the centre of the island (in summer, look for a sign on the right after 2km indicating a short coastal walk to the Castle of Burrian and its famous puffins).
- 2) Around 5km from the pier, look for a road leading off to the right. This takes you on a 3.5km loop past the bays of Skelwick and Swartmill. There's a small shop at Skelwick
- 3) On reaching the T-junction with the main road, turn right to carry on 4km to the village of Pierowall, where shops, a hotel and the island's heritage centre can be found, as well as public toilets.
- 4) Passing through the village, turn left immediately before the school and follow the road as it turns right then left to reach Noltland Castle.
- 5) Returning towards the village, look for a sandy track on the left-hand side leading 1km to Narr Ness and the bay of Grobust (if on thin tyres, this section can be walked).
- 6) Return along the track and back to the village. Turn right at T-junction at the school and as you leave the village look for a road which forks off to the right, signposted Westside. Take this road to head steadily uphill, crossing Gallowhill.
- 7) After dropping down and back up again look for a road on the left opposite a red phone box containing a defibrillator kit. Take this road.
- 8) After passing around the head of the Bay of Tuquoy the road rises up again, gently, to arrive at a T-junction with the main road. Turn right here and cycle the last 7km back to the ferry terminal at Rapness.

For further details and mapping information, find the full cycle route at orkney.com/cycling



Stick to designated walking and cycling routes when you're out exploring, and be respectful of private property.