



# walks



**LOCATION:** NORTH RONALDSAY

**ROUTE:** NORTH RONALDSAY SOUTH CIRCULAR



**DISTANCE**

12 km



**GRADE**

4



**DURATION**

4 hrs

A circuit of the south end of Orkney's most northerly island, taking in much of the A-listed North Ronaldsay Sheep Dyke

## Route guide

- 1) Start at North Ronaldsay Airfield (HY 7555 5365). Follow the public road to a crossroads. Head diagonally across, keeping to the left of the war memorial (HY 7580 5372)
- 2) After passing a tarred wooden hall on your left, take the next road on your left heading towards the shore. Where the road takes a sharp right carry straight ahead on a short grassy track to arrive at a metal farm gate (HY 7658 5359)
- 3) Pass through the gate and bear right to head south along the shore, passing below the farm of Hooking.
- 4) Keep following the coast for around 6km, passing Bridesness (HY 7741 5219) and the Point of Burrian (HY 7627 5138) to arrive at Nouster. Look for a small metal gate around 40m beyond a yellow subsea cable warning sign (HY 7508 5248)
- 5) Pass through the gate and turn right onto the public road, crossing a cattle grid before walking 500m up the road to reach a small pedestrian gate leading into a field on your left (HY 7534 5275)
- 6) Head towards the obvious standing stone in the centre of the field (HY 7523 5293) before returning to the gate, turning right to head back along the road to the cattle grid at Nouster.
- 7) Walk 100m beyond the cattle grid to reach the head of the pier. Just as you come onto the pier look for a metal farm gate on your right (HY 7499 5228) Pass through the gate and follow the line of the dyke around the coast for just over 2km.
- 8) Shortly after passing the end of the island's airstrip, go through a small metal gate (HY 7506 5374), before continuing to follow the coast for a further 700m.
- 9) When you reach the next stone dyke, pass through a metal gate around 100m inland from the coast (HY 7544 5410)
- 10) Head diagonally to your right across coastal heath towards an obvious metal farm gate leading to a tarmac road (HY 7562 5426)
- 11) Walk 300m to reach a crossroads (HY 7594 5413). Turn right before walking 400m to reach the war memorial, before turning right again to return to the start of the walk.

**For further details and mapping information, find the walk on [Orkney.com/walking](https://orkney.com/walking)**

**Make sure you follow our guide to being a responsible visitor:**



Pick up litter, taking it home with you or using any bins provided.



Keep your dog under strict control around farmland and livestock, and clean up after pets too. Don't take your dog through fields with young livestock in them.



Avoid lighting fires or BBQs on moorland or in the countryside, and if you do have a BBQ or bonfire on a beach, please clean up afterwards.



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



Use gates where they're provided and, if they're closed when you find them, close them again after passing through.



Avoid disturbing any natural flora, fauna or wildlife habitats.

It's always worth reading up on the [Scottish Outdoor Access Code](https://www.scottishoutdooraccesscode.co.uk/) before you explore Orkney too.