

Kirkwall, Orkney, Scotland

Capital of the Orkney Islands and keeper of 5,000 years of history — from Neolithic stone circles older than the Pyramids to a Viking cathedral built in Norse red sandstone. This is Scotland like nowhere else in Scotland.

 Pier — Hatston (2 miles from town)

 Typical call: 8-10 hrs

 British Pounds (GBP)

 English (with a Norse lilt)

🚢 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____

Arrive: _____

All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____

Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Hatston Pier, ~2 miles from town center — free shuttle provided

Best For: Prehistoric archaeology, Norse history, Scotch whisky

Walk to center: Not walkable from Hatston; shuttle takes 7-10 min

Don't Miss: St Magnus Cathedral (free) and the Heart of Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site

🚗 Getting around:

🚗 Taxi  £8–11 to city center

🚗 Rideshare  not available

🚗 Hop-on hop-off  Hop-on hop-off

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Heart of Neolithic Orkney** — The UNESCO World Heritage package: Skara Brae (5,000-year-old village preserved in sand), Maeshowe (Viking-inscribed...)
 - **St Magnus Cathedral & Kirkwall Old Town** — The 12th-century Romanesque cathedral built by a Viking earl from striking red and yellow sandstone — admission is free.
 - **Highland Park Distillery Tour** — The world's most northerly Scotch whisky distillery, making complex peaty-floral single
- malts since 1798.

 - **Scapa Flow & Italian Chapel** — Scapa Flow — the great wartime anchorage where the German fleet scuttled itself in 1919 — is ringed by Churchill...
 - **Orkney Coastal Walk & Scapa Beach** — Scapa Beach — a sweeping sandy bay overlooking Scapa Flow — is about 1.5 miles south of town, reachable by the scenic...

BEST WALKS

- **Kirkwall Town Center Loop** 1.5 miles · Easy · 45-60 min — From the shuttle drop at Kirkwall Travel Centre, walk down Broad Street to St Magnus Cathedral and the adjacent Bishop's and Earl's...
- **Cathedral to Highland Park Distillery** 1.2 miles each way · Easy · 40 min walk — A straightforward walk from the cathedral south along Holm Road to Highland Park Distillery at the edge of town.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	47°	41°	12d
Jun	56°	50°	14d
Aug	59°	53°	17d
Sep	57°	52°	18d
Oct	53°	48°	20d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 5:58AM–8:26PM · Jun 3:59AM–10:25PM · Aug 5:31AM–8:59PM · Sep 6:41AM–7:31PM · Oct 7:49AM–6:04PM

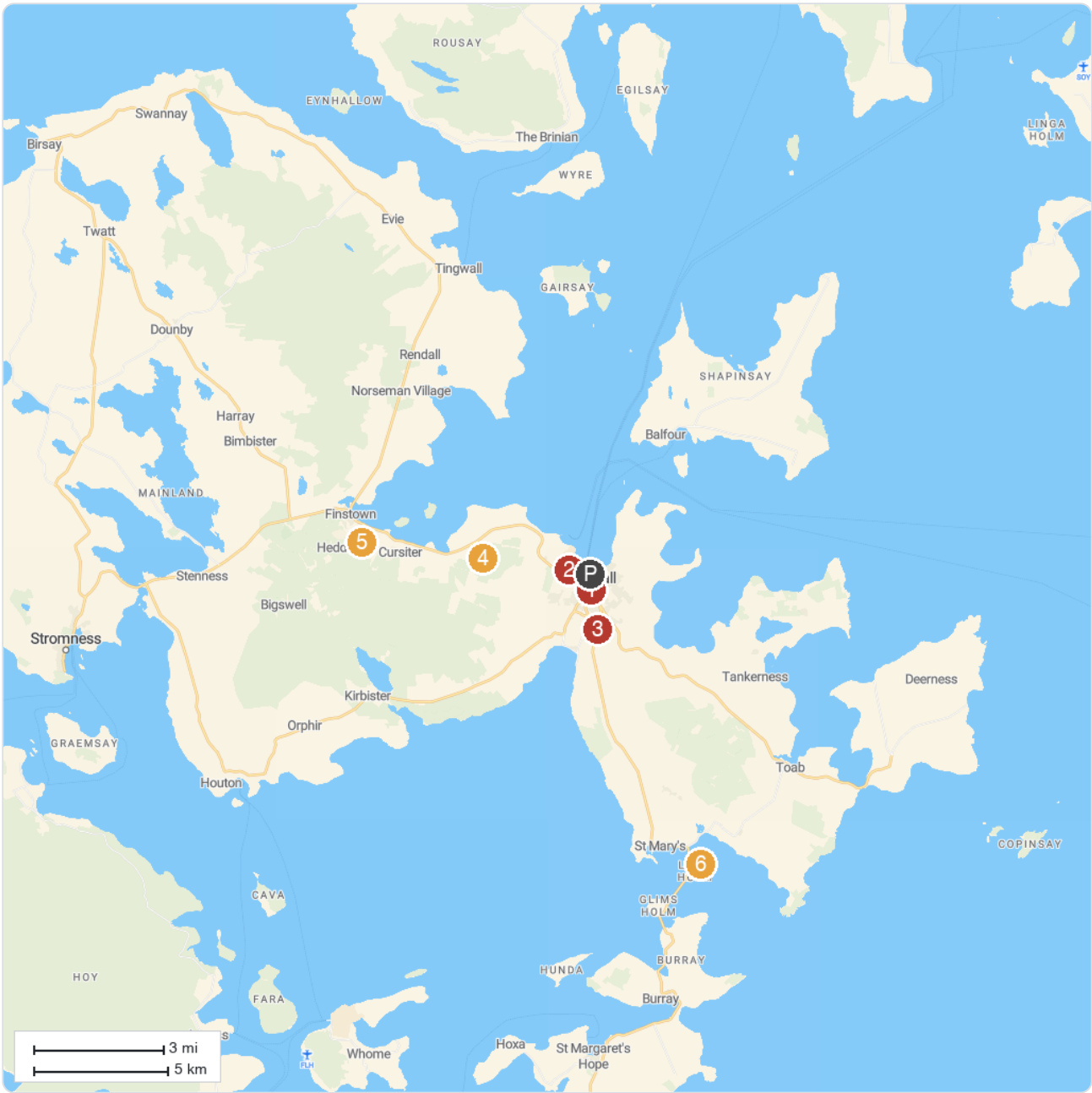
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Layer up, always. Orkney weather is changeable at any time of year. Bring a windproof, waterproof jacket regardless of the forecast — it can switch from sunshine to horizontal...

Kirkwall, Orkney, Scotland — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- | | | | |
|--|---|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 St Magnus Cathedral | Kirkwall's stunning red sandstone medieval cathedral, still active. | 2 Grain Earth House | An ancient, mysterious underground Iron Age dwelling. |
| 3 Highland Park Whisky Distillery | Famous distillery offering tours and tastings of Orkney whisky. | 4 Wideford Hill Cairn | A Neolithic chambered tomb with panoramic views of Orkney. |
| 5 Cuween Hill Chambered Cairn | Neolithic chambered tomb, famous for ancient dog skulls. | 6 Italian Chapel Orkney | Beautiful chapel built by WWII Italian prisoners of war. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |