

Fair Isle, Shetland, Scotland

One of Britain's most remote inhabited islands, Fair Isle sits halfway between Shetland and Orkney — celebrated for world-class birdwatching, centuries-old knitting traditions, and clifftop walks above crashing North Sea swells.

- Tender (no pier)
- Typical call: 4–6 hrs
- GBP (British Pound)
- English
- Wildlife & nature focus

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender only — Zodiac or small boat to North or South Haven pier (weather-dependent)

Best For: Birdwatching, coastal walking, authentic Fair Isle knitwear

Walk to centre: Island is small (~5 km long); most sites reachable on foot in 15–40 min

Don't Miss: Fair Isle Bird Observatory (FIBO) and sea-cliff seabird colonies

Getting around:

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Fair Isle Bird Observatory Visit** — The FIBO (reopened 2025 in a new facility) records daily sightings of 350+ species.
- Vaasetter & Sheep Rock Walk** — A walk from North Haven past Landberg's Iron Age fort to the summit of Vaasetter rewards with the classic view of Sheep...
- Fair Isle Knitting & Museum** — The George Waterston Memorial Centre covers island life, wartime history, fishing, and the famous multi-coloured...
- Ward Hill & North Lighthouse Walk** — A longer hike to Ward Hill (217 m), Fair Isle's highest point, rewards with panoramic views over both coasts and — on...

BEST WALKS

- North Haven to Bird Observatory** 1.5 km · 20 min · Easy — From the North Haven pier, follow the track uphill past croft houses to the Fair Isle Bird Observatory.
- Vaasetter & South Harbour Circuit** 5 km · 2.5 hrs · Moderate — From North Haven, follow the road past the Bird Observatory and Landberg headland, then climb to Vaasetter for the classic view of...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	45°	42°	12d
Jun	51°	50°	10d
Aug	56°	54°	14d
Sep	55°	52°	16d
Oct	52°	49°	21d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:51AM–8:23PM · Jun 3:48AM–10:26PM · Aug 5:23AM–8:56PM · Sep 6:35AM–7:26PM · Oct 7:45AM–5:57PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Tender landings can be cancelled. Fair Isle's exposed position means your call may be cut short or skipped entirely due to weather. Have a backup plan and don't count on it until...
- Bring cash. Stackhoull Stores (the island's only shop) and local knitters may not accept cards reliably. British pounds only.
- Timing matters for birds. Autumn (late August–October) is prime for rare migrants; summer (May–July) is best for puffins and