

Foula Island, Shetland, Scotland

Edge of the world, edge of the Atlantic. Foula is a 3-mile scrap of rock supporting 30 people, half a million seabirds, and some of Britain's most vertiginous cliffs — reached only by tender, weather permitting.

 Tender only (no cruise berth)

 Typical call: 4–6 hrs

 Currency: GBP (cash only)

 Language: English

 Best May–Aug for seabirds

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____

Arrive: _____

All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____

Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender to Ham Voe pier — weather-dependent; cancellations common

Best For: Birdwatching, dramatic hiking, remote island atmosphere

Walk to centre: ~30 min (1.5 mi) from pier to Hametoun; cliffs 2–3 miles on rough terrain

Don't Miss: Da Kame cliffs (1,220 ft sheer drop) and the bonxie colony

 Getting around:  Taxi  N/A ·  Rideshare  not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Da Kame Cliff Walk** — The island's crown jewel: a 1,220-foot sheer sandstone wall dropping straight into the Atlantic.
 - Bonxie & Puffin Colony** — Foula hosts one of the world's largest Great Skua (bonxie) colonies alongside thousands of nesting puffins, guillemots, kittiwakes, and razorbills.
- Hametoun & Post Office** — The island's tiny settlement at Hametoun is roughly a 1.5-mile (30-minute) walk south from the pier along the single-track road.
 - Gaada Stack & North Coast** — A striking natural sandstone sea arch on the island's north end, about 2 miles from the pier.
 - Shetland Pony Spotting** — Foula is home to a genetically distinct strain of Shetland ponies that roam freely across the island.

BEST WALKS

- Ham Voe to Hametoun** 1.5 miles · Easy · 30 min each way — Flat walk south along the island's single-track road from the pier to the small settlement.
- Ham Voe to Da Kame Cliffs** 2.5 miles · Strenuous · 1.5–2 hrs each way — Head west from the pier, climbing steeply over boggy peat moorland to the cliff edge above Da Kame.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F)**

	Mon	High	Low
Apr		47°	39°
Jun		56°	48°
Aug		58°	51°
Sep		56°	49°
Oct		51°	45°

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 5:51AM–8:27PM · Jun 3:43AM–10:34PM · Aug 5:22AM–9:01PM · Sep 6:36AM–7:28PM · Oct 7:48AM–5:58PM

Representative sunrise/sunset — 2025, 15th of each month; local civil time including DST (Europe/London). Source: Astral; not a forecast or climate average.

 Currency: GBP (cash only)

Regional Shetland temperature reference from Lerwick, about 50 km away; exposed Foula conditions may differ. Nearby-station regional proxy: Lerwick, 49.824 km from Foula; not exact Foula observations or 30-year normals. 2014–2023: 120 observed native monthly reports, ten per calendar month; mean daily highs/lows, not independently verified complete daily data. Rainy-day counts unavailable. Meteostat / DWD CLIMAT. CC BY 4.0: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/> Attribution: Meteostat and DWD CLIMAT; adapted by averaging 2014–2023 monthly means and converting units. Changes: Ten monthly means per calendar month averaged; Celsius converted to Fahrenheit once and rounded. No endorsement implied.

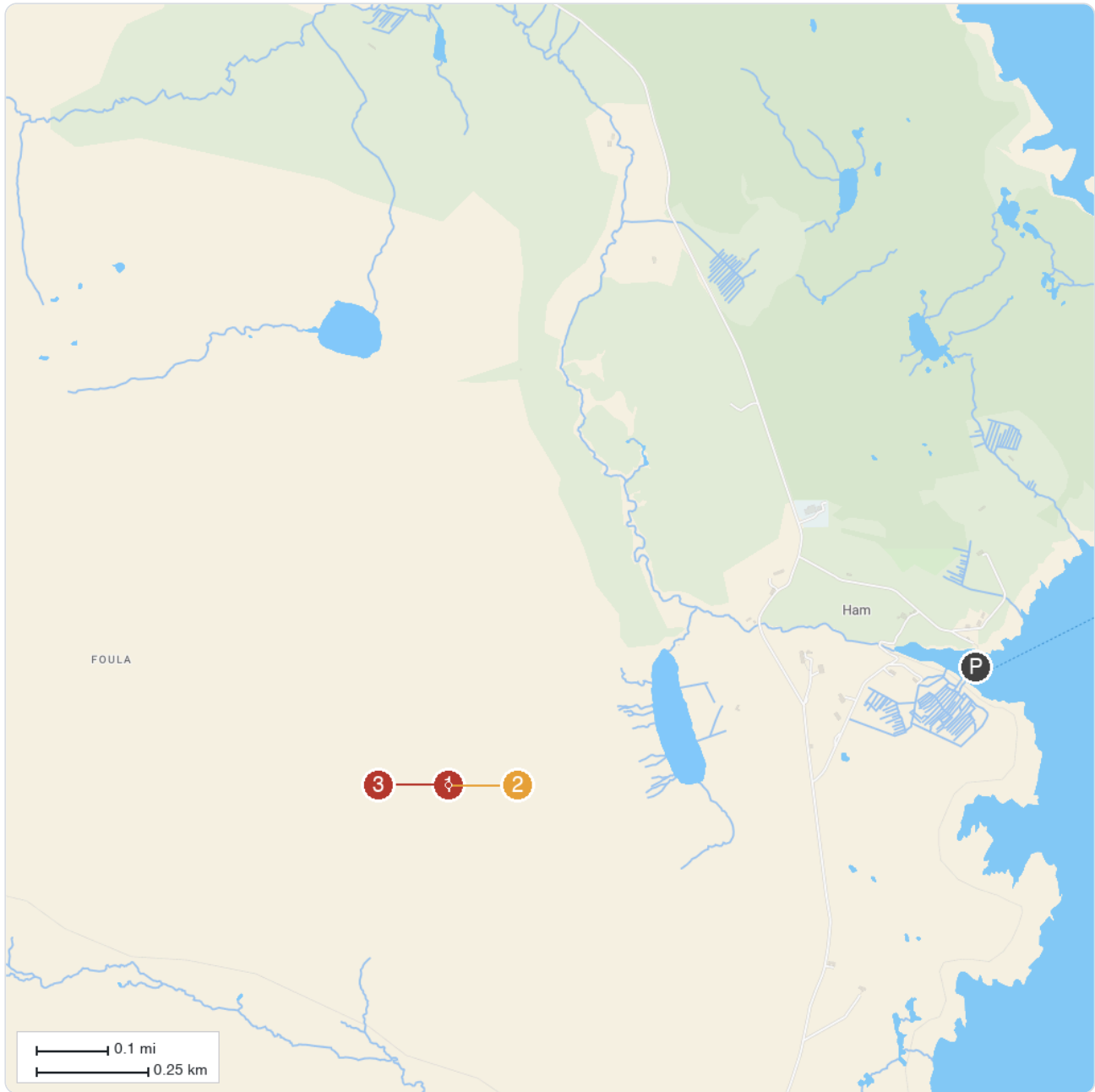
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Dress for everything. Foula weather changes within minutes. Waterproof jacket, waterproof trousers, and proper hiking boots are non-negotiable if you leave the road.
- Bonxie defence: Great Skuas will dive-bomb your head during nesting season (May–Aug). Hold a walking stick or umbrella vertically — they target the highest point, sparing your face.
- Cash only, bring it from the ship. No ATM, no card readers. If you want a postcard or local wool, bring British Pounds in small notes.
- Zero mobile signal. Download offline maps (Google Maps, Maps.me) before going ashore. Your ship's satellite Wi-Fi won't help you on the hill.
- Close every gate. You are walking through working crofts. Gates left open let sheep and ponies stray — a serious problem for farmers on a tiny island.
- Tender cancellations are common. Foula is exposed on all sides. If swells exceed the tender threshold, the captain will skip the landing. Always have a backup plan for the day.

Foula Island, Shetland, Scotland — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



- 1 The Kame** Britain's second-highest sea cliff at 376m, towering over Foula's west coast with vast seabird colonies.
- 3 Ham Voe** The island's only sheltered landing cove, a narrow rocky inlet on the east coast.

- 2 Da Sneug** Foula's highest point at 418m, a windswept summit dominating the island's skyline.
- P Cruise port / terminal**