

Westray Island, Orkney, Scotland

The 'Queen of the Isles' rewards those who make the journey — windswept clifftop puffin colonies, a 5,000-year-old carved figurine, and a ruined castle tied to Mary Queen of Scots await on this remote Orcadian gem.

Tender (no deep-water berth)

Typical call: 6–8 hrs

Currency: British Pound (GBP)

Language: English

Best May–Aug for puffins

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

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

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender — ships anchor in Pierowall Roadstead; tenders land at Gill Pier or Pierowall Harbour

Best For: Birdwatching, archaeology, empty beaches, Scottish island life

Walk to village: ~5 min from Gill Pier to Pierowall centre

Don't Miss: Westray Heritage Centre (Orkney Venus figurine) & puffins at Castle o' Burrian

Getting around: **Taxi** ~£4 first mile, £1.80/mile after · **Rideshare** not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Puffin Watch at Castle o' Burrian** — A sea stack on the southeast coast hosts hundreds of puffins from May to August.
- Westray Heritage Centre & The Orkney Venus** — This community museum in Pierowall houses the 5,000-year-old 'Westray Wife' — the earliest representation of a human...
- Noltland Castle** — A striking 16th-century ruin built by Gilbert Balfour — a man linked to the murder of Lord Darnley, husband of Mary...
- Noup Head RSPB Seabird Reserve** — The island's northwest tip hosts over 40,000 nesting seabirds — gannets, kittiwakes, guillemots — along dramatic clay...
- Grobust Beach & Links of Noltland** — White-sand dunes and turquoise water on the north coast, adjacent to an active Neolithic archaeological dig (Links of...

BEST WALKS

- Gill Pier to Pierowall Village & Heritage Centre** 1 mile round trip | 20 min | Flat & paved — Walk the coastal road from Gill Pier into Pierowall village.
- Pierowall to Noltland Castle** 2 miles round trip | 40 min | Gently rolling — From the village, follow the road southwest to the imposing ruin of Noltland Castle.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	46°	43°	12d
Jun	53°	50°	11d
Aug	57°	54°	15d
Sep	56°	53°	18d
Oct	53°	50°	22d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:57AM–8:28PM · Jun 3:56AM–10:29PM · Aug 5:30AM–9:00PM · Sep 6:41AM–7:31PM · Oct 7:50AM–6:03PM

Currency: British Pound (GBP)

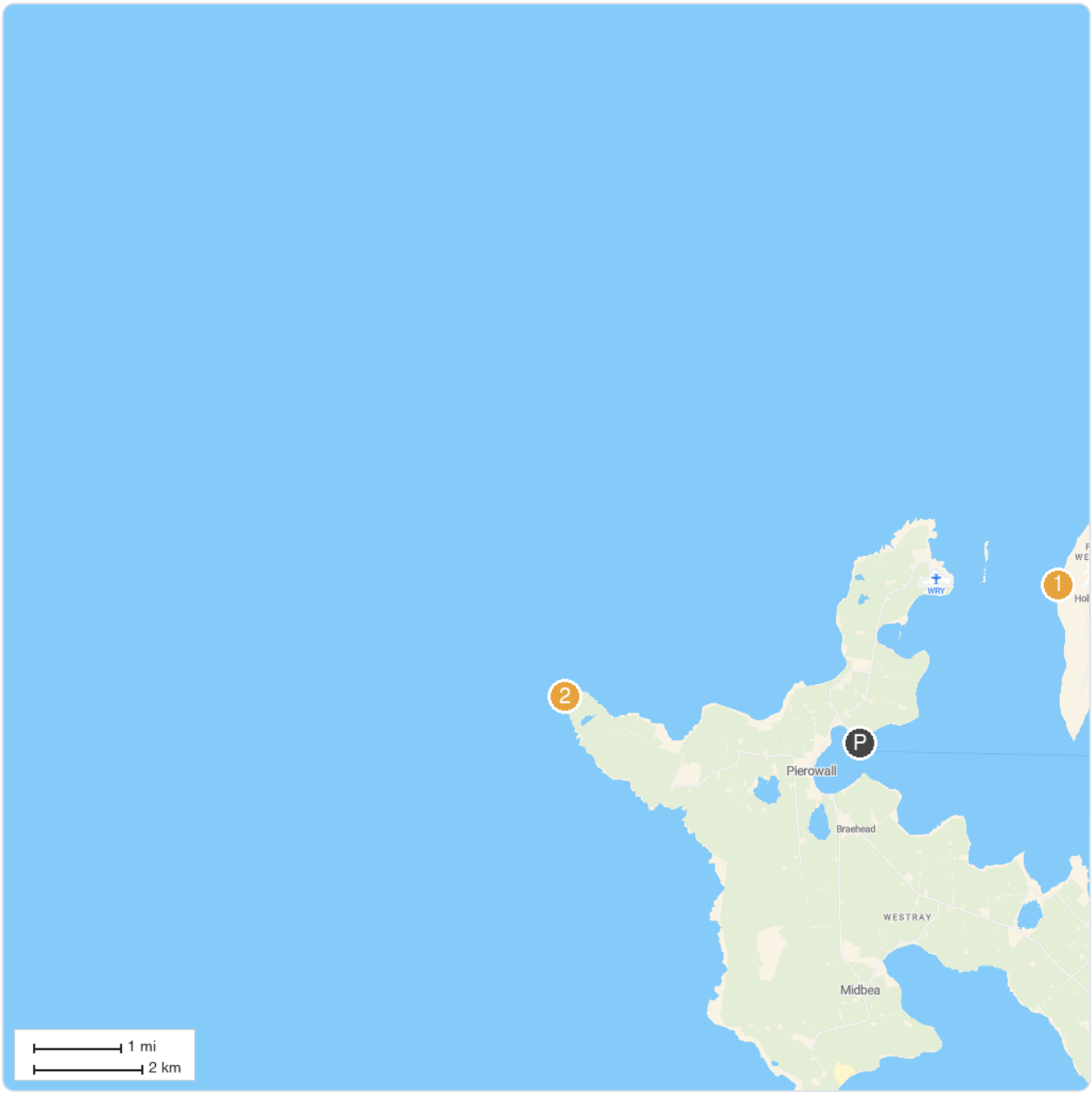
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Pre-book transport. There's no on-demand bus service. Arrange a bike hire (Westray Bicycle Hire, Pierowall) or local taxi before

Westray Island, 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

Knap of Howar

Visit Europe's oldest preserved Neolithic stone farmstead.
- 2

Noup Head Lighthouse

See a dramatic cliff-edge lighthouse with incredible seabird colonies.
- P

Cruise port / terminal