

Scuthvie Circular

A 4.8km (2.9m) circular walk along sandy beach and loch shore

A 1.4km (.8m) (return) linear walk to Start Point



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Start Point lighthouse was first lit in 1806 and was Scotland's first revolving light. It became automated in 1962 then, at the dawn of the 21st century, an array of solar panels was erected and the lighthouse is now computer controlled from Edinburgh.

From Scuthvie on a clear day, you can also see the North Ronaldsay and Fair Isle lighthouses.

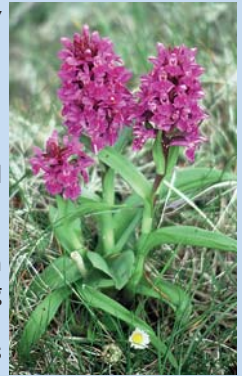
During WW2 a radar station was built at Lopness, one of a chain of such stations from Shetland to Cornwall. The 'Whale Head' station was to give an early warning of attacks on Scapa Flow. It had four pylons, its own generators, anti-aircraft batteries and a minefield. Nearby was a fully equipped camp

to house military personnel.

The eastern promontory of Sanday often gives first landfall to migratory birds blown across the North Sea during Spring and Autumn migrations. Birds such as waxwings and bullfinches sometimes appear after fog and SE winds.

The combination of low rocky shores and sandy beaches is ideal for wading birds, passing through or wintering. Look out for purple sandpipers, sanderlings and ringed plovers.

The Loch of Rummie is surrounded by wetland full of wild flowers in spring and summer – marsh marigolds, lady's smock and orchids among others.



Northern Marsh Orchid

