



# cycling



**LOCATION:** STRONSAY

**ROUTE:** STRONSAY BEACH CIRCUIT



**DISTANCE**

20.6km



**GRADE**

Grading 2



**ASCENT/DESCENT**

190m

**OPTION TO SHORTEN**



**OPTION TO EXTEND**



Stronsay's distinctive star shape provides spectacular sea views at every turn, and this relatively sedate route includes three of the island's beautiful beaches.

## ROUTE GUIDE

- 1) From the ferry terminal cycle through the village, where you'll find a hotel, shop and café. The island's excellent heritage centre is at the far end, next to the Stronsay Development Trust from where pre-booked hire bikes can be collected.
- 2) Carry on following the road leading out of the village for around 2km, passing a small bay and rising uphill to meet a T-junction. Turn left here.
- 3) After 500m look for a track on the right leading 250m down to St Catherine's Bay (best tackled on foot).
- 4) Carry on following the main road southeast to pass the school and community centre. Around 1km beyond the school, watch for the Moncur Memorial Church on the left-hand side. A short distance beyond this is the shop of Olivebank.
- 5) After a further 1.5km turn left at the T-junction with the red phone box (now housing a defibrillator) to head very gently uphill for around 2km. Follow the road as it takes a sharp bend to the left here (or alternatively turn right to visit the Vat of Kirbister).
- 6) Head downhill for about 1.5km to reach Mill Bay. Access to the bay is via an obvious sandy track on the right-hand side, just before you reach the large former mill on the left.
- 7) Carry on past the mill to head uphill for 700m to reach the junction with the main road. Turn right.
- 8) After around 50m turn left to head 2km towards Rothiesholm. Look for a sign for Rothiesholm Beach.
- 9) Return the 2km back to the junction with the main road and turn left, passing the community centre and school.
- 10) Cycle past the junction with the road that you initially came up from the village on and instead carry on beyond a small electricity sub-station for around 1km and take the next road on your right.
- 11) Follow the road as it makes its way the final 2km back to the village, turning left at the junction to arrive back at the start of the route.

**For further details and mapping information, find the full cycle route at [orkney.com/cycling](http://orkney.com/cycling)**



Stick to designated walking and cycling routes when you're out exploring, and be respectful of private property.