



The long summer days mean that a round of golf can even be played at midnight on the summer solstice. Photo credit to HIAL.

Kirkwall





Kirkwall is the capital of [Orkney](#), an archipelago of 70 islands (20 inhabited) just off the north-eastern tip of Scotland. The islands are famed for their archaeology and historic sites, with the area around [Stenness](#) designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to the number and preservation of Neolithic monuments.

Orkney's close link to its history and natural environment is one of the reasons that it is the UK's most popular cruise ship destination, bringing over 175,000 visitors each year, as is the proliferation of [craftspeople](#) and artisan producers. Offering everything from jewellery to knitwear to [buffalo meat](#) to [whiskey](#) and [gin](#), the islands are a hub for all things creative and also boast a vibrant [music scene](#).

With daily [flights](#) to Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Inverness, the islands airport just 3 miles outside Kirkwall offers excellent links to Mainland Scotland and beyond. There are two vehicle [ferry](#) services running multiple sailings daily throughout the year to the northern coast of Scotland, plus a three-times weekly service to [Aberdeen](#).

The islands benefit from excellent [schools](#) and [Orkney College](#) is home to one of the University of the Highlands and Islands remote campuses. Employment on the islands is varied with a heavy reliance on agriculture, construction and tourism. However, with a new, larger hospital scheduled to open in early 2019 healthcare is also a major employer.

KIRKWALL – links to further information

- [Kirkwall Airport](#)
- [Directory of businesses, services and events](#)
- [The Orcadian newspaper](#)
- [Average annual weather information](#)
- [The Pickaquoy sports and leisure centre](#)
- [Orkney Islands Council](#)
- [Information about property, sports clubs, transport and more](#)
- [Orkney tourist website](#)
- [The Islands Bill](#)
- [Next 7 days weather forecast plus tide predictions](#)
- [Sold house prices for Orkney, plus links to property searches and estate agent details. Enter postal code KW15 to search.](#)
- [The cost of living on a Scottish Island](#)

Find out more about what is currently happening in Orkney on Twitter:

- [Kirkwall Airport](#) [Orkney tourism](#) [Orkney Library](#) [The Orcadian](#)

For more information on living and working in Orkney please follow this link to a brief video: [ORKNEY - living and working.](#)

