

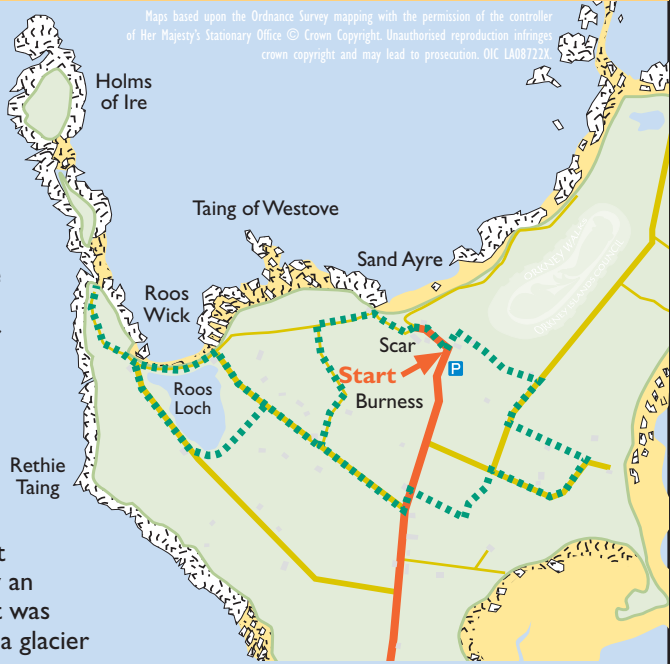
Burness and the Holms of Ire

A 5.6km (3.47m) circular walk from the Burness Kirkyard

A 2.5km (1.5m) circular walk around Roos Loch The Holms of Ire



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November storms in 1991 exposed a Viking boat burial site in the sandy banks alongside the sea near Scar. Skeletons of three settlers and their personal possessions were found and are now displayed in the Orkney Museum.

The Stone o' Scar is a 16 tonne block of gneiss. Folk legend relates that it was flung onto Sanday by an Eday witch, but actually it was carried from Norway by a glacier during the Ice Age.



Eider Duck

Roos Loch is the venue for local model yacht racing. Hand made wooden sailboats are set to traverse the loch and have to arrive between 'gates' set up by the event referee. The loch is very close to the sea, separated only by a shingle bank, and is popular with otters.



Scar Plaque

oysterplant, found growing at the top of the shore. There's a colony of great black-backed gulls on the outer home, as well as other gulls, eider duck and a few greylag geese.

The Holms of Ire are covered in maritime flowers in the summer – sea pinks, sea campion and tormentil among them. A speciality is the translucent

The Holms are tidal and become inaccessible with the rising tide – please check tide tables before you visit.



Model boating

Oyster Plant

