

Lady Village to Cata Sand & Tressness

A 6km circular walk from Lady Village
with a 2.8km (1.7m) (return) linear walk to Tressness

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The 'Brickie Hut' was once the control room for a dummy aerodrome, laid out in the links area immediately to the north, the Plain of Fidge. The site was a decoy for Scapa Flow, one of eight in the islands designed to look like burning naval installations. Though it was trialled successfully, it was never actually required in any such threatened attack.



Tressness is unique in the Northern Isles for its landscape of shingle and blown sand forming spits, bars, flats, dunes and machair. It supports a variety of important plant communities. Look out for the attractive sea aster on the salt marsh, marram grass on the dunes, colourful heart's ease pansies and lady's bedstraw on the sandy links or machair; and northern marsh orchid and grass of Parnassus on wetter areas.

At low tide the sea retreats completely from Cata Sand and it becomes a good feeding place for gulls and



wading birds, dunlin and bar-tailed godwit are common in the winter.

Tressness has its fair share of archaeology, with a partially eroded cairn on its far point and more centrally there is Wasso mound, the remains of a broch.

