

All Terrain Routes

All Terrain Wheelchair Routes

Ability Shetland &
Shetland Islands Council



All Terrain Routes

All terrain wheelchair routes

Introduction

Ability Shetland have four all terrain wheelchairs available which can be used to support individuals with physical disabilities and mobility issues to access outdoor spaces. They have two attendant wheelchairs where the individual in the chair is pushed by someone else, and two self-propelled chairs.

These chairs break down barriers to access more difficult terrains around the isles, including beaches and coastal walks. There is no charge to borrow the wheelchairs, however if you feel able to make a donation this is most welcome.

To hire out an all terrain wheelchair

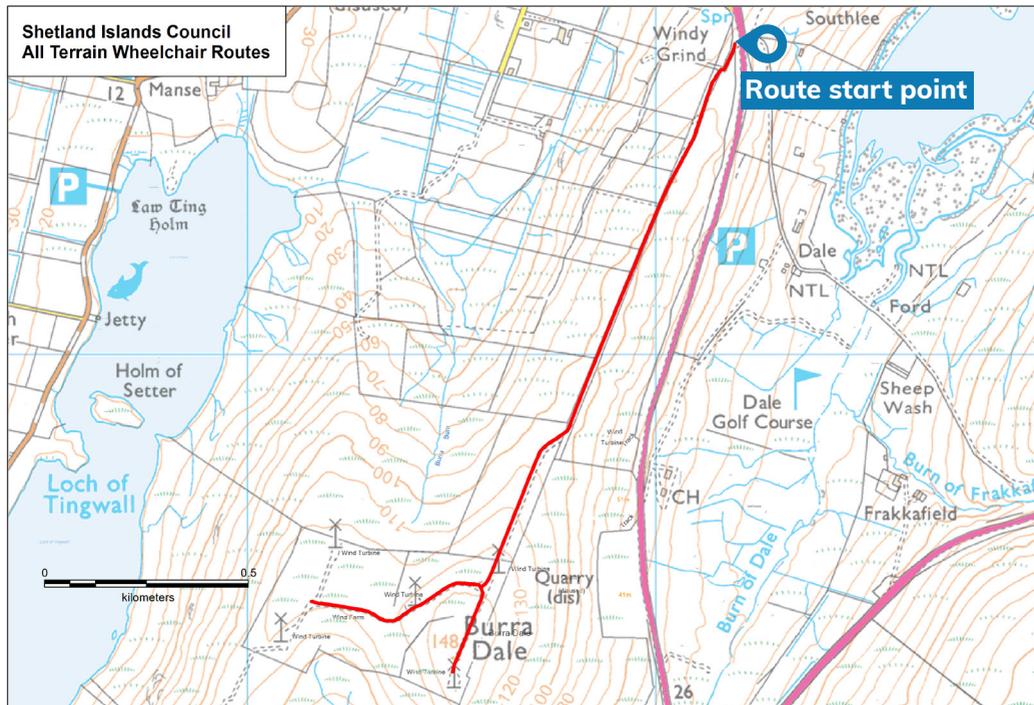
To hire out a chair please phone:

07895406005 Or email: abilityshetland@shetland.org

And staff will check availability before arranging collection and return.

This selection of routes has been put together by Ability Shetland and the SIC Outdoor Access Team with the aim of encouraging people with mobility issues to get outdoors and enjoy some of Shetland's more remote locations with the help of Ability Shetland's all-terrain wheelchairs.

The routes that have been described in this guide have been graded following Paths For All's route grading guidelines. It is important to note that these guides give a description of the routes but it is the responsibility of individuals to decide if they are within their abilities.



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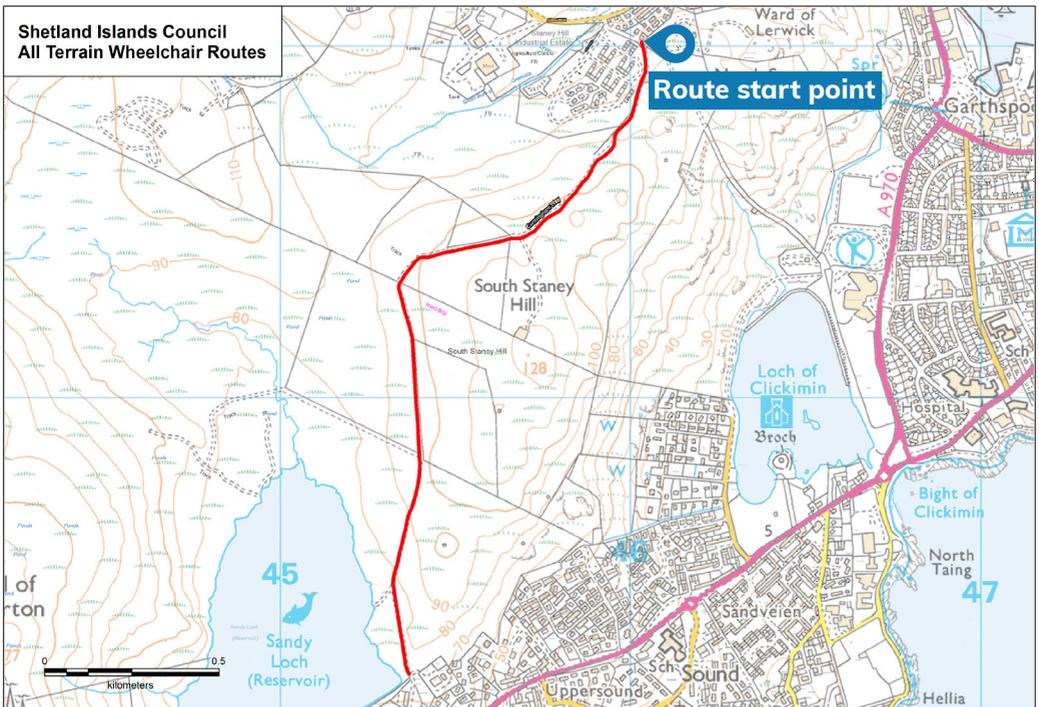
ROUTE 1 - Burradale Windfarm

The windfarm is situated above Dale golf course a short drive from Lerwick.

1. Burradale Wind Farm
2. This linear route enters an active windfarm with fantastic views across Shetland.
3. Moderate
4. Moderate long slopes. Mostly firm compacted gravel access track. Wide, with uneven sections. Some minor pot holes which can fill with rain. Includes wide gates with spring bolt opening.
5. 4.5km return
6. 1.5hr

Additional Information

This route had an informal parking area at its start and is a short drive or bus ride from Lerwick. There are no facilities at or near this route.



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ROUTE 2 - Cunningham Way

This route can be started in the Hoofields area of Lerwick or at Sandy Loch Drive on the South road out of Lerwick.

1. Cunningham Way
2. This linear route that runs between the Sandy Loch reservoir and the Hoofields area of Lerwick
3. Moderate
4. Short, gentle slopes. Mostly firm, wide gravel path with some uneven sections which can be a bit muddy after rain. Includes cattle grids and wide gates with spring bolt opening.
5. 4.5km return
6. 1.5hr

Additional Information

There are informal on street parking areas at either end of this route and both can be reach by local bus services. Although close to town there are no facilities on the route. This route is also part of Core Path CPPLO5 which can be linked up to do a much longer circular route through Lerwick, please see core path network for further details:
<https://www.shetland.gov.uk/natural-historic-environment/outdoor-access/2>



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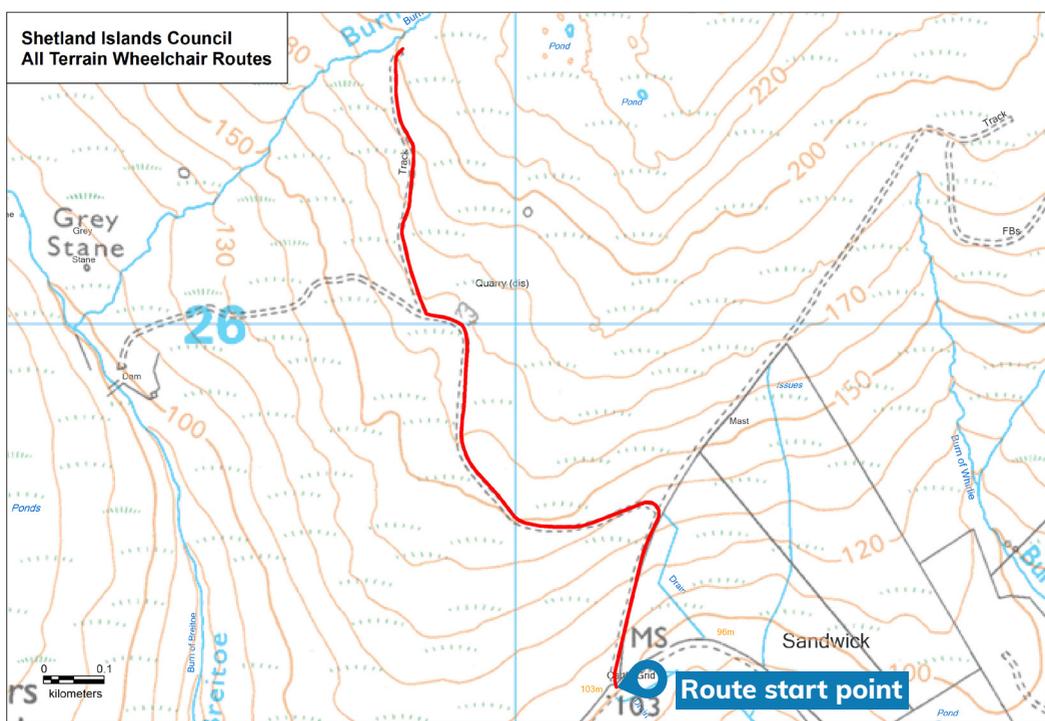
ROUTE 3 - Quendale Beach Access

This route starts in Virkie near Sumburgh Airport and gives access to one of Shetland's best beaches.

1. Quendale Beach Access.
2. This access path give access along Quendale beach.
3. Moderate
4. Moderate long slope. Mostly firm compacted gravel access track. Wide with uneven sections. Sand on Beach can be soft. Includes wide gate.
5. 1.5km Return to Beach head.
6. 30mins.

Additional Information

There is informal parking at the beginning of this route just past Ninian Drive which gives access to Quendale Beach. There is a changing places toilet available at the airport, short drive from the start of the route. This route takes users to the beach access point. If accessing the beach itself, care must be taken in the soft sand which can be tricky in an all-terrain wheelchair.



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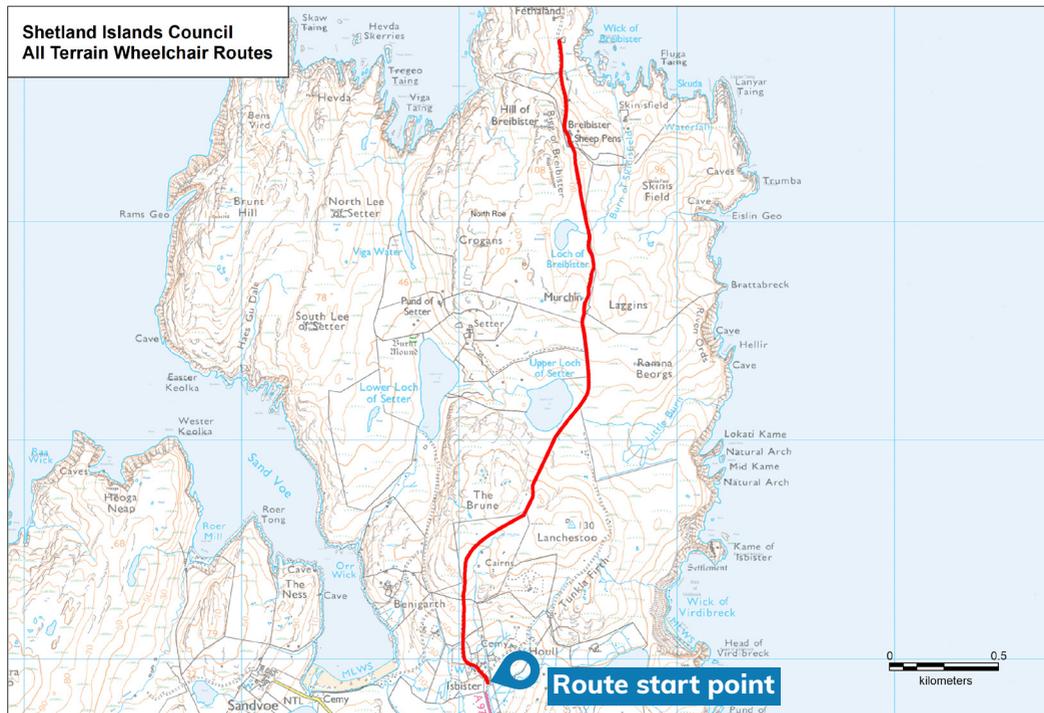
ROUTE 4 - Mosquito Access Path

The route starts on a layby on the A970 at Swinister, just past the southern junction to Sandwick.

1. Mosquito Path.
2. Although this path deteriorates before the memorial the more accessible section of this core path offers fantastic views to Mousa and feels wild and remote.
3. Moderate at start, Strenuous at end.
4. Moderate long slope. Mostly firm compacted gravel access track. Wide with uneven grass sections.
5. 3km Return.
6. 1.5 hours.

Additional Information

There is an informal parking area at the start of this route. The path deteriorates and will be impassable for wheeling however this route is worth the effort for the fantastic views and wild feel.



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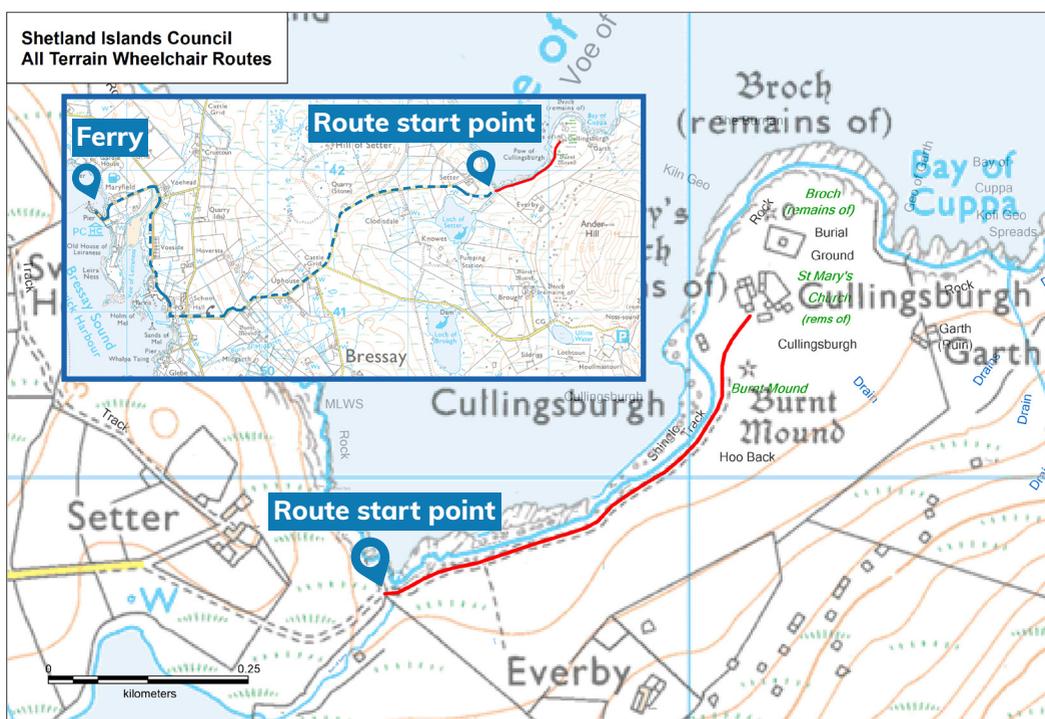
ROUTE 5 - Fethaland

The start for this route is Isbister, near North Roe.

1. Fethaland
2. Head out to the northermost point of Mainland Shetland on this linear route. The track leads to the remains of an old fishing station and some dramatic cliff scenery.
3. Strenuous
4. Long, steep slopes. Mostly uneven, wide gravel path with rough and rocky areas and a grassy section which can be muddy. Includes wide gates with spring bolt opening.
5. 7.2km return.
6. 5 hours

Additional Information

This is a long and strenuous route along a challenging path however it offers a fantastic trip to a wild location. There is informal parking at the beginning with no local facilities close by.



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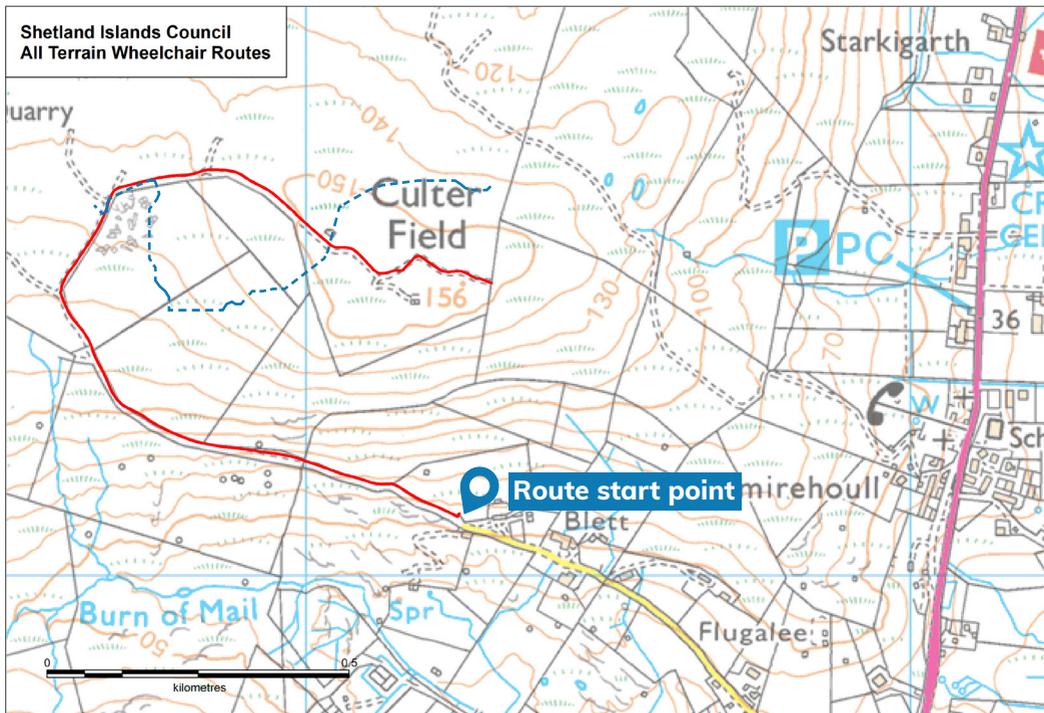
ROUTE 6 - Cullingsburgh, Bressay

This route is on Bressay, which is a short ferry trip from central Lerwick then a drive or walk across the island.

1. Cullingsburgh
2. A linear route to an old cemetery and the remains of a Broch and St Mary's Church. There is an interpretation panel to explain the interesting history of the site. This is a short route in a beautiful part of Shetland.
3. Moderate
4. Short, gentle slopes. Mostly a firm, wide gravel path with some uneven and grassy sections which can be a bit muddy after rain. Includes a wide field gate.
5. 1.8km
6. 1 hour

Additional Information

There is a regular ferry service between Lerwick and Bressay which takes vehicles and pedestrians.



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ROUTE 7 - Blett Hill Track

This route is near Cunningsburgh, a short drive from Lerwick.

1. Blett Hill Track
2. This linear route offers some fantastic views of the surrounding area and passes by Bryan's hut, an informal local attraction.
3. Strenuous
4. Fairly steep long mostly firm wide gravel and grass track with some rough sections. Can be muddy when wet.
5. 1 ¾ mile / 3km return
6. 1 ½ hours

Additional Information

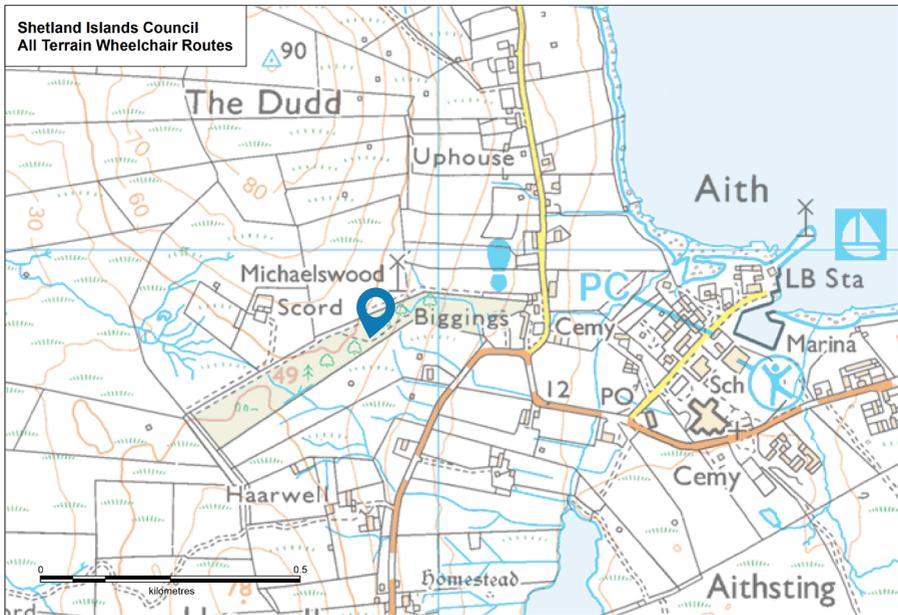
This route is near Cunningsburgh, a short drive from Lerwick. It is well worth the effort for the views of the surrounding area. There is informal parking at the start but there are no facilities on the route.

Additional places to visit

Michaelswood - Aith

Michaelswood is a community woodland with picnic facilities, children's play areas and a Dinosaur Trail as well as lots of places to explore. There is a selection of trails throughout the site that can be accessed with an all-terrain wheelchair.

For more information please visit - [Michaelswood Facebook](#).



Michaelswood also have their own all terrain wheelchair that can be used by members of the public – please email: rayferrie@btinternet.com - for further information and bookings.

Additional places to visit

Da Gairdins – Sand

Da Gairdins is a 60 acre site of which one third is maintained woodland and gardens for the enjoyment of all. There is a variety of garden walks, thousands of trees and plants to appreciate and open views across the sea. Watch the wildlife in three large ponds teeming with frogs. They have an accessible picnic area and are open to the public throughout the year during daylight hours.

For more information please visit - www.gairdins.org.uk



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For more information contact:



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If you have any queries, please email
the Outdoor Access Officer via:
outdooraccess@shetland.gov.uk
Or telephone 01595 744 169
www.shetland.gov.uk



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