

North Hill

Finding your way around

■ Fowl Craig trail

From clamorous seabirds to lazing seals, this 1.5 mile (2.5 km) loop brings you close to a wide range of wildlife. Please stick to the rough path at all times of year – you could accidentally tread on the rare Scottish primroses.

Nesting seabirds pack the cliffs of Fowl Craig, where islanders used to climb down to collect eggs. A statue commemorates the last breeding great auk in Britain, shot here in 1813 for a collector from London.

■ Coastal trail

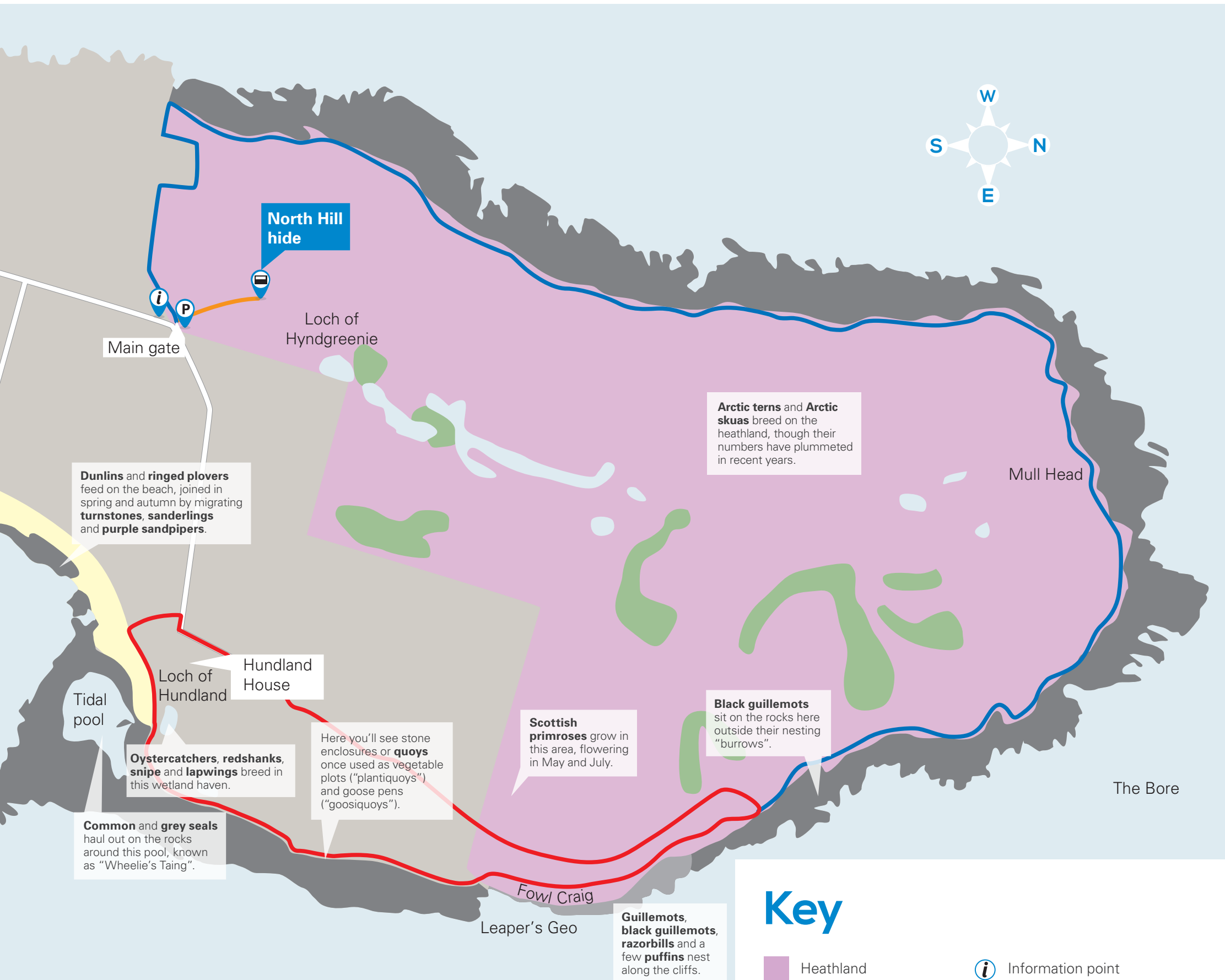
This circular 3.5 mile (6 km) cliff-top walk offers spectacular sea views every step of the way and includes part of the Fowl Craig trail.

Swathes of thrift and spring squill colour the cliffs tops in summer. On calm days watch out for passing orcas, minke whales or even a pod of Risso's dolphins out to sea.

■ Hide path

A steep track leads from the reserve's main gate to the hide, just over 200 m away. The hide was once a coastguard hut, but is now a welcome retreat for visitors from the near constant wind and a great place to watch wildlife.

There is a telescope in the hide to help you get closer views. Look out for Arctic skuas and Arctic terns taking a dip in the Loch of Hyndgreenie and enjoy the sweeping sea views.



Key

- Heathland
- Woodland
- Shingle
- i Information point
- H Hide
- P Car park

- The weather can deteriorate quickly, so remember wind- and waterproof clothing.
- Please don't light fires as these can very quickly get out of control on heathland.
- Avoid cliffs in high wind.
- Please keep dogs under close control and don't enter fields with lambs or calves.