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Orkney is made up of about 70 islands, but only seventeen of these are populated. The largest island is known as Mainland and it is linked by causeways to South Ronaldsay, Lamb Holm, Burray and Glimps. Though many of the Orkney Islands are small, there is something to see on virtually every one of them. Island hopping is a great way to spend time in this part of Scotland as it is one of the best ways to get up close and personal with some of the island attractions.

On Mainland, you may choose to take a look at the Neolithic village Skara Brae which is situated at Bay of Skail. Or you could head towards the Stones of Stenness near Loch of Harray. This stone circle on a mount dates from c. 2000 BC. Or you could look at the Ring of Brogar which is also a stone circle but it dates from c.1600 BC. All three are World Heritage Sites.

A popular attraction in Orkney is the Orkney Viking Trail. In the late 700s, the first Norsemen began to raid Orkney. Though an island, Orkney provided a strategic advantage as well as fertile soil and soon the Norse Vikings began to build outposts, homes and settle into the local communities. It is surmised that the native Picts either fled their lands in fear, were killed off by the Vikings or were absorbed into the developing Viking communities. Whatever the case, there are many Viking ruins which now abound in Orkney.

The wildlife on Orkney is also fantastic. From puffins to seals, there is always something to see. You can also play golf, go rock climbing, cycling or visit a craft market. In the summer months, there are almost 24 hours of daylight so you can even do all this at midnight! Why not get to Orkney now and see all the sights for yourself?