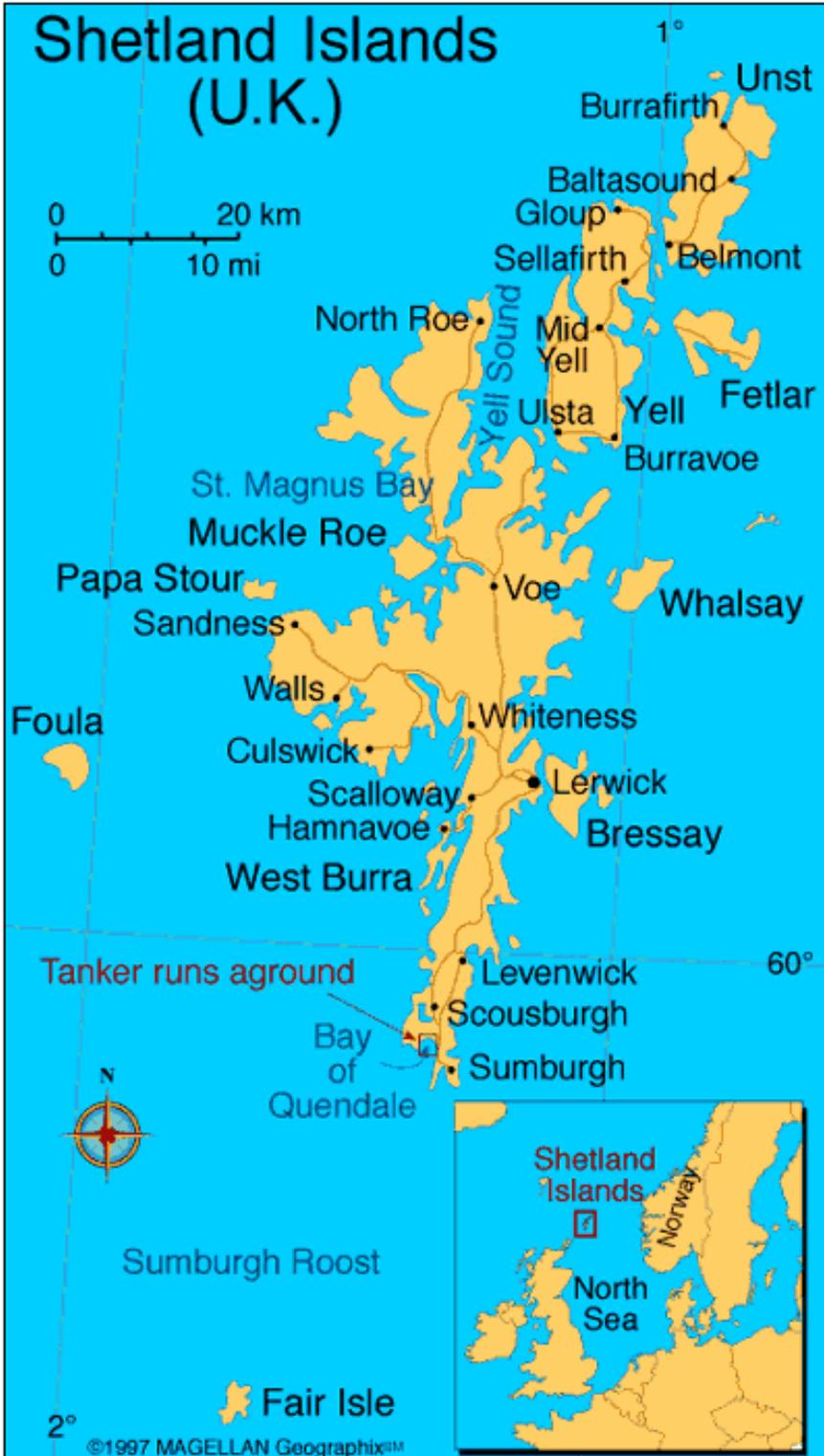
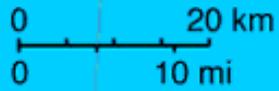


Shetland Islands (U.K.)



Tanker runs aground



The Shetland islands lie 110 miles from mainland Scotland and 140 miles west of Norway. Total area about 566 square miles, population about 23,000. The largest island is “the Mainland” about 373 square miles. Lerwick has been the capital since 1708. Travel between the islands is by ferry or passenger-only mail boats. The climate is oceanic, cold and wet. Summer is considered to be from June to August and is the least windy season. Due to its latitude the summer days are very long, with “white nights” in which it is not completely dark, even at midnight.

Populated Islands:

- Bressay
- Bruray (Out Skerries)
- Burra
- Fair Isle
- Fetlar
- Foula
- Housay (Out Skerries)
- Mainland
- Muckle Roe
- Papa Stour
- Trondra
- Vaila
- Unst
- Whalsay
- Yell

Flora and Fauna

Due to isolation, there are only about 400 species of plants. Very few trees exist except in home garden settings and some cliffs and uninhabited islands. For this reason, buildings were constructed from stone, resulting in many historical ruins being available for study and view by tourists.

Shetland does have numerous seabird colonies and lies along migration routes. Many of the birds originate from Iceland and eastern Canada. Sea life such as whales, otters and seals are also plentiful. Land mammals are less diverse again due to isolation.

Domesticated animals include the Shetland pony, Shetland Sheepdog, Shetland cattle, Shetland goose and Shetland sheep.

Documentary movie “Wild Shetland – Scotland’s Viking Frontier” is mostly about sea life.

“A Year in Shetland – Islands of Opportunity” on Youtube is 23 minutes long and shows a lot of scenic footage.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YaDKJmRyB4>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shetland_animal_breeds



The Shetland Sheepdog

Excerpted from ASSA web site by [Pat Ferrell](#), ASSA Historian

Originating in the Shetland Islands, the breed was first registered in Lerwick in 1908 and with the Scottish Shetland Sheepdog Club in 1909. Subsequently, both these registries and the breed were recognized by the UKC (English Kennel Club) in March of 1909. First registered there as a Shetland Collie, the name was changed to Shetland Sheepdog by October of 1909 because of objections by Collie fanciers. There was an article by a visitor to the islands describing the dogs as early as 1844. Other names that had been used to refer to the Sheltie include Lilliputian Collie, Toonie Dog, Peerie Dog, Fairy Dog and Miniature Collie.

A copy of the original article from the Boston Globe dated Oct 17 1909 is on the ASSA web site. "Some few months more than a year ago there arrived from over the waters three inspiring representatives of this interesting breed of dogs. They were imported by two Boston gentlemen who were attracted by specimens of the breed seen in Inverness and Nairn, where they were touring northern Scotland. They were so well pleased with what they heard regarding their character and their farm qualities, that arrangements were made in 1907 to get three of the best Shetlands, one male and two females, to be had on the islands."

The Lerwick Shetland Collie Club was formed in 1908

The Scottish Shetland Sheepdog Club was formed in 1909

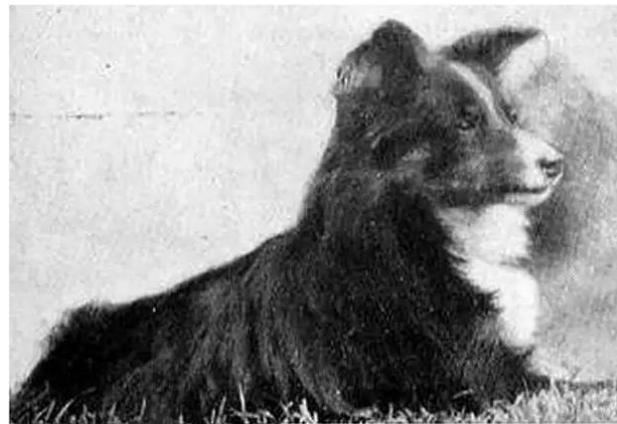
The English Kennel Club accepted these two clubs and the breed in 1909

Registered initially as Shetland Collies in Mar. of 1909, changed to Shetland Sheepdogs in Oct. 1909

The American Kennel Club accepted the breed as Shetland Sheepdogs in April of 1911

The English Shetland Sheepdog Club was formed in 1914

The American Shetland Sheepdog Club was formed in Feb. 1929



Chestnut Rainbow (born Nov 10 1922)



Ch. Lerwick Rex, 1st U.S. Ch.

Lerwick Rex born Mar 26 1910



Shelties and Alaskan Klee Kai owned by Kaylee Garrick

Hobbitpaws on Instagram

Fentongoesforth on Facebook

History and peoples

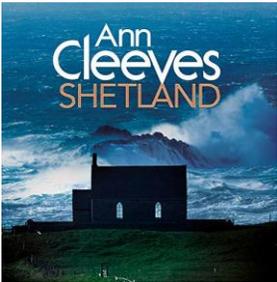
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Shetland

Shetland was colonized by Norsemen in the 9th century around 850 AD and basically kept control of the people and land until 1468 despite various wars and disputes. Norway was becoming increasingly under Danish control and King Christian I of Denmark and Norway needed to pay his daughter Margaret's dowry to James III of Scotland, with an obligation to retain the language and laws of Norway. Orkney and Shetland were officially annexed to the Kingdom of Scotland in 1472. The islands continued to follow Norse law until 1611 when parliament abolished its use and ordered them to follow Scottish law. Thousands of Scots families emigrated to Shetland in the 16th and 17th centuries.

Traditional Scottish dress (kilt) was not adopted in Shetland. Bagpipes are not prevalent in music but the fiddle is.

WW II Shetland Bus 1941 from Lunna Ness (north of Lerwick) to German-occupied Norway to transfer agents in and out and provide them with weapons, radios and other supplies.

Shetland dialect is a combination of old Norse and Scots, with the Norse influences heavily for place names and localized weather, plants, animals, etcetera. This web page contains video of a woman speaking in Shetland dialect. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shetland_dialect



Shetland novels and reader's guide by Ann Cleeves: This is a series of best-selling crime novels made into a TV series on BBC One. Her reference book "Shetland" contains beautiful photos and discussion of locations and people that she incorporated into the novels.



The Northern Lights are known as the Mirrie Dancers, 'mirr' meaning 'to shimmer'.

Flag

Shetland's flag is similar to the Scottish flag but in the form of the Nordic Cross to symbolize ties with Scandinavia.



Flag of Scotland - St Andrew's Cross



Flag of Shetland

Wind turbines projects

The Shetland islands currently rely on a diesel power station but are developing wind turbine energy. The islands are 120 miles from North Sea oil and gas fields and served as a major docking station for ships for over 40 years. Currently Lerwick is involved in decommissioning and recycling activities for these large structures.

Viking Energy is developing a 103-turbine wind farm expected to go online in 2024 with projected 443 MW capacity which will also feed to UK mainland national grid via undersea cable.

<https://www.euronews.com/green/2022/03/02/the-remote-shetland-islands-are-a-surprising-leader-in-the-race-to-net-zero>



Bressay Lighthouse



Bressay



Bressay



Skerries (Bruray and Housla)



Barra



Fair Isle



Funzie Ness (headland or promontory), Fetlar



Foula



Foula



Central Mainland, Shetland



Deepdale on west side of Mainland Shetland



Lunna House, Mainland - Scottish Bus operations By Aldebaran - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=4609367>



Muckle Roe



Papa Stour Kirk (Church of Scotland)



The Haa (Laird's House), Vaila



Unst



Jarlshof - Prehistoric and Norse Settlement, Unst



Whalsay



Whalsay



The Wind House in Yell, thought to be one of the most haunted places in Scotland