

How to enjoy access in Orkney

walking your dog

Dogs enjoy running, jumping, chasing, barking...

This can be a big problem for farmers, livestock and wildlife.

So please keep your dog under control at all times and

never let your dog worry or attack livestock

don't take your dog into fields with lambs, calves or other young animals

keep it on a short lead or under close control in fields with farm animals

let your dog go and take a short, safe route out of the field if cattle react aggressively

don't allow your dog to disturb nesting birds

pick up your dog's faeces in public places

Fields with Farm Animals

Access rights include fields with farm animals but remember they may not want to share their field with you.

You can avoid problems by:

finding an alternative route that avoids a field with animals

keeping a safe distance from cows, especially if they have calves

not taking your dog into a field with young farm animals

keeping your dog on a short lead or under close control where there are livestock

not feeding farm animals

Remember too that gates keep livestock where they are meant to be - so leave gates as you find them.

Fields of Growing Crops

Crops are important to farmers - they don't want to see them trampled by people, dogs or horses.

Access rights don't include crops so:

use a path or track through a crop

go around the edge of a field

go into a neighbouring field

Remember that grass harvested for silage or hay is also a crop when it gets to about ankle height.

