



25 HIGHLAND SOUTH HARRIS

▶ Distance: 8½ miles/13.7km ▶ Time: 4 hours ▶ Grade: Moderate



Views across Luskentyre Sands to Taransay.

PHOTO: THEO FORD-SAGERS



CHOSEN BY...

THEO FORD-SAGERS

Of the many sights these islands have to offer, the pristine white beaches on the west coast of South Harris should rank way up any visitor's list. The sandy soils that surround them (known as machair) were the final resting place for many inhabitants of the sheltered bays on the east coast, where the rock and peat offered few places to bury the dead. The fabled journeys to the windswept western cemeteries are what has given this track the sombre name 'Coffin Road' (Bealach Eòrabhat), but its usage for many purposes goes back centuries. Although not all of it

features on OS maps, the old path is still there. Start on the west side and take this circuit clockwise to save the most dramatic scenery for later on. You'll also travel the coffin road in the same direction as those hardy pall bearers with their ponderous cargo.

1 Start The first section is mostly Tarmac, single-track in places so take care. From the layby, walk east along the road for 600m. At road junction, take track on L. When it re-emerges at the road, continue along the road to bridge.

2 ¾ miles/1.25 km Immediately before the bridge, take firm track on

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Free parking at the roadside, grid ref NG090971

Is it for me? Navigation is simple and gradients aren't very punishing. Firm ground in summer, but some patches will become boggy in winter

Stiles One

PLANNING

Nearest town Tarbert

Refreshments The Machair Kitchen, hotel-hebrides.com, 01859 550333

Public toilets The Machair Kitchen (if you're a customer)

Public transport Bus W10 from Tarbert to Luskentyre (Mon-Sat). Operator: Hebridean Transport, 01851 705050

Maps OS Explorer 455; Landranger 14

R to Lacasdail Cottage, keeping the river on your L. Enter gate immediately before the



GRADIENT PROFILE



