

Introduction

The branch lines of Cornwall offer some of the most scenic train journeys in Britain.

From stunning coastal views along the St Ives Bay Line to the beauty of the Looe Valley and the spectacular views from Calstock Viaduct on the Tamar Valley Line, there is plenty to explore by rail and then on foot.

In this booklet, you will find nine walks from stations across Cornwall to enjoy. You can find more walks at our website www.greatscenicrailways.com and in the Devon version of this booklet too.



St Ives Bay Line

Walking

Please remember all public rights of way cross private land, so keep to paths and keep dogs on leads. Occasionally short term work may mean diversions are put in place, follow local signs if necessary.

The maps in this booklet are intended as a guide only; it is always advisable to carry the appropriate OS Map with you whilst out walking.

St Keyne Wishing Well Halt Station to Causeland
Pages 16 & 17

Gunnislake Station to Calstock
Pages 18 & 19

Luxulyan to Eden
Pages 10 & 11

Penryn to Falmouth via Flushing
Pages 8 & 9

Carbis Bay to Porthminster Beach
Pages 4 & 5

NEWQUAY

TRURO

PENZANCE

FALMOUTH

LISKEARD

PLYMOUTH

Looe to Polperro
Pages 14 & 15

Calstock Station to Cotehele House
Pages 20 & 21

Perranwell Village Circular
Pages 6 & 7



Carbis Bay to Porthminster Beach

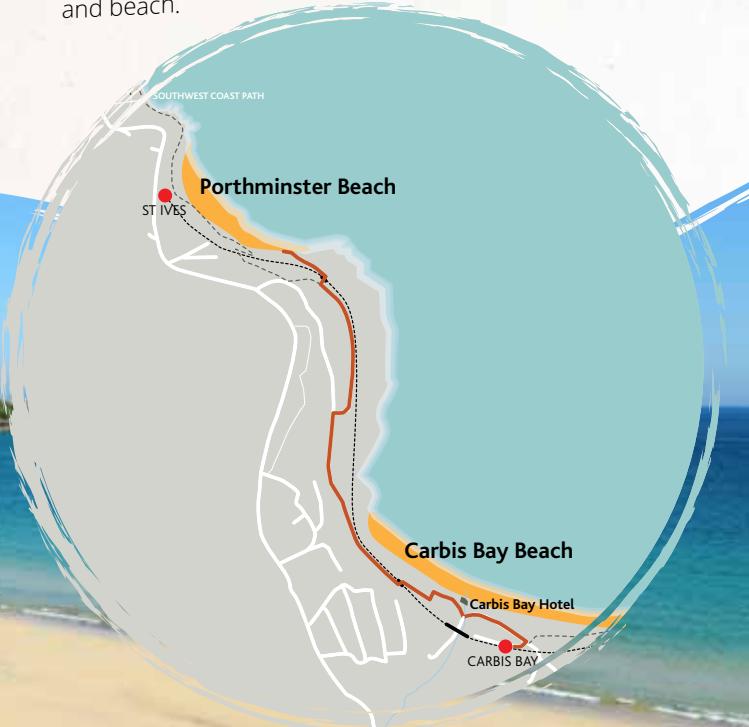
From the station car park, go down the road towards the beach. Pass below Carbis Bay Hotel then follow a path which leads steeply left, then right to reach a rail footbridge.

Cross the bridge, continue along the main footpath to reach a wider lane coming in from the left. Continue past houses, to a junction, the right branch is signed 'Pedestrians Only'.

Take the lower right hand route from this junction which leads downhill and then bends left. Where it levels off by the railway, cross a stile on the right to a track which leads beneath the railway and out to Porthminster Point.

The main route continues along a surfaced road, past houses. Follow the lane left and uphill to the last house and a 'No Parking' sign.

Bear right along a narrow path between trees. At a T junction with a lane, turn right cross the railway bridge. Where the lane bends sharply to the right, keep straight ahead down a narrow path and steps to reach the Porthminster café and beach.



Perranwell Village Circular

From Perranwell station, turn right down the road. Pass two cottages on the left and, after 20 yards, turn left onto a path which runs parallel to the road. Regain the road and continue on downhill (passing a junction on the right) following the road round to the left.

Cross the bridge over the stream and go uphill to the Post Office on the left, and the Royal Oak pub a few yards uphill on the right.

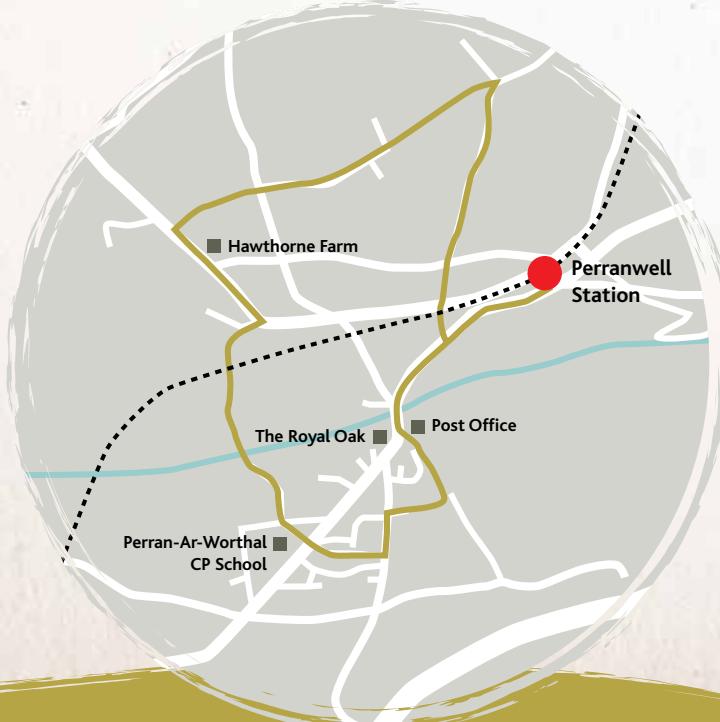
Turn left onto the footpath just before the Post Office and follow it up hill, going over two stiles. After the second stile go over a stile into a field on your right. Cross the field to a stile to the left of a domestic garage. Over this stile continue on along the path and down a driveway to the road.

Turn left uphill to a footpath on the right just before Treworthal Road. Follow this path to the road near the school. Cross the road and continue down the path to a lane. Turn left and almost immediately right. Pass a playing field on the right and continue on, the path bends to the left before reaching The Old Mill. Here turn right by the garage and follow the path, crossing a stream and over a stile into a field. Continue up the field to the left of the telegraph poles, then bear right to go over a stile and then keep left alongside a hedge, up the well-defined path, over a stile and under the railway bridge. Carry on to a wooden signpost, go up the steps ahead signed Greensplat and follow the path to Frogpool Road.

Turn left along the road to pass a public byway on the right and then to pass Hawthorne Farm. Just after the farm

entrance, turn right onto a path and follow it uphill passing 'Hilltop' before crossing the road. Continue on this track for about 15 minutes passing a stile on either side of the track.

To return to the station turn right signposted Silverhill and follow the clearly defined route. Pass cottages on the right and down to reach a T Junction. Cross over a low stile onto a footpath and follow down to the road. Continue on to cross the railway line down steps and onto the road. Cross the road to a path you will remember from the start of the walk and the station is uphill on your left.



Penryn to Falmouth via Flushing

A riverside walk which starts in the ancient borough of Penryn, ending in the pretty village of Flushing before taking the ferry to Falmouth.

From the station, turn right uphill and then left down Helston Road. Take the first turning on the left (Shute Lane) and then first left into Mutton Row. Follow it along and then down its steps to West Street. Turn right into town.

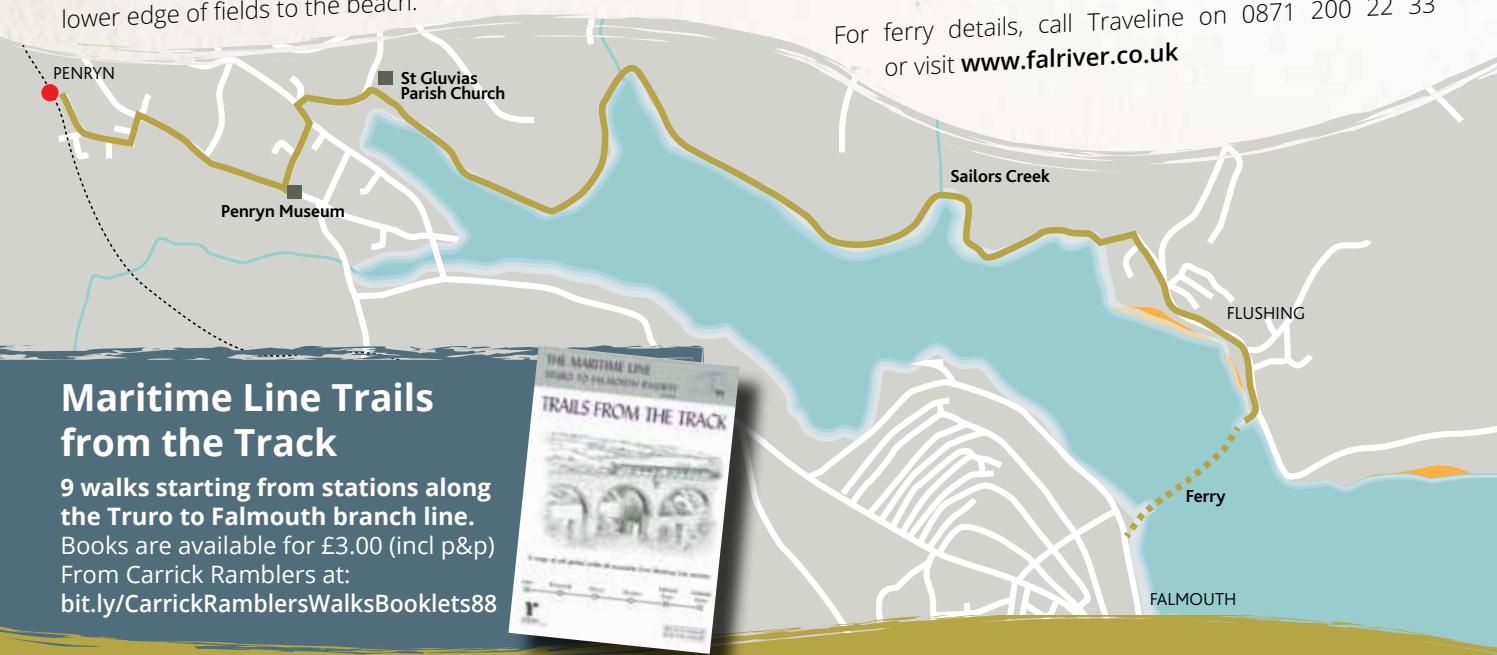
Take the second left into St Gluvias Street, down to Commercial Road. At the bottom of the street, turn left and cross onto Church Road, signed "Mylor Yacht Harbour".

Go along Church Road, cross it with care at the church. Follow the path just below the church car park, beside the river, up through the cemetery, over a stile and along the lower edge of fields to the beach.

Walk through the reed bed before turning right at the T junction. Continue on beside the river path to Sailors' Creek (stepping stones). Continuing beside the river, go up a fenced path to come out into a field. Cross the field to the right, to a flight of steps onto the beach.

Turn left along the beach to the boat yard. Now go up past the old oyster sheds to the road. Turn right and follow the road down past the Royal Standard pub before bearing right down to the beach. Now go along the road to the quay and the ferry to Falmouth.

For ferry details, call Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 or visit www.falriver.co.uk



Maritime Line Trails from the Track

9 walks starting from stations along the Truro to Falmouth branch line.

Books are available for £3.00 (incl p&p)
From Carrick Ramblers at:
bit.ly/CarrickRamblersWalksBooklets88

Luxulyan to Eden Project

This route is part of the Saints' Way which runs from Padstow to Fowey. It is steep in places and has 16 stiles! The route is clearly way marked with a black cross and a yellow arrow.

On arrival at Luxulyan station, cross the car park and bear right onto the road, following it uphill to a T junction.

At the T junction, turn left and immediately right, up a flight of steps onto a paved footpath and continue across a residential road. Cross the stone stile in front of you, after a while the footpath swings left and joins a residential road for a while.



On reaching the next T junction, turn right and walk the short distance to the church. Take the next right onto a lane which runs alongside the Post Office. Here you will see a way marker showing the distance of 1¼ miles to Prideaux. Take the footpath ahead, crossing a stone stile and granite rail bridge to enter a field.

Follow the direction of the way marker across the field and through the gap in the hedge. Continue in the same direction to a stone stile and cross the boulder strewn field. Continue diagonally across the corner of this field over another stone stile and onto a track.

Follow the signs across the stiles left, right and left, then keep to the field boundary on your left until you cross the wooden stile, down the steps where the sign takes you right. Follow the markers over the twin bridges. *

Here the path splits, follow the Saints' Way marker ahead, up the slope and into the field. Keep the hedge on your right and go over the granite stile and onto the next one.

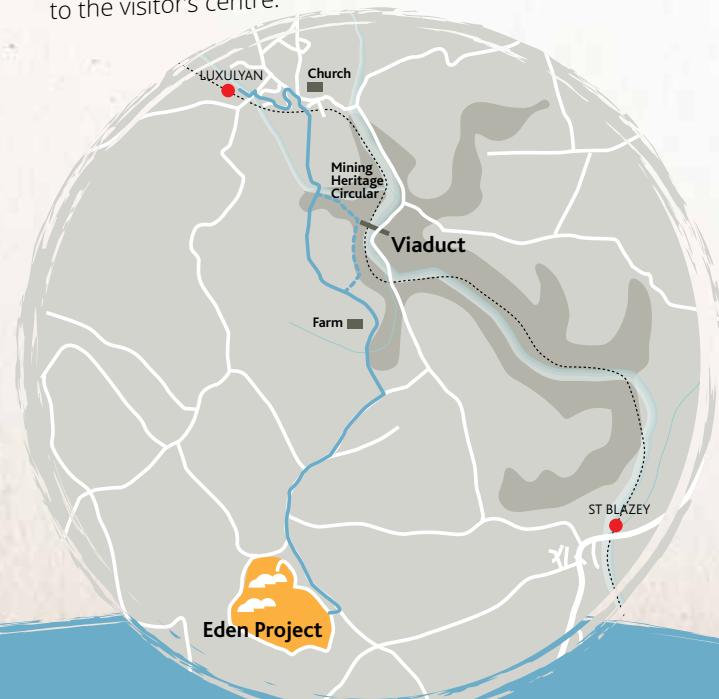
There are three more stiles ahead, cross these keeping the hedge to your right. At the other end of the field is an exit just left of the gate with another 3 stiles to be crossed.

Cross the middle of this next field, uphill towards the two gates. Go through the gate and follow the way marker diagonally across the field. Cross the wooden stile into the green lane. The signs then take you through a wooded valley and up to a 'kissing gate'.

The path now goes straight ahead, uphill and across the middle of the field towards a gate. Beside the gate is a stone stile which you cross onto the road.

Turn right here and continue along this quiet country lane for about ½ mile.

On reaching the T junction, turn left onto a much busier road and continue a short distance, ignoring a turning on your left, until you see the Eden gateway ahead of you. Turn in here and follow the signs for the pedestrian route to the visitor's centre.



Luxulyan Mining Heritage Circular

This route takes in the spectacular Treffry Viaduct and many other historic remains and is part of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site.
www.cornishmining.org.uk

Follow the same directions as the walk to the Eden Project until *.

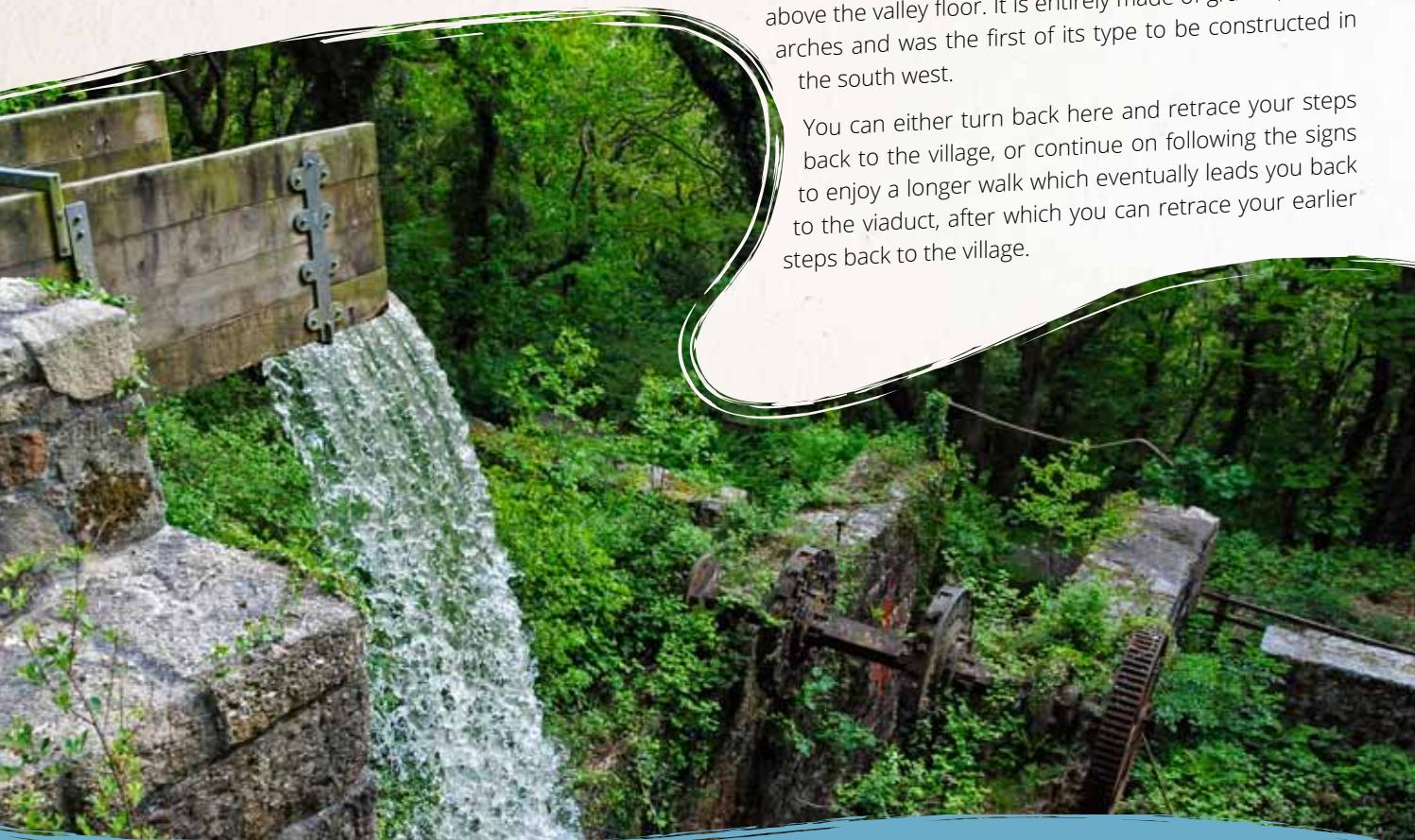


Where the path splits, take the left yellow arrow and continue to follow the arrows, bearing right keeping the leats on your left.

You emerge from the wood by crossing a wooden stile. Look for the way marker ahead and left of you and follow this down some steps to the Treffry Viaduct.

This was built between 1839 and 1842 and stands 30m above the valley floor. It is entirely made of granite, has 10 arches and was the first of its type to be constructed in the south west.

You can either turn back here and retrace your steps back to the village, or continue on following the signs to enjoy a longer walk which eventually leads you back to the viaduct, after which you can retrace your earlier steps back to the village.



Looe to Polperro

A walk along the stunning South West Coast Path, ending in the picturesque village of Polperro before catching a bus back to Looe, (bus service 73).

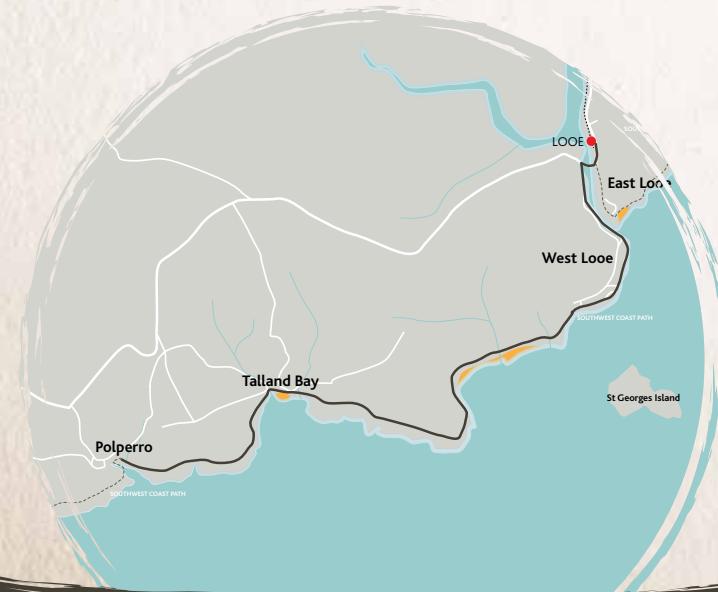
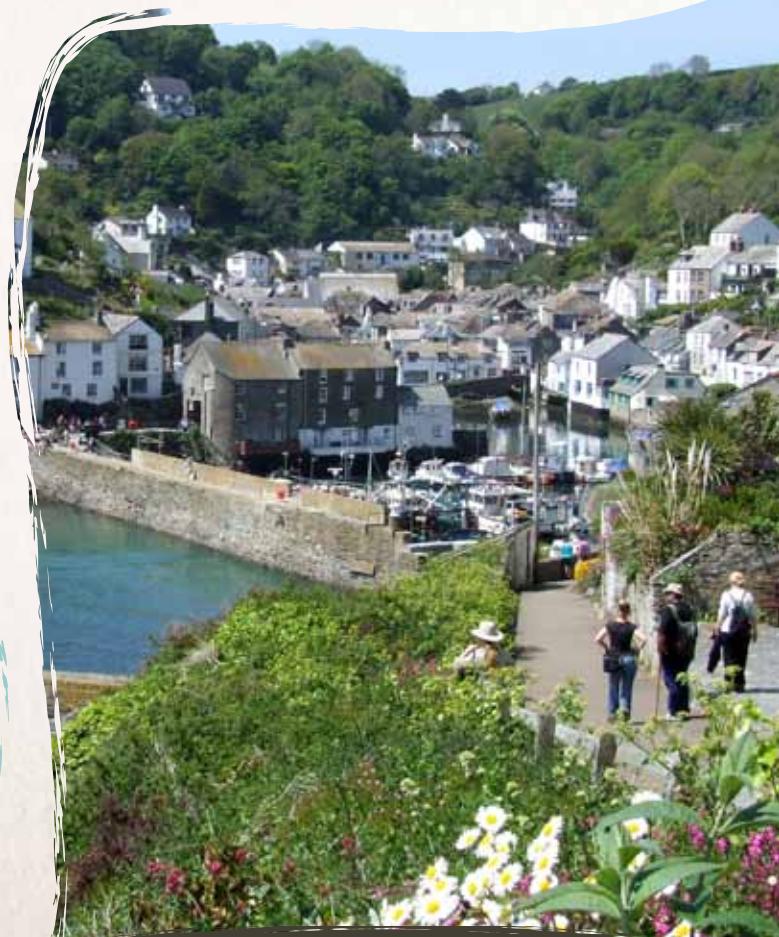
Exit right from the railway station and follow signs down Station Road to the bridge. Cross over it to West Looe, turn left and walk down Quay Road alongside the harbour. At the end of this road you will see a steep hill which curves round, walk up this hill. Caution- there is no pedestrian footpath.

At the top of the hill, carry straight along Marine Drive, which has great views of Looe Island, past the café and the tennis courts. Go through the gate in the corner and on to the South West Coast Path.

Stay with the coast path until you come to Talland. Dropping steeply downhill into the car park at Talland, turn left at the Smuggler's Rest and then left again to go past the toilets.

Turn right along the tarmac path to take the coast path uphill towards Polperro. Do not take the path signposted Brent. Follow this path until finally you will drop down into Polperro.

In the village, the bus stop is located at the top of the village, near the Crumplehorn Pub. There are frequent buses to Looe Health Centre, just down the road from the railway station.

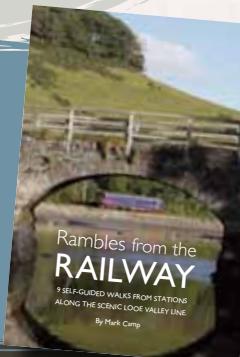


St Keyne Wishing Well Halt to Causeland



On sale at Looe
Tourist Information
Centre priced at
£4.50.

For details of how to
purchase, visit:
www.walkaboutwest.co.uk



A relatively short walk along Cornish country lanes deep in the East Looe Valley taking in the Holy Well of St Keyne.

Exiting the station, go past the tall building straight ahead which was an old mill, and follow the road around to the left, ignoring the junction to the right. The lane now starts to climb, with high banks to either side.

At the top of the hill, you come to a junction and St Keyne Well. The Well is famous for its connection with newlyweds and the story is displayed in the slate for you to read. From the well, go left down the hill to the St Keyne Well Hotel. This fine building was built in 1884 by a tea plantation owner who made his money in India before returning to Cornwall.

The road descends back down into the valley passing a large abandoned quarry on the right-hand side. Carry on down the road passing the remains of an old lime kiln.

The little halt at Causeland is soon reached. At the station, behind the platform, you can see the remains of the old canal.



Gunnislake Station to Calstock

A varied walk through fields, along footpaths ending up in the delightful riverside village of Calstock.

From Gunnislake station, walk towards the main road and turn left up the hill towards Pearce's Garage. Keep onto the left fork of the road and head past the Tamar Valley Centre into the village of Albaston.

At the junction by the Queen's Head pub, turn left and walk down the road for a minute or so until you see a signpost on the other side of the road which says Metherell/Cotehele. Cross over the road and follow this quiet road for approx. 10 minutes.

As you start to go up a slight hill, you will see a gate and a field which has a 'Footpath to Danescombe' sign, turn left into this field and walk to the bottom until you get to a stile. Go over the stile, down the steps and then follow the river.

Keep following the river until you get to a wooden gate, go through it, and follow the path.

Eventually you will pass some sheds, then a house on your right. Go through the big gate and you will see an old white cottage as you come out into the lane.

Walk just past the cottage and then take a right turn down the track where it says 'footpath'. Keep going past the old mine on the right then the little mine train on the left, over the little bridge, the cottages and down the hill.

You will see a large roofless building on your right, which is an old paper mill and then the track splits. Head towards the cottages and the left track. Keep going along this road which will take you past the boathouse and under the viaduct.

Eventually at the end of this road you will see the village. Turn right for the pubs and shops, turn left for the station!



Calstock Station to Cotehele House

A circular riverside walk which leads to the National Trust estate of Cotehele. Once at Cotehele Quay, there are options for longer walks.

From the station, follow the signs down the hill onto the road. Take the first road to the right before you reach the centre of the village, signposted Cotehele.

Follow the road ahead, which leads you along the riverside. You will pass two old lime kilns along the way, as well as the impressive Danescombe House, which used to be a hotel.

Keep following the path until you see the signpost to Cotehele pointing up a steep path. This is a steep climb so take your time.



You will notice the path soon splits and here you have a choice. Take the right path to go up to Cotehele House where you can explore the house and gardens (admission rates apply) or take the left which heads down to Cotehele Quay and further walks into the woods beyond.

To get back to Calstock, simply re-trace your steps.

For details about visiting Cotehele, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk



Other Walks

If you have enjoyed the selection of walks we have put together here, you may be interested in other walks from railway stations in the far south west.

We have more walks and information about detailed walks books you can buy on our website www.greatscenicrailways.com

The South West Coast Path has put together a series of walks from stations in Devon and Cornwall such as Newquay, Barnstaple, Torquay and Penzance. These walks can be found at www.southwestcoastpath.org.uk, simply search 'railway walks'.

Look out for the Devon Walks from the Railway booklet at GWR stations or download it at www.greatscenicrailways.com



St Ives Bay Line

Rail Information



For information about train times and fares, contact National Rail Enquiries on 08457 48 49 50 or visit www.gwr.com

Off Peak Day Return

These great value tickets are available Monday to Friday after the morning peak and anytime at weekends and Bank Holidays. Off Peak fares are available all year round.

GroupSave

Groups of 3 to 9 people can get a third off with a GroupSave ticket on Off Peak fares (GroupSave is not accepted on Crosscountry trains). Groups must have at least one adult.

Unlimited Travel Tickets

Rangers and Rovers. There is an extensive range of Ranger and Rover tickets available. Visit www.greatscenicrailways.com for more information or ask at a staffed station.

BritRail passes

International visitors can use their BritRail pass on all the lines mentioned in this booklet.

Bus Links

For details of public transport links, contact Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 or visit www.travelinesw.com

Dogs and cycles

Dogs and cycles can be taken free of charge (max 2 dogs, 2 cycles). For more information about other ways to enjoy days out by train, visit www.greatscenicrailways.com

All information supplied in good faith and believed correct at time of going to print (February 2018).

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