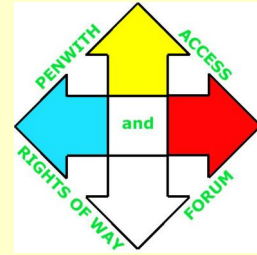


A Circular Walk from Botallack

9.7 Miles



A Walk Visiting Historic Ancient Sites and glimpsing Cornwall's Mining Heritage

This circular walk starts from the car park next to the National Trust Count House in a stunning cliff top setting at Botallack. It follows Footpaths, Bridleways and quiet lanes and joins together a number of ancient sites including Tregeseal Stone Circle, Chun Quoit and the Iron Age Hill Fort of Chun Castle, before heading back towards the coast to the Hamlet of Morvah and its pretty Church.

It then returns along the coast path offering walkers a glimpse of Cornwall's Mining Heritage. The route enjoys many vantage points from which you can take in the panoramic views.

The walk crosses open moor land and sections of the coast path, has a number of stiles and is steep in places so requires a reasonable level of fitness to complete. The route is approximately 10miles long. There are toilets available during opening hours at the National trust exhibition at the Count House at the start of the walk and also at Geevor Mine.

The route gives some good opportunities to stop for refreshments, including the Queens Arms in Botallack, the School House Gallery in Morvah and the Cafe at Geevor Mine.

Penwith Access and Rights of Way (PAROW)

This is a local community based organisation working with a wide range of partners including the West Cornwall Local Action Group and Cornwall Council to improve access to the countryside for both local people and visitors, with a particular interest in access to Penwith's diverse collection of Ancient and Historic Sites. It also aims to help encourage tourism for the benefit of local businesses and to offer people the opportunity to carry out practical conservation tasks.



Crown Mines and the Count House (GR SW305331)

The Crown Mines with their dramatic cliff side setting, as seen on the front page, were constructed in 1815 to pump water and allow mining to reach out under the seabed. The deepest shaft was about 150 meters below sea level and the tunnels ran for approximately 400 meters out to sea! . The mines ceased to operate in 1914 but are now in the ownership of the National Trust and are a part of the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape World Heritage



Count House



Mining remains both old and new close to the Count House

The Count House to Carnyorth Moor

From the car park take the time to explore the mining heritage contained within the area surrounding the Crown Mines and the Count House.

To start the walk, turn left from the entrance to the car park and, passing in front of the Count House, follow the entrance road and after 300 yards turn right at a red Way Marking Post, and follow a broad track which runs down hill.

After 250 yards turn left to follow a broad grassy track. At a Way Marker the path turns right and then sharp left onto a lane. Continue along this lane, ignoring a turn on your left, and it will eventually emerge out onto a tarmac road close to the Hamlet of Botallack. At the road turn right and continue for 200 yards before turning left onto another tarmac road (Truthwall Lane) at the sign for Trevaylor Caravan and Camping Park. Follow the road until you reach a junction and then turn left and follow the road for 400 yards, ignore a lane which turns to the right in front of houses, and continue ahead on the road, and then turn right onto a grassy track. Follow the track, known locally as 'Devils Lane', up hill to reach Carnyorth Moor. The lane runs for 900 yards and ends at a gate. Pass through the gate and immediately turn right over a stile and then head diagonally across the field towards the remains of a broken stile.



Solitary Chimney on the Cliffs

Crossing Carnyorth Moor, Stone Circle and Carn Kenidjack

Do not cross the stile, but follow the field boundary right on a faint path to a collection of rocks. Follow the path between the rocks and as it continues to weave its way through Gorse and Brambles to reach a Kissing Gate. Pass through the gate and continue ahead, passing a pond on your right, and continue onto a broad track. Follow the track ignoring a gate on your left and continue to reach a large farm gate with a smaller gate alongside. Go left through the gate and continue ahead to reach the stone Circle



Tregeseal
Stone Circle

*Carn Kenidjack or
the 'Hooting Carn'
viewed from
Devils Lane*

Tregeseal stone circle

The Stone Circle is thought to be either early Bronze Age or late Neolithic and is one of three Circles that were originally on the site. There are now only 19 stones standing although the circle was probably larger with only the Eastern half of the circle's



It is worth the effort to climb the Carn for the wonderful view!

From the Stones, head directly towards the large Carn ahead (Carn Kenidjack) on a track crossing the moor, running through heather. At a junction turn left and then after 300 yards turn right and continue ahead to reach an old Way Marker Post at a junction. Turn right and continue uphill and at another junction continue ahead on a broad track passing the Carn on your right and, with a Parish Boundary marker stone on your left, continue ahead towards power lines. Pass through a gate and continue down hill onto a wide grassy track.

Carnyorth Common to Chun Quoit

Follow the track and after 150yds turn left and continue ahead to join a tarmac road. At the road turn right and continue to reach the car parking area at Woon Gumpus. Pass through the gap at the far end of the car park and turn right, follow the path as it bears left and heads across the moor on a wide track for some distance. Continue until you reach a granite stile, cross the stile then go across the field to climb a further granite stile. Continue straight ahead to reach Chun Quoit.

Chun Quoit

This type of megalithic structure is also found in Wales and Ireland and is known by the Cornish name of 'Quoit'. It consists of a number of upright stones supporting a horizontal capstone to create a chamber. It is thought to date from the 3rd or 4th millennia BC and could have been used as a resting places for ancestral remains. It predates the remains of Chun Castle by as much as 4000 years.



Chun Quoit

Looking across to Garden Mine and

Chun Quoit to Chun Castle

From the Quoit continue straight ahead uphill for 400 yards to reach the remains of Chun Castle.



Chun Castle

Chun Castle is what remains of an Iron Age Hill Fort set high up on the summit of Chun Downs. It is thought to have been occupied mostly from the 3rd Century BC until the 1st Century AD, although it was again occupied during later periods. It consists of two circular stone walls which would have originally been much higher, with an external ditch. The only entrance to the site is offset which may indicate a defensive function.

PAROW has been working for the last few years, to remove bracken from the site to encourage the re-growth of a more diverse range of wild flower and grass species.



The entrance to
Chun Castle

Chun Castle to Morvah Church

From the Castle retrace your route to the Quoit and facing the Quoit turn right and follow the path down hill. Continue down hill, passing a blue Way Marker as you head right and at a second blue Way Marker post turn left. Follow the path as it bears right and heads down hill again to emerge onto a grassy lane. Follow the lane ahead and at a junction with a Way Marking post follow the lane down hill, to the right. At another junction turn left onto a vehicle track. follow the track down hill and at a further junction following a blue Way Marker continue down hill to emerge onto a tarmac road. Follow the road ahead and as it turns to the right, turn left over a granite stile at a

. Head across the field bearing slightly right and cross an electric fence to reach another granite stile. Cross the stile and continue ahead to cross a further granite stile with a Way Marking post to Morvah. Follow the left hand field boundary and cross three further granite stiles to reach the road. Follow the road ahead and turn right at the Morvah sign to reach the church



The Hamlet of Morvah

Morvah Church

Rebuilt in 1828 the site of the church was probably used from the 6th or 7th Century with firstly the construction of a chapel. A tower was added to the Chapel by the end of the 14th Century. The Parish registers still survive and date from 1617.



The School House Gallery and Coffee shop at Morvah

Morvah to Pendeen Lighthouse

Retrace your route for 30 yards and turn left over a granite stile next to a gate. Follow the path ahead and continue through a wooden gate. Pass through a second wooden gate and continue ahead to cross a granite stile to reach the Coast Path. Turn left and follow the Acorn symbols of the South West Coast Path. The path provides dramatic views but is well worn and easy to follow. Continue until you descend steeply to reach the beach at Portheras Cove, which is worth investigating. Re-join the Coast Path and continue on to reach the light house of Pendeen Watch.



Looking back along the coast path to Bosigran Cliff and Gurnards Head

*Pendeen
Lightho
use*



Pendeen Lighthouse

This lighthouse has been keeping shipping safe for nearly 100 years, guiding them around the dangerous waters off Pendeen Watch. Its construction was a huge operation necessitating the building of retaining walls on the seaward side, and the light was finally commissioned on 26th September 1900. The lighthouse was automated in 1995 and its light can be seen for 16 nautical miles with an intensity of 150,000 Candela!



Portherras Cove

Pendeen Lighthouse back to Botallack Count House

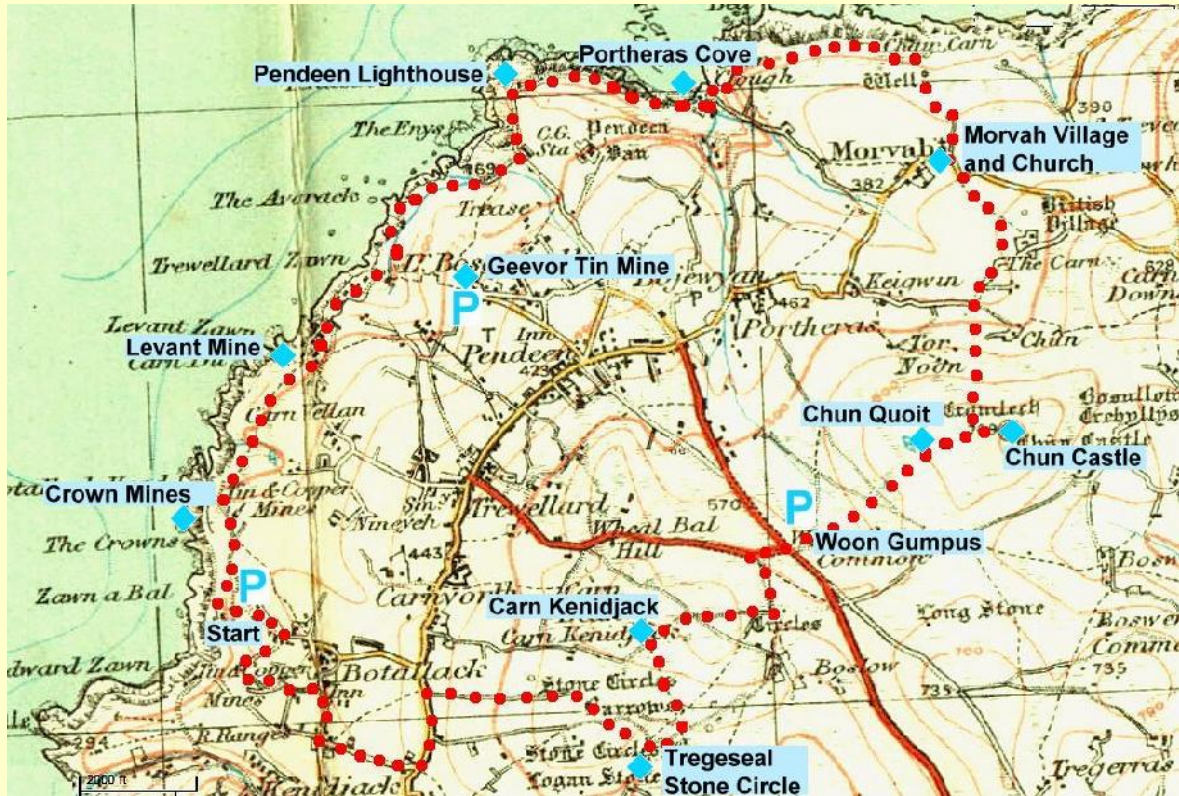
From the lighthouse head inland along the road and then rejoin the Coast Path at a turning on the right hand side, opposite some ex Coastguard Houses. The Coast Path now continues ahead, and passes through the site of Geevor Tin Mine, and then the site of the National Trust owned Levant Mine and Beam Engine. From the Beam Engine continue to follow the Coast Path's Acorn Markers to eventually reach the start point at the Crown Mines and Count House back at Botallack.

Old Mine Workings on the cliffs At Botallack



Geevor Mine—Now a museum

MAP



For Detailed Map Please Use OS Explorer 102

Also see Map displayed on PAROW Web Site

www.parow.org.uk

