



GURNARD'S HEAD TO CAPE CORNWALL

Distance: 11 miles/17.7km Time: 6 hours Grade: Challenging



SEE FEATURE ON PAGE 83



Botallack Crowns Mine engine houses, between Points 3 & 4.

PHOTO: FIONA BARLTROP



CHOSEN BY... FIONA BARLTROP

The stretch of Coast Path between St Ives and Pendeen Watch along the north side of the Land's End Peninsula provides some dramatic cliff scenery, but it's a tough walk, often rough and rocky, easing towards the end. This walk covers the last section of it – the prominent headland of Gurnard's Head to Pendeen Watch – continuing along an easier stretch of coastline to Cape Cornwall, then inland to St Just. The area is notable for its mining heritage, and forms part of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site, which comprises a number of different landscape areas

from the west of Cornwall to west Devon. The combination of the raw beauty of the rugged coastline and the mining landscape makes this a very atmospheric area in which to walk. Tall chimneys of former mines pierce the skies while the last working mine, Geevor, is now a visitor centre where you can experience harsh conditions the miners endured. And then there's the Levant, 'the mine under the sea', where you can watch its unique steam-powered Cornish beam engine in action.

1 Start

From Gurnard's Head pub, follow no-through road to R of it through Treen hamlet.

PLAN YOUR WALK



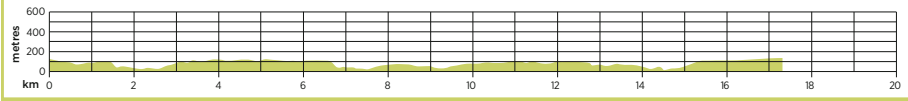
ROUTE

Start/parking Gurnard's Head pub bus stop, grid ref SW436375. Lafrowda car park/bus stop, St Just, postcode TR19 7JA
Is it for me? Well waymarked coast path (footpaths and stony tracks) along exposed cliff tops with ups and downs
Stiles 6

PLANNING

Nearest town St Just
Refreshments Gurnard's Head pub (01736 796928); Botallack Count House café; Little Wonder Café, Cape Cornwall car park; choice in St Just
Public toilets Cape Cornwall & St Just car parks
Public transport Land's End Coaster from St Just to Gurnard's Head (pub), daily several times a day (firstbus.co.uk)
Maps OS Explorer 102; Landranger 203

GRADIENT PROFILE



GURNARD'S HEAD TO CAPE CORNWALL

OS Explorer map 102 Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop



At end where track continues to R keep ahead along drive and cross stone step stile on L, go through gate and follow field edge path, down a few steps on way. Cross another stone step stile and continue to junction with Coast Path (CP) – optional diversion out onto Gurnard's Head, if wished.

2½ mile/0.8km
Turn L on CP, initially on easy grassy terrain. Porthmeor Cove soon comes into view, with steps down to it. Path crosses granite footbridge and heads back uphill. Further on at stone waymark post turn R, signed for Bosigran Cliff Castle (Iron Age fort). CP goes over top of rocky ridge and down other side. Continue on CP for

another couple of miles, then downhill to cross footbridge above picturesque Portheras Cove, little Boat Cove beyond. Carry on uphill to white Pendeen Watch (lighthouse)

3 5/8 miles/8.3km
From here CP goes along road short distance, then turns off R. Next few miles of coast were once the scene of intense mining activity. Soon after turn off to Geevor reach Levant (1820-1930). S of it, pass Botallack Crowns Mine engine houses on cliff-side. Path descends from Kenidjack Castle to valley and continues on other side above Porth Ledden to reach Cape Cornwall, once thought to be England's most westerly point.

4 9 miles/14.5km
From car park follow CP out onto and anti-clockwise round Cape Cornwall headland, surmounted by a chimney, with NCI lookout on its western tip. Continue uphill to Carn Gloose. Turn L on lane past Ballowal Barrow (bronze age burial) on R. Bear R at junction on Cape Cornwall Road, R on West Place and L on Lafrowda Close to car park/bus stop. [CW](#)

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:
walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes

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