

Coastal Round Walk 28 – Pentewan, Heligan Garden, Mevagissey – 6.57 miles

Route Directions – Full GPS Version

Pentewan Sea Lock to Bridge over White River – 1.22 miles

Start at the Sea Lock at Pentewan Harbour at 01976/47156.

Follow the harbour and the road round, towards the B3373 Mevagissey road, as far as Pentewan Valley Cycle Hire sign. *Pentewan Valley Trail starts here (sign)*. Go through Pentewan Valley Cycle Hire and through a gap (*storyboard*) on to the cycle trail. *The cycle trail continues, well signed, to the road at Tregorrick, opposite The Cornwall Hotel and Spa*. Walkers should do only 15 yards on the cycle track then, at 01728/47321 by trail opening plaque, go L round a barrier, bearing R, crossing a single plank bridge, and then L to the White River at 01693/47332. Turn R along the river and, at 00926/48029 at 0.95 miles, rejoin the cycle trail along the river. At 00761/48443 at 1.22 miles, you come to a wooden FB on L (*signed National Cycle Network NCN3 Mevagissey 3, Heligan Garden 1½, Coast and Clay Trail*).

White River Bridge to Mevagissey – 3.22 miles

Go L over the bridge to the B3273 St. Austell to Mevagissey road at 00695/48417, opposite Nansladron Farm. Go L on footway/cycleway for about 250 yards. At 00738/48207, cross at refuge to the other side for 45 yards to the entrance to Pentewan Valley Nurseries. Cross a lane to a track between hedges, at 00737/48156 at 1.38 miles. At 00859/47916 at 1.54 miles, cross another lane and continue on the track. At 00975/47826 at 1.73 miles, the track turns away from road and winds uphill through the lovely broadleaf woodland of New Road Plantation (*Tremayne Estates*), moderate overall. At the top go under a handsome road bridge (*looks like a railway bridge*) at 00204/47034 at 280 feet at 2.42 miles.

60 yards after the bridge, at a T at 00168/47002 at 2.46 miles (*sign Coast and Clay Trail, R Heligan ¼, back Pentewan 2.4, St. Austell 2½, L Meva 2¼*). *If you are taking a Heligan Garden detour, go R on the track here. When you leave Heligan Garden, head for the car park but then go L on a clear track, which rejoins the trail at 00554/45788. Overall distance is much the same.* Go L for about 60 yards. *At this point a grassy track goes L. If you follow this, cross the road, then follow a track, cross 5 fields and a take a track past Barton Farm, you come to the St. Austell Road, just N of Pentewan.* The trail continues up easy up to around 300 feet then descends easily in woodland, passing an interesting collection of barns of Peruppa Farm on L at 00250/46938 at 2.55 miles. At 00395/46939 at 2.65 miles the path follows the road for a way, but separated by a wall. *From here, note good views R over the wooded Heligan valley, including Heligan and Home Farm estate, continuing much of way to Mevagissey.* After ¼ mile, at 00643/46625 at 2.90 miles, pass on your left an electricity sub-station. The track undulates to a FB at 00639/46565 at 2.95 miles. 30 yards after the FB, there is a T junction with a fingerpost (*L Public FP, R Cornish Way Mevagissey 1*) at 00651/46550 at 2.97 miles.

Go R on the trail downhill, undulating between hedges. At 00496/46091 at 3.32 miles, track becomes steep. At Heligan Mill junction, at 00554/45788 at 80 feet at 3.48 miles, a gate on the R is signed *pedestrian access to Heligan Garden 1½ miles. If you have taken the Heligan detour, this is where you will rejoin the trail.* At the entrance to Wayside on L at 00866/45707 at 3.64 miles, the track continues as a tarmac lane, passing Cheesewarne Farmhouse. At 01050/45371 at 4.01 miles, pass on your R Mevagissey Tennis and Bowling Club, and continue down to the road at 01079/45320 at 4.04 miles. Go slightly R through a park and past a fire station to road at 01180/45164 at 4.16 miles. Go R on Valley Road to follow the footway into Mevagissey, passing a large CP on L and a Mevagissey storyboard and toilets on R. At bottom of the hill, in Market Square, go L on Fore Street, R into St. George's Square and East Wharf at Mevagissey Harbour at 01492/44871 at 4.44 miles.

Mevagissey to Pentewan – On the Coast Path – 2.13 miles

Keep the harbour on your R for 50 yards and go L (*Coast Path sign Pentewan 2¼*) uphill on a concrete path alongside a terrace of houses. After last of the houses, continue up steep, with 78 steps up, into the open at 180 feet. Continue on grass, towards RH end of a terrace of houses up to 01632/45186 at 210 feet at 4.73 miles. Go through a gap. The Coast Path, as always, is clear from here and, as almost always, is very much up and down. Along the way you will encounter a steep section with a flight of 44 steps down to a footbridge at Polstreath and another 92 up from it.

Eventually you reach 275 feet at Penare Point. It is mostly downhill from here, dropping to 30 feet at the lost fishing hamlet of Portgiskey at 01678/46299 at 5.73 miles. Another easy grassy climb to 150 feet then it's down easily to the St. Austell road at 01608/46922 at 6.13 miles. Go R on the road, passing Pentewan Sands holiday park and, after a bus stop, turn R on the road into Pentewan. Go down the S side of the harbour to the sea lock at 6.57 miles.

Distances in the directions text are cumulative. A simpler version of these route directions, without the GPS data, is also available. Return to the walk page and click for it.