

Coastal Round Walk 07 – Chapel Porth, Beacon, Trevaunance Cove - 6.75 miles

Route Directions – Non GPS Version

Chapel Porth to St. Agnes Beacon – uphill all the way – a wooded valley and a high hill - 1.66 miles

Start by the Beach Café. Cross the stream by a FB and go L on a clear path up Chapel Coombe, with a stream on your L. 60 yards after ruined Wheal Charlotte engine house on R, enter woodland. Go L through a kissing gate and cross a FB. At Chapel Porth Farm, go R on a track. At 0.48 miles the track bears L but fork R on a track through woodland, passing attractive cottages on L. Further on, go through a gate and continue with a field on your R. Then, where a track comes in from the R, turn L (WM) through a gate (*k/gate inoperable*) onto a broad sunken track through woodland. At 0.92 miles turn R uphill between high hedges, passing Trevallet on your L. At 1.06 miles go L on a track between high hedges, passing a house on your R. After 50 yards the track becomes a path up to the road at a FP sign at 1.19 miles.

Go R on the road for 350 yards, passing houses on your L and Holly Cottage on your R. By the entrance to Beacon Country House Hotel, go L (*signpost The Beacon*) on a broad sunken track uphill. After a large house on L, go L at a fork. At Chy Pen the track becomes a path between hedges, leading into the open. At 1.50 miles, turn R (N) steeply uphill, on a narrow stony path through heather. *At that point the other path continues forward to skirt Beacon to W and rejoin the route at the road below the Beacon.* The Trig Point on top of St. Agnes Beacon is at 630 feet at 1.66 miles.

St. Agnes Beacon to Trevaunance Cove – all downhill – open country, long views – 1.81 miles

Leave the Trig Point on the LH path and fork R on a track through heather, heading roughly NW. At the junction of tracks and paths, ignore a crossing path and the narrow path along the fence on your R (*this looks like a more direct way but is too overgrown to be usable*). Stay with the main track heading NW, passing cairns on L and R; track becomes a path downhill, passing remains of buildings (mine or WWII). Soon after, go sharp R on a narrow path N, cross a clear path heading E, and continue down N on the narrow path to the road at 2.14 miles. (*At this point, you could shorten the walk by taking a track and path more or less opposite, heading roughly NNW, across New Downs, to the coast path. This reduces the walk to about 5 miles*)

Go R on the road for 300 yards to Higher Bal Farm on L (*a road goes R to Mingoose*). Go L on a track (*signed Public Byway*), passing a former Chapel and Chapel Coth on L; the track winds to become NNW. At 2.45 miles, go R on a path (*WM hidden*) through scrub and mine spoil, roughly NE, taking a L fork. Opposite Polberro House, go R on a lane, heading roughly ESE. After a while, go L on a private road (*signed public path to coast path*). Pass a rugby ground on your R and then a mine chimney on L. (*Further on, ignore WM L for the Coast Path, unless you would prefer to cut out Trevaunance Cove, reduces walk by about ¾ mile*) Continue on the lane, following a red byway WM.

At 3.14 miles, with a small parking area ahead on R, follow a FP sign L (*Trevaunance Cove*) downhill, overall fairly steeply, between scrub, passing immediately an untidy WWII memorial garden, and on into woodland. Pass houses on your R and, at 3.24 miles, go L on a fairly steep path, with 14 steps down, to the road from St. Agnes to Trevaunance Cove. Go L on the road, fairly steeply downhill, passing a large CP on your R, to a road junction opposite Driftwood Spars Inn. Go L on the steep road down to Trevaunance Cove beach at 3.47 miles.

Trevaunance Cove to Chapel Porth – along the Coast Path – 3.28 miles

Return up the road for 85 yards to steps on R. Go up through a seating area and turn R on a tarmac path and up steps to a lane. Go R on the lane, passing houses. You are now on the Coast Path, though the first WM is not for a short way. There is then a steep climb, partly by steps, partly on an awkward rising granite sett surface, up to an eventual 295 feet and then undulating to 325 feet at the end of Newdowns Head. For the rest of the way the path, always obvious, merely undulates easily, reaching 360 feet at Tubby's Head, until the final fairly steep descent to Chapel Porth.

After Tubby's Head the Coast Path is waymarked R downhill towards Towanroath engine house but I recommend you continue forward to Wheal Coates at 6.09 miles. Then pick your way carefully downhill on loose stone, winding first rightish then leftish, to rejoin the Coast Path. Shortly after Towanroath, the path forks R becoming eventually a wide track that winds fairly steeply down to Chapel Porth and its car park and Beach Café.

Distances in the text are cumulative.

A fuller version of these route directions, complete with GPS data including 10 figure grid references, spot heights and detailed distances, is also available. Return to the walk page and click for it.