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**Parking:** Park in Bissoe Cycle Hire pay car park, entrance at 77002/41498 by the granite Mining Trail WM.

**Getting There:** From A39 Truro to Falmouth, at Devoran roundabout, go R signed Bissoe and follow signs for Bissoe Cycle Hire. (Bike Chain Ricci).

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### **Bissoe Cycle Hire to Baldhu Church – 3.45 miles**

Start from Bissoe Cycle Hire car park, entrance at 77002/41498, by a granite Mining Trail WM. Go R, following WM for Devoran, for about 50 yards, crossing the little Carnon River. Go L on the Coast-to-Coast Mining Trail, a well made track (*granite WM post signed Devoran, location Bissoe Arsenic Works*). As you approach the arsenic calciner remains, the track bears R and L round the chimney. You then cross a wooden FB over a small tributary of the Carnon River. A little further on go L over a fairly long wooden FB over Carnon River. The track goes R and continues overall roughly SE, passing a stone gauging station on your R at 0.39 miles and bearing L then R. At 0.46 miles go through a wooden gate, passing a granite WM block immediately before a lane at 77572/41293. **(0.48 miles)**

Cross the lane, go through another wooden gate, the trail continues. Shortly the track divides, to rejoin later. I suggest the L fork, passing first a Carnon Valley storyboard on your L, then some (now dried up) filtration ponds on the L. Go through an open wooden gate where the tracks rejoin at 0.68 miles. From about 0.94 miles you can see a small car park and Carnon Viaduct ahead. Go through a wooden gate by the car park to a lane at 1.01 miles. The trail continues ahead but you should go L on the lane to the Devoran to Bissoe road at 1.07 miles. Go L on the road with care uphill gently. The road bears L and, at 78240/41086, you need to spot an almost completely hidden FP sign on the R. **(1.23 miles)**

Go R on a narrow badly overgrown path with a central gully, uphill through brambles and nettles, with high hedge on R, to a track at 78224/41249 at 1.30 miles. Go R on the track between scrub, uphill easy. The track divides at 1.83 miles; take the R track up to a lane at 78191/41448 at 1.42 miles. Cross the lane and follow a (tarmac) Public Byway uphill easy between scrubby hedges, heading towards Wheal Baddon. Long views off to the L include the communications mast on Carnmenellis Hill. At 1.68 miles, a track goes off R to Wheal Baddon but continue on the byway, with a view L to the Wheal Jane tailings dam. At 1.76 miles a fairly well-made track comes in on the R. At a T at 78011/42059, a well-made track goes off L, but continue R on the tarmac Byway. **(1.85 miles)**

At 1.92 miles a well-made track goes off R but continue to follow the tarmac byway which turns 90° left, still uphill. At 1.96 miles a rough track goes off R but continue on the tarmac byway. At 2.04 miles note tree-covered cairn in a field to your L. At 77958/42315 at 2.13 miles you come to a junction. [*Signs – back cycleway 3, L an impassable looking FP - forward a track heading for the road north*] Go R, still on the tarmac byway, heading for Pound Lane Farm. At 2.33 miles pass a well-made track on the R to “Wheal Baddon Town”. At 2.40 miles note a grassy track on L with blue bridleway WM and small plaque “improved for you by Ramblers volunteers”. At 2.44 miles you pass Plum Cottage and Spring Cottage on R. At 2.57 miles pass Pound Lane Farm on R and continue up to a T and a triangle at the Chacewater to Kea road at 78539/42710. **(2.58 miles)**

Go L on the road for about 25 yards and, at a yellow-topped WM post, bear L signed Public Bridleway with a plaque “improved by Ramblers volunteers”, for about 40 yards to a gap to the L of a wooden gate to a field. The bridleway starts here and is a fairly wide mostly grassy path gently uphill between wooded hedge on L, scrubby hedge on R. At 2.74 miles go through a wooden gate leading to a track. Cross the track (house on L, Springfield Farm) and continue on a waymarked bridleway, now a broad track between woody hedges, becomes gently uphill. At 2.81 miles a track comes in on your R. At 2.89 miles the track continues to a road but follow a bridleway WM through Trevu farmyard to reach the road at 77934/42917 at 355 feet. Entrance to Springfield Farm to your L. **(2.95 miles)**

Cross the road and continue ahead, following a Public Bridleway sign, on a partly grassy track between slightly wooded hedges, may be a little muddy in places. Pass under power lines at 2.99 miles and continue on track. Becomes gently downhill to a lane at 77566/43061 at 3.19 miles. A track goes L to Barberton Farm but continue forward on the wooded tarmac lane. Just after a tall lone cedar on the L, at 77392/43037 at 3.30 miles, go R on a wooded track (no FP or WM) heading towards Cusworth Coombe. At a cross track at 3.39 miles the bridleway continues but go R on a wooded track uphill towards Church Farm up to a tarmac lane and to the entrance to **St. Michael's Church, Baldhu at 77231/43157**. The church is now 2 private homes, access is permitted to the grave of Billy Bray from 11.30 to 16.30. **(3.45 miles)**

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### **The Billy Bray connection – a shortish out-and-back detour**

#### **St. Michael's and All Angels Church, Baldhu to Billy Bray's Three Eyes Chapel, Kerley Downs**

*This there-and-back detour will add about 1.50 miles to the walk.*

Leave on the path by which you approached for about 100 yards. At a cross track go R on a bridleway track. Initially this heads W but gradually veers to N. *The quality of the track varies, a bit overgrown in places, a bit muddy in places with, in wet weather, some pools that can be a bit awkward to navigate.* At 0.16 miles you cross a lane where R goes to the Chacewater to Carnon Downs road. At 0.51 miles you cross a track that leads to Cusveorth Cottage on L, Cusveorth Farm on R. Shortly before you reach Billy Bray's Chapel you pass on your L Primrose Cottage. The entrance to Billy Bray's Three Eyes Chapel is at **76487/43708 at 0.76 miles.**

#### **Return by the same route but you could save time returning by road – distance 0.68 miles**

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### **Baldhu Church back to Bissoe Cycle Hire – 1.97 miles**

Return on the track by which you came but cross your previous route at 3.52 miles and continue on a track with wooded hedges down to a lane at 3.58 miles. Go R on the lane to an area of open gravelled ground. **(3.70 miles)**

Go slightly L over gravelly ground to pass a small industrial building to your R and follow a byway track downhill, with the vast Wheal Jane complex to your L. At 3.78 miles, with a white painted house to your R, a stony path continues down along the Wheal Jane perimeter fence, scrub and woodland on R. At 3.85 miles the track leaves the Wheal Jane fence and continues, muddy at first, grassy and rocky uphill through scrubby woodland. *It is hard to believe that this track is designated as a byway but years ago it may have been in better condition. Views L of Wheal Jane complex and of spire of Baldhu Church.* At 4.03 miles you can just skirt with difficulty a large muddy pool. Continue up, now less wooded, a bit overgrown, could be difficult in wet weather. Nearing the top, heather appears. At 4.08 miles, there is a bat cone on your L and more views of the Wheal Jane site including the filtration beds. Reach the busy Chacewater road at 76944/42323. **(4.14 miles)**

Go R on the road, with care, uphill in the Chacewater direction, for about 330 yards to 76763/42571. Go L, following a Public Byway sign, through an open area, to follow a track between high hedges. At 4.37 miles you may find another muddy pool, keep L. It is now uphill for a while, a bit overgrown, and muddy in places. From the top views half R are to the Wheal Maid Valley. Now it is downhill, steep in places and fairly rocky or stony. Cross a track at 5.08 miles and continue down. *View to the modern buildings of Mount Wellington ahead.* At 4.74 miles the track bears L, still going downhill, but for interest continue down, bearing R for about 90 yards and at 4.79 miles you will come down to a small plateau at the top of Nangiles spoil tip. This is slightly out of your way but worth it for the picturesque engine house remains of Nangiles pumping engine house at 76380/41979. **(4.79 miles)**

Retrace your steps for about 90 yards and go R on the main track downhill through scrub, stony and steepish in places. After 170 yards go through a scruffy farmyard then through an open wheeled wooden gate. Down to the Coast-to-Coast Mining Trail at 4.95 miles. It looks as if you should go L but, to avoid cyclists, it is better to go R for about 60 yards (*note colourful Nangiles spoil tip above R, modern Mount Wellington buildings half L and Wheal Henry ahead*) and go L, following the Public Bridleway sign, on a path through light scrub (heather) and some muddy patches, to Bike Chain Ricci car park. Continue through the car park, passing the café on L, back to your start point at the road. **(5.42 miles)**

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#### ***If you feel like a steep, slightly slippery descent, you could try this from Nangiles pumping engine house remains.***

A track goes R past remains for about 50 yards then L fairly steeply down. At 4.88 miles, with multi-coloured spoil tip to L, a very stony track bears R steeply down to the Coast-to-Coast at 76286/41893 at 4.91 miles. Go L on a well-made track for about 50 yards and follow the Public Bridleway sign on R on a path through light scrub, then through the Bike Chain car park to the road. **(5.38 miles)**