

Route – Dryworks, Trezibbet, Smith’s Down, Goodaver Circle and Carneglos Down

Interest – Fowey River, a minor tin works, a restored stone circle and some difficult Open Access land

Useful Information

Parking: Webb’s Down, on the former A30.

Intermediate Parking: None.

Getting There: From A30, 11 miles E of Bodmin, take the turning after Bolventor. Under the A30, then R on to the old A30, park in lay-by near end.

Transport: None known.

Refreshments: None.

Toilets: None.

Route Directions

Webb’s Down to Dryworks – 1.07 miles

Start at the lay-by on the former A30 at Webb’s Down at 19916/78186.

Go SW for a few yards on the road to a wooden stile (FP) by a gate to a field. Follow the FP direction downhill roughly S (*Brown Gelly and Cairns directly ahead, Tolborough Tor and Brown Willy to R*) to a WM post and a gap to a second field. Cross this S to a gap to a third field, then cross to a WM post and wooden stile to a fourth field. Follow the WM downhill, heading just to the L of Dryworks Plantation, to cross a dry ditch to a WM post and on to a wooden stile to Carneglos Down.

Follow the WM SSW towards the LH end of Dryworks Plantation, passing a WM post, to a step stile (*wobbly stone*) by a wooden barrier. Follow a narrowish path out into the open in a scrubby field and then follow the LH hedge on clearer ground, passing a WM post, for a short distance to a track. Go R on the track (*rocky, can be very muddy*) downhill to a ford over the Fowey River. Just before the ford, go L over a crude step stile (WM) and on to 5 steps up to a wooden FB over the river. **(0.75 miles)**

There are 5 steps down to a stony, grassy (*can be muddy*) track which heads fairly steeply uphill, hedge and wood on L, up to a wooden gate to a field. The track continues but, in muddy conditions, you may find it easier to walk in the field. After a while the track comes up into open. A few yards on, note the wall on your R (see Dryworks in Interest below). Continue up to a gate (WM) to a narrow path, between a farmyard on your L and Dryworks Farm house on your R, to a small galvanised gate. Follow the farm track, through a (probably) open galvanised gate, passing a house on the R, and through another (probably) open wooden gate to the road from Bolventor. **(1.07 miles)**

Dryworks to Goodaver Stone Circle – 2.12 miles

Go L on the road downhill. *Although this appears to be a fairly important road, it is generally very quiet.* Soon you pass St. Lukes farm and redundant chapel on your R. At the bottom of the hill, you pass Littleworth on your R at 1.66 miles. *The Fowey River is now off to your L but you don’t see it until you are approaching Trezibbet.* Next you pass Dozmary Hill on your R and continue on road to the turning on the L to Trezibbet **(2.02 miles)**

It should be noted that, from here to Smith’s Moor, you are on private land with no right of way indicated on the map. There has always been a permissive path through Trezibbet, up the tarmac lane, but it is difficult in places. It is easier to use the suggested new well made track.

Go L over a bridge over the Fowey River and follow a tarmac track a short distance to just after a house on your L. Go L on a track, passing the house to your L, to a galvanised gate. Go through two more (probably) open galvanised gates and through a wooden gate to an open field. The track now winds uphill, fairly steeply in places, through a (probably) open galvanised gate, then bears L and R at the top and on up to a pair of galvanised gates. **(2.37 miles)**

You are now on Smith’s Down. From here the shortest way to Goodaver Stone Circle is to go through the LH gate and head SW directly to the far R corner. The going can be very tricky so I suggest the following which has just one sticky patch. It does require entering more private land but, since you will need to enter it on your way back to Webb’s Down, it should be alright to use it now. The problem with leaving Goodaver Circle is that, despite continuous Open Access land being shown on OS109 from the western point of Halvana Plantation to Goodaver Circle, an unfriendly landowner has divided the two parts of Smith’s Moor with a thin plantation and two fences topped with barbed wire. My view is that, since the Open Access land is continuous, access to it should also be continuous. I am therefore happy to cross the odd fence to achieve that.

Go through the LH gate, on to Smith’s Moor Open Access land, and go immediately L on a rough track, leaving a barn on your R. The track bends R and L and becomes very muddy for a short way. Note then, on your R at 20283/75596, an unusual enclosure similar to King Arthur’s Hall (see Interest). The track soon becomes firm and rocky, then bears R to follow the LH fence along a thin plantation to your L. Follow the track to an open wooden gate/gap to a field. Go R before it and follow the LH hedge to a gap to the small field containing Goodaver Circle. *Views as you enter the field are to the W only but include Dozmary Pool, the cairns on Brown Gelly and beyond to Clay Country.* Should you find the going too difficult along this southern section of Smith’s Down, it should do no harm to use the parallel field to a galvanised gate to the circle. The W side of the circle is at 20857/75150 at 1020 feet. **(3.19 miles)**

Goodaver Circle to Webb’s Down – 2.29 miles

Return across the private field to the far NE corner. Hop over the low barbed wire fence on your R, go round the slim plantation and immediately back over the fence onto the northern part of Smith’s Moor. *If you find the second fence a bit high, you could simply continue, with the fence on your L and Halvana Plantation on your R until you reach a hedge at the far end. There you would need to go through a tiny gap on the L to reach the gap to Carneglos Down.* Follow the fence on your R downhill to the northern end of Smith’s Down, passing a shooting stand on your R at 4.04 miles. At the end of Smith’s Moor go through a gap to Carneglos Down. **(4.24 miles)**

Continue over Carneglos Down, *the going is rather difficult at first but soon eases*, following the line of the RH hedge, heading roughly NNW, up then down to cross a ditch and double bank. Pass Carneglos Tor to your L at 20144/77055 at 1040 feet. *Views have opened out to include Brown Gelly and Dozmary Pool to your SW and Brown Willy to your NW.* At the end of the RH hedge, you are at the most western point of Halvana Plantation. Here you come to a galvanised gate at 4.92 miles. Go through the gate and follow a well-made track L and R uphill. Immediately after passing a tall communications mast on your R, you come to a cross track. Go L on the track, passing through a couple of open gates, back to the lay-by at Webb’s Down. **(5.48 miles)**