

Coastal Round Walk 13 - Porthcurno, Roskestal, Gwennap , Porthgwarra 4.20 miles

Route Directions – Full GPS Version

Porthcurno to Roskestal – 1.17 miles

Start from the Porthcurno car park entrance at 38423/22584 at 120 feet. Go R on the road uphill and at Seaview House, at 38294/22780 at 258 yards, go sharp L uphill on track, through gate and on up to Rospletha. Go through the farmyard, L round cottages and R through an iron kissing gate at 38281/22486 at 687 yards, to follow a clear path across a field, passing a Cornish Cross at 38209/22339 at 798 yards. *The tower of St. Levan Church is now in view ahead, Roskestal (passed later) is half R. View L is to Treryn Dinas and Lizard Point.* Continue on the path through a wooden gate and down a cattle stile and on downhill to the north lych gate of St. Levan Church at 38047/22234 at 874 yards.

A WM leads directly to the south lych gate but you should head L round the church for St. Levan's Stone and several Cornish Crosses. Leave the churchyard at the south lych gate to cross an open area with Underhill house on R, to a FP sign at 38011/22236 at 0.62 miles. Now follow the track west uphill through woodland. This becomes a path between hedges, passing cottages on R, up to a cattle stile to a field at 37934/22241 at 0.66 miles. Follow LH hedge to a massive cattle stile on L to next field at 0.73 miles. Now follow the RH hedge and at a cattle stile at 37795/22353 at 0.78 miles follow a WM L across the field to a high cattle stile to R of gate. *(Roskestal now in view ahead)* Cross the field to low cattle stile by a gate at 0.85 miles. Go forward on a path between high hedges, which continues as a grassy track (*can be muddy*) and up to the road at Roskestal at 37202/22412 at 1.17 miles.

Roskestal to Gwennap Head – 0.80 miles

Go L on the quiet road (*towards Porthgwarra*) through the hamlet of Roskestal and continue downhill (*Gwennap Head daymarks in view ahead*) passing Porthloe Cottage on R. Where road bends R at 37025/22098 ignore FP sign ahead to continue on road. Go L round hairpin bend for about 90 yards, to 36821/22119 at 1.61 miles. Go R (*FP sign*) through a kissing gate, on a path through scrub downhill on to Open Access land (*view of NCI station on cliffs straight ahead*) and down to a FB at 36757/22050 at 1.67 miles.

Path now goes uphill between hedges to a tarmac track (*leads up to Gwennap Head NCI*) at 36702/21907 at 1.77 miles. Go R on the track uphill to 36695/21853 at 1.81 miles and go R on a narrow grassy path uphill through scrub. *Halfway up Longships comes into view to R.* Scrub becomes heather and furze, up to the NCI lookout at 36545/21698 at 235 feet at 1.97 miles. *Long views from a Toposcope – Wolf Rock light, Scilly, Seven Stones light, Longships light, Lands End, Sennen Church, Goonhilly, Lizard Point, Runellstone Rocks.*

Porthgwarra to Porthcurno – 1.69 miles

Go through the rock tunnel (*you may not be able to use this at high tide, in which case just follow coast path through the village*) and R on a track to continue on the Coast Path. The path is steep in places, with a little rock scrambling up to 190 feet. At a fork at 37688/21887 at 2.89 miles, the Coast Path goes R. When you pass a path L to St. Levan, the Coast Path heads fairly steeply, with 50 rock steps, down to St. Levan's Chapel and Well at 38081/21937 at 3.19 miles. (*Here a path goes L up to St. Levan*) Another 65 steps lead down to a FB over a stream above Porth Chapel beach at 38119/21927 at 3.25 miles.

The path now climbs fairly steeply, with 10 steps up, before crossing duckboards over a marshy area. It continues up, with 40 steps, to Pedn-mên-an-mere at 38355/21858 at 3.41 miles and continues up to 185 feet. *Views ahead are over Porthcurno Bay to Treryn Dinas and on to the Lizard.* At 38584/22067 at 3.65 miles a kissing gate leads to the small Minack Theatre car park. Cross to the Minack Theatre entrance.

The coast path continues down to L of entrance. (*If you do not like idea of the vertiginous rocks steps down, follow the lane through main CP for 100 yards or so to an easier descent, R down over rough ground, to rejoin Coast Path*). A short path leads to 156 steep steps down towards Porthcurno beach and continues to cross a track up from the beach at 38636/22367 at 3.91 miles. Cross this track to the Cable Hut at 38670/22359 at 3.95 miles. Turn L on a path up to the car park and on to the entrance at 38424/22581 at 4.20 miles. *If you prefer, at 38685/22182 at 3.78 miles, at lower tides, take path on R fairly steeply down to beach before continuing up to Cable Hut.*

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.