

Mining Trails – The Coast-to-Coast Walkers Trail – Portreath to Devoran and Penpol – 16.74 miles

Full Route Directions, with the emphasis on detours for walkers only, avoiding the cycle route

Portreath to Cambrose, on the official cycle trail – 2.10 miles

Start at the furthest NE corner of Portreath Harbour at 65489/45483.

Start on the Coast-to-Coast, passing storyboards (*Portreath Harbour, Tramroad and Incline*) and follow a granite marker (*Devoran 12 miles*) bearing L on a track and a road (Lighthouse Hill and Cliff Terrace) to the Portreath Arms Hotel (*B&B*) on your L. At 0.19 miles follow MT sign (*Devoran 11*) on Sunnyvale Road. At 0.47 miles, the road continues as a tarmac lane through trees. At an MT post at 0.51 miles, the lane becomes a rough track, through a gap by a gate (*sign Cornish Way*). After 20 yards pass a granite plaque (*Duke of Leeds Hills*), the route continues as a track through woodland, with the Redruth road below on the R. At 0.60 miles the track becomes tarmac, continuing through woods. At 1.05 miles go through a gap by a gate, cross a road, and through another gap by a gate (*marker Tolticken Hill*). The track continues as tarmac, through a hunting gate at Bridge (*Bridge Inn below*). **(1.27 miles)**

The tarmac ends and a track continues, through a gate, still in woodland, (*marker Bridge at 1.30 miles*) At a fork at 1.34 miles go R (WM), now between high hedges. At 1.77 miles, looking R you get your first view to Carn Brea. At 1.85 miles go through a gap by gate, cross a lane to Cambridge Farm, and go through another gap by a gate, the track continues between hedges. *The first granite tramroad setts appear at 1.96 miles (more further on)* At 1.97 miles, there is a plaque *MT Projects, Tramroad Passing Loop*. At 2.09 miles go through a gap by gate and continue for 20 yards to whitewashed cottages on your L. **(2.10 miles)**

Forge Manor Farm and Wheal Peevor – Walkers Detour – Cambrose to Wheal Peevor – 2.34 miles

Bear R on a tarmac lane down to the Porthtowan road at 68704/45319 at 2.15 miles. Go R on the verge for about 100 yards and cross the road to entrance of The Galley. Bear R over a bridge, then L on a tarmac lane, initially with houses on your L, heading overall just N of E. (*From here it is a continual easy climb to 360 feet at Wheal Peevor*). The lane continues as a rough track (*Public Bridleway*), becoming a well made track between hedges, passing Forge Manor Farm and a Caravan Park. At 2.72 miles, the path bears R and L as a track between hedges. At 2.89 miles go through a gap to the road from Lower Forge. Cross the road to a FP sign and over a wooden stile into a stable yard. Keep R to a gate and follow the RH hedge to a stile to the road from Forge Farm at 69918/45296. **(2.97 miles)**

Cross the road and continue on a narrow path (FP) between high hedges to its junction with a track at 3.21 miles. Go R on the track between hedges. After Sims Croft Farm the track becomes a path. After a track on the L continue on a well made track between high hedges. The track turns R at Manor Meadows, L at a WM at Hawke's Croft at 3.58 miles. At 3.72 miles it joins a road at a T. Go R, following Wheal Peevor sign, on a well made track heading WSW. At 3.99 miles, the track bears L and goes through a gap (*gate missing*) on to the Wheal Peevor site, then winds down a hill to the bottom at a T (*track R leads W towards North Country*) with a quarry on L at 4.05 miles. Go L, roughly ENE through the Wheal Peevor site, preferably going L at a fork for the greatest interest. Leave Wheal Peevor at the main entrance opposite the Car Park at 70890/44258. **(4.44 miles)**

Wheal Peevor to Wheal Rose, N side of A30 Scorrier junction - Walkers Detour - 1.07 miles

Go roughly S on the road to a X-roads (*former Chapel opposite*) at 4.56 miles. Go L (*MT granite post*), roughly E on dead-end Radnor Road, passing Radnor Golf Club on your L. At 5.04 miles, the lane ends at Finnagon's Rest. Continue on a narrow tarmac path through woodland with the noisy A30 road to your R. At 5.35 miles the path ends (*sign back to Wheal Peevor*). Go forward on the footway along a lane, passing a small CP on your R (*MT Portreath Tramroad storyboard*) at 5.42 miles, and passing another small CP on your L, to the road by the entrance to Rodda's Creamery at 5.48 miles. At a MT granite post (*Wheal Rose*) go R on the footway towards the A30. Continue to a MT WM (*Wheal Rose Farm*). **(5.51 miles)**

Loops route to Poldice – Wheal Busy and Little Beside Loops – Official but not much used by cyclists

Wheal Busy Loop – Wheal Rose to Trefusis Shaft – 2.90 miles

Go L, following Wheal Busy WM, cross the road and continue on the footway along Blackwater road, passing Dales showroom and Smokey Joe's Café, to Mitchell Webber depot. At MT sign (*North Treskerby Mine*) at 5.93 miles, go R to cross the road, and the bridge over the A30 and the railway. Ignore a bridleway on the R and continue, going L at an MT granite post (*Hallenbeagle*). The route winds but is clearly signed, eventually passing Wheal Busy School and then Wheal Busy Bible Christian Chapel (1863) at 6.89 miles. It continues clearly signed to a large open area (car parking) at Wheal Busy Downs, passing the former Wheal Busy Workshops and on to cross a road at a Wheal Busy Downs sign at 73805/44688. **(7.40 miles)**

From here you will need to follow blue bridleway WMs to another road at 73432/44479 at 7.70 miles. The signage is then clear again, passing Hawke's Shaft engine house at 73384/44202 at 7.90 miles and entering Unity Wood to follow a sometimes muddy track, downhill after a while, past capped mine shafts and shallow pits. You reach the official Coast-to-Coast trail at an MT granite post at 73515/43537 at 8.37 miles. Go L on the official trail for 75 yards to an MT granite post (*Trefusis Shaft*) at 73568/43500. **(8.41 miles)**

Little Beside Loop - Trefusis shaft to Poldice Valley – 0.92 miles

Go R following MT WM uphill on a track through scrub to a tarmac lane at 8.47 miles. Bear L on the lane (*no WM*) (*note view L to Hawke's shaft engines house*) and follow it to the road from Chacewater at Little Beside at a marker (*Poldice Cottages*) at 8.72 miles. Go L (*WM Devoran*) downhill on the road for 40 yards (*note Poldice Cottages on L*). Go R, following MT WM, on a track for 30 yards. The track bears L but follow a path straight on through scrub, this becomes a track. At a fork at 8.85 miles bear L (*no MT WM*) on a wide track, passing a capped shaft and spoil heap on R, to a road to St. Day.

Cross road to a granite marker (*Wheal Unity Gate*) and go forward (*MT WM Devoran*) on a track heading straight for Poldice Arsenic Calciner chimney. Almost immediately pass a small CP on your L. At 73794/42893 at 8.95 miles, *note a Portreath Tramroad storyboard*. At a fork at 9.02 miles the loop bears L downhill towards Poldice Valley. (*R heads for Poldice Chimney*) At 9.10 miles follow MT WM R down towards Poldice Valley. (*View of three engine houses of Killifreth mine*) At 74009/42989 at 9.17 miles a track goes R up to Poldice chimney but go L to continue down to Poldice Valley. At 74090/43017 follow a MT WM L (*straight ahead are considerable remains of Poldice Arsenic Calciner buildings*) down to the direct official cycle route at a granite marker (*Poldice Mine*) and a Poldice Mine storyboard at 74146/43070. **(9.33 miles)**

Poldice to Twelveheads – Partly on the Official Cycle Route – 1.49 miles

From the Poldice Valley storyboard, ignore the cycle track and head back up towards the tall chimney stack. A little way up a track goes L though the ruined Poldice arsenic buildings (*worth exploring*) and continues at medium level, roughly parallel to the official trail, to a MT granite post (*Bissa Pool*) at 74723/42960 at 9.83 miles. (*Or you could continue up to the tall chimney stack and turn L on a less clear high level route to Bissa Pool*) At Bissa Pool tracks fork, the official trail takes the R fork but walkers should take the L fork down into the valley, rejoining the official route at 75191/42503. From here continue on the official route with the infant Carnon River below to your left. At 75525/42264 at 7.66 miles, *a granite stile on L leads to a grating over County Adit, but there is a better view of it further on*. Continue to an MT granite post (*Twelveheads*) where the Redruth and Chacewater Trail enters from the right. **(10.82 miles)**

Twelveheads to Devoran – Mostly on the Official Cycle Route - 3.87 miles

Ignore the Devoran direction sign and go L to follow a minor road uphill for a short way into Twelveheads village. At 76014/42299, immediately after the Methodist Chapel, (*entrance to Maple Barn on your L*) go R on a narrow tarmac path. Cross a concrete FB over a stream and at 76063/42324 go R uphill on a quiet narrow tarmac lane. At 76164/42118 at Hillside Cottage Wheal Widden go forward on a wide rough track. Pass the County Adit on your L then, in a few yards, cross a tarmac track (*the official route*) at 76261/41915 to follow a clear path (*no WM*) gently downhill. This path winds through scrub and light woodland, roughly parallel to the tarmac path, finally re-joining the official route at the beginning of the large Bissoe Cycle Hire CP at 76871/41608. **(11.82 miles)**

Go through the CP, passing Bissoe Bike Hire and Café, and continue to the road at an MT granite post (*Points Mill*) at 11.92 miles. From here follow the official route all the way to Devoran, passing first the remains of Point Mills Arsenic Works and later going under Carnon Viaduct (*storyboard*). At 79362/39062 (by sign MT WM Portreath 11, Devoran Quay ¼) Market Street goes up L to the church and St. John's Terrace. At this point you might think of using a byway shown on OS 107 and the Cornwall Council Mapping web site. Don't, it is blocked halfway along by a garden. Pass Devoran Village Hall (*storyboard in the porch*). Continue to the end of Quay Road at 79714/38991, with the grassy Quay ahead of you. **(14.69 miles)**

Here the official cycle trail ends; if you go L uphill you will find the excellent Old Quay Inn.

Extension – Devoran Quay Road to the head of Penpol Creek – the low tide route – 1.55 miles

NB: *If the tide is in too far, you will have to go L at the end of Quay Road and then go R to follow Tram Road round Trallack's Creek to Carnon Mine, there picking up the route below.*

At the end of Quay Road ignore the FP sign pointing along a path between hedges. Instead, go forward (*no cycles*), with the creek in view to your right, passing boats and gigs on your L, then passing the stone Ore Hutches on your L, to the granite bollard at the very end of Devoran Quay at 79984/38844 at 14.88 miles. Follow the Quay round L to 2 steps down to the foreshore. Follow the foreshore round, with the water (or mud) of Restronguet Creek on your R, to 79952/38939 at 14.97 miles where the signed FP comes in on your L. Go R on a fairly clear FP and cross (with care) three sets of stepping stones to the remains of Carnon Mine by the foreshore at 80288/38824. **(15.13 miles)**

Go L up the short slope to the footpath sign at the road at 15.24 miles. Go R on the road (*quiet, except in rush hour*) to Point, with occasional good views over Restronguet Creek, passing a former lime kiln at 80955/38593 at 15.36 miles, and go R on to Point Quay at 81013/38497 at 15.80 miles. Follow along the Quay (*note cast iron bollards*) back to road and go R on the road, passing former wharves on your R all the way to Penpol. *Shortly before the head of the creek, at 16.09 miles, a signed footpath goes R, down 5 steps to the foreshore, and over stepping stones (at low tide), passing remains of a former tide mill on your R. If continuing to Restronguet, you could take this route.* Continue on the road, passing an interesting storyboard on R above Bone Mill Pond, to the bridge at the head of Penpol Creek at 81300/39011. **(16.24 miles)**

A Further Extension to Restronguet Point – 1.31 miles

Those interested in continuing to Restronguet Point (making 17.55 miles in all) will find that, at low Spring tide, it may be possible to follow the foreshore all the way. But beware, the last 200 yards from a large raised quay may be impassable except at truly low tides. As, all along here from Penpol boatyard, property is private, be sure you can get all the way round, otherwise you may find you have to retrace your steps to the boatyard. If in doubt, from Penpol Boatyard follow the quiet lane up through the Trolver Croft Estate. Where the lane goes R down to the creek, take the L fork to follow a path to Porthgidden and Harcourt, then go R down the hill on the road to Restronguet Point. A seasonal ferry, operated by King Harry Ferries, now operates from Restronguet Point to the Pandora Inn on the opposite bank. **(17.55 miles)**