

ENGLAND - CORNWALL COASTAL PATH (SOUTH)

8-days / 7-nights **SELF-GUIDED** inn-to-inn walking holiday - south coast from Penzance to Mevagissey



The south-west coast of England has long been a popular holiday destination because of its mild weather, summer sunshine, beaches, bays and towering cliffs with views of the wild ocean. The rugged coastline has a natural beauty unsurpassed by many other places in Europe. There are walking holidays on the north and south Cornwall coast which include a wonderful variety of dramatic scenery ranging from sheltered tidal creeks to wooded river estuaries.

This southern coastal walk includes the River Fal estuary and the brooding cliffs of the Lizard, England's most southerly point. The whole area is designated an area of outstanding natural beauty. Its mild climate permits even palm trees to flourish and Cornwall is the home of some of England's finest gardens. Cornwall historically is the land of smugglers, shipwrecks and secret hidden coves, many of which you will pass through on your walk. It has literary associations with the poet John Betjeman, who was tongue-tied by the spectacular cliffs, Virginia Woolfe and of course, the novels of Daphne du Maurier. The scenery is as spectacular and there are picturesque fishing villages, superb beaches, marvelous bird watching and botanical spots, and sunsets that will stay in your memory long after you leave.

Cost from: \$1970 twin share per person. Single room supplement from \$565

Departs: Daily from late March to mid-October.

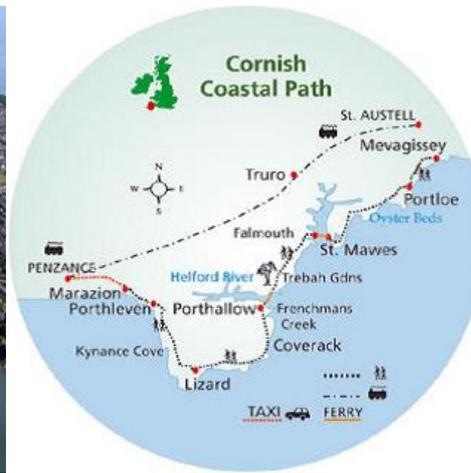
Starts: Marazion (near Penzance) **Ends:** Mevagissey (near St Austell)

Grade: Moderate

Includes: 7 nights' bed & breakfast accommodation with ensuite facilities where available, luggage transfers from inn to inn (one piece per person not exceeding 20kg), information pack including route notes and maps (one set per room), emergency hotline.

Accommodation: The hotels described are our usual choice; if not available then we use alternatives (sometimes with a supplement) and you will be advised when booking. Easter and UK Bank Holiday weekends (May and August) are very busy and should be requested well in advance. In Mevagissey most accommodation has a 2-night minimum stay on weekends; please bear this in mind when setting a start date, or consider an extra night in Mevagissey (at extra cost) and visit the Eden Project. Extra nights can be added at any of the stops on the itinerary, for additional cost – perhaps take an extra night in Marazion, to allow time to visit St Michael's Mount, or have a rest day in Falmouth.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details & reservations



Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1: Arrive in Marazion Travel to Penzance by coach or train (Penzance is well-connected to London by train), then take a local bus or taxi to Marazion (@ 10-15 minutes). Stay in a highly commended hotel in this peaceful village, with interesting views of St Michael's Mount and of Mounts Bay.

Day 2: Marazion to Porthleven

walking @ 11 miles (18km)

Walk from Mounts Bay with views of St Michael's Mount. This old abbey, now a manor house, was traditionally linked to Mont St Michel in Brittany. Follow along some interesting sections of cliffs, with the remnants of tin mines, passing beautiful bays and inlets associated with smuggling, then reach Porthleven, a pretty fishing and boating harbour that is closed by wooden baulks during storms. Your accommodation in Porthleven is in a 4-star inn by the quayside with a stone-flagged floor and old oak beams.

Day 3: Porthleven to The Lizard

walking @ 15 miles (25km)

Walk via the stunningly beautiful Kynance Cove and the pretty village of Mullion, some of the finest walking in Cornwall. The coastal cliffs and rock formation at the Lizard, the remote southernmost point of Britain, are fascinating. Stay in an excellent hotel near Lizard Head, with views of the famous Lizard lighthouse.

Day 4: The Lizard to Porthallow

walking @ 16 miles (26km)

Pass Coverack, a fine example of a totally unspoilt traditional fishing village, then perhaps detour to St Keverne, with a pleasant village square and remarkable churchyard where over 400 shipwreck victims of the nearby Manacle Reef are buried. In Porthallow we stay in a small, welcoming guesthouse.

Day 5: Porthallow to Falmouth

walking @ 17 miles (27km)

A long day, which you could shorten taking a taxi to Gillan. Walk to Nare Point and across the Helford Passage. Perhaps stop for lunch at the pub near Frenchman's Creek before following the beautiful Helford River and the coastal path. Arrive in Falmouth, the biggest town on this route, home to a university specialising in art, design and media. There are a number of lively restaurants, bistros and wine bars along the waterfront.

Day 6: Falmouth to Portloe

walking @ 14 miles (22km)

Depart Falmouth on the ferry across the Fal River to St Mawes (paid locally, cost @ £10), a pleasant yachting harbour at the end of the Roseland peninsula. The windswept stretches around Carricknath Point and St Anthony Head offer magnificent views back to Falmouth. Fairly easy walking until the approach to Nare Head, then there are several ups and downs and we pass by Caerhays Castle and through Veryan with its thatched round houses. Descend into Portloe and stay in a bed & breakfast on the cliff tops beyond Portloe.

Day 7: Portloe to Mevagissey

walking @ 12 miles (20km)

Walk via Portholland Cove and Dodman Point. There is a lot of ascent and descent on the last day, rewarded with great coastal views. In Mevagissey, a busy seaside village, we use a number of guesthouses and B&Bs.

Day 8: Tour ends. Tour ends in Mevagissey after breakfast. Taxi or local bus to St Austell for onward travel.

Other Outdoor Travel walking holidays – guided in small groups, centre-based or self-guided with inn-to-inn with luggage transfers and meals are available in many parts of the UK, Ireland and Europe.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more itinerary details and reservations

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