

<b>Walk no:-</b> <b>SGW09</b>	<b>Distance</b> <b>Miles/kms</b>	<b><u>Degree of difficulty -</u></b> Moderate	<b><u>Terrain</u></b> Mixed terrain. Pavement, South West Coast Path including woodlands and beaches to visit. There are a few ascents but not very steep over the 6-mile walk.
<b>Walk name</b> Mawnan Smith circular	6 miles (9 kms)	<b><u>Circular or linear</u></b> Circular	
<b>Grid ref start point</b> 778 286 Circular		<b><u>OS Explorer Map Number</u></b> 103	
<b>Grid ref finish point</b>			

**Brief description highlighting character of the walk**

This is one of many wonderful mixed walk with woodlands, farmland, riverside, beaches, historical estates and wartime heritage. Close to Falmouth, Mawnan Smith is a quiet rural but thriving village and is at a crossroads leading to the creeks of the Helford River, three large gardens open to the public and hotels on the river. The Helford Ferry also takes one across to the Lizard peninsula where Frenchmans Creek is a short walk away and the South West Coast Path features both sides of the Helford river.

**Public transport information**

Bus from Falmouth is the 500.

**Nearest Toilets and Nearest Disabled Toilets**

Public toilets in Mawnan Smith opposite the Red Lion pub. One lavatory in Durgan. Toilets at Trebah Garden café.

**Nearest Car parks and Nearest Car Parks with disabled provision**

Car park in the square opposite the Red Lion pub or street parking, please be thoughtful.

**Nearest refreshments**

Cornish Maid Café and Red Lion pub in Mawnan Smith, Budock Vean Hotel and Carwinion Gardens for afternoon tea.

**Further information**

1. TIC's in St Mawes at the Square 01326 270440, Falmouth on Prince of Wales Pier TR11 3DF 0905 3254534 and in Truro Boscawen Street TR1 2NE 01872 274 766 .



### Detailed description highlighting character of the walk and what to look for.

Car drivers park in Porth car park (868328) and follow the instructions from the paragraph starting "At Porth car park". The walk details below start from Place.



Starting from the Red Lion pub in Mawnan Smith walk up the road nearest the square with the pub on your right. After Field Place houses turn right along a tarmac path. This brings you to the main road. Opposite, on the other side of the main road, in between the houses, is a footpath. Walking between the houses it takes you to a stile that opens out into the fields behind the houses. Follow it down and across the fields along a leat. With the watercourse directly on your right the path (often muddy) takes you to a small road. Turn right and immediately left at the house. This is Higher Penpol. Follow the path through a gate and subsequent fields to Lower Penpol. At the farm veer left with the farm track until you reach a T-junction.

To the left is the road up to Budock Vean Hotel. Alternatively turn left and immediately right into Anna Marie Lane and take the first kissing gate on your left up the hill. Anna Marie Pender was the daughter of the owner of the nearby copper and silver mine. It flooded too many times and became unworkable. There are wonderful views at the top of the hill (see photo above right). The entrance to the Budock Vean Hotel is on your right. With 60 acres of landscaped garden and golf course the Budock Vean has been a hotel for many years with its gardens stretching down to Port Navas Creek. Vean means smaller or younger in Cornish.

Walk past the entrance and up to the crossroads. Take the footpath opposite, which goes past the entrance to Trebah Gardens. The café is free and there are toilets here also. The gardens are well worth a visit as it is a subtropical garden with many rarities but an entrance fee is required. Trebah beach is one of the few embarkation points for the D Day landings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War.

Walk past the entrance, down into the woods past Glendurgan gardens to Durgan. This former fishing village was built with the help of the Fox family who owned both Trebah and Glendurgan. They added the school amongst other buildings. Head left out of the village up the hill. Keep on the road for 200 metres and take a path to your left before the bend in the road into a wood of large pines. 200 metres up, the gate to Bosloe Manor is across the road. Take the gate into it and follow the path sticking to the right hand path through ornamental gardens with a variety of trees. This will take you to a gate that opens out to a grand view of the Helford river (picture page 1, top left). Keeping to the coast path (you are on the South West Coast Path) the next beach is Porth Saxon. Skim a few slate stones and have a look at the concrete look out shelter, which was there to protect the river from invasion. The sleepy, quiet Helford River was also the centre of Allied Intelligence in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War.

From the beach go up the path which is next to the kissing gate at the boathouse entrance on the beach. Keeping to the right hand path after 200 metres go through the kissing gates, which take you through more woodland for a mile or so before you get to a track that leads to the main road at Carwinion Gardens. You might have noticed bamboo bushes for the last 100 metres of the path before you hit the track. Carwinion (open for tea in the summer) is worth visiting. At the road turn left and return to Mawnan Smith.

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