

Coastal Walk – 5 miles

Gribbin Head, south east Cornwall

Short description: The area to the west of Fowey offers a variety of landscapes including superb views and many features of historical significance. The area includes a variety of beaches, coves, woodlands and wild flower rich grassland. Famed for its association with Daphne Du Maurier and the setting of many of her books this area offers breathtaking natural beauty combined with heritage and vitality of a working landscape

Getting there:

Road: St. Austell- A390, then A3082 Fowey- take a right hand turn shortly after four turnings petrol station and then immediately right into Prickly Post Lane.

Follow this until the end and park in the National Trust Coombe car park

Car parks: National Trust Coombe car park

Foot: part of South West Coast Path

Bus: Service 25 St. Austell- Fowey

For public transport information visit www.traveline.org.uk

Maps and start grid ref: OS Landranger 200 gr SX173518, Explorer 107

Facilities available: Toilets at Readymoney

Terrain: Moderate walking conditions

Distance: 5 miles

Accessibility: Height gain of 50m over the walk. On beaches be aware of incoming tides and dangerous currents, don't swim at low tides and do not use inflatables. Cliffs are dangerous- children should be supervised

Points of interest: From Fowey follow the Esplanade to Readymoney Cove and follow the coast path. From Coombe car park follow the footpath east into Alldays Fields and then follow the coast path:

- 1 Readymoney Cove- House where Daphne Du Maurier lived
- 2 St Catherines Castle (not National Trust) built between 1538 and 1542
- 3 Coombe Haven- a small inlet where smuggling was once common
- 4 Polridmouth – the cottage here was thought to have been the inspiration for the boathouse in Daphne Du Maurier's novel 'Rebecca'.
- 5 Gribbin Head daymark. The 84' high distinctive daymark was built by Trinity House in 1832 as an aid to navigation for shipping

A shorter route to return to the car park, rather than retracing steps along the coast, is to follow the path up from Polridmouth towards Coombe Farm

Property contact details: Tel 01726 870146

National Trust properties nearby: Lanhydrock House and Gardens, many other coastal properties

