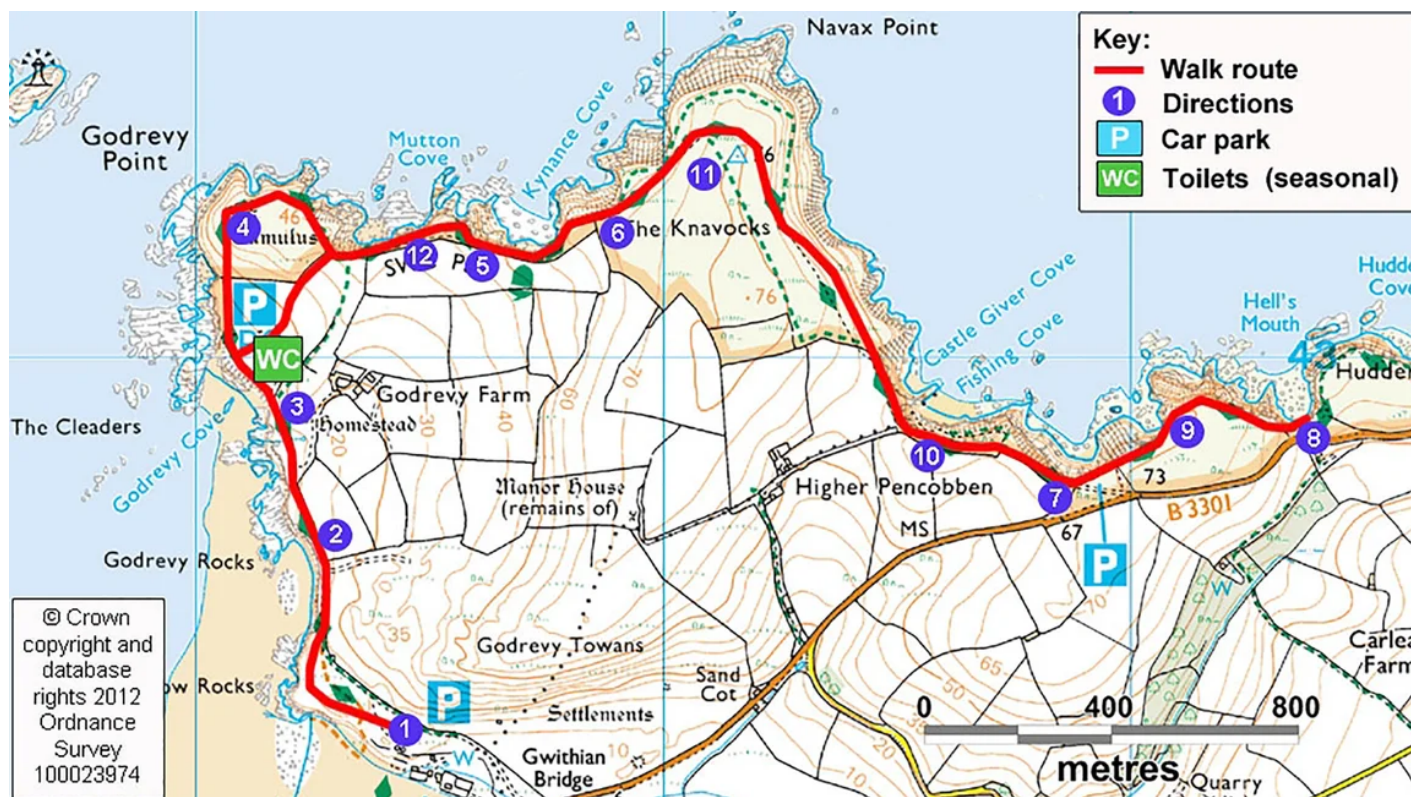


CORNWALL

Godrevy to Hell's Mouth coastal walk

Taking you around Godrevy headland to the dramatic Hell's Mouth and back again via exhilarating clifftop pathways and glorious ocean views, this trail also takes in the wonderful heathland of the Knavocks.



Information

Address: Godrevy, Gwithian, near Hayle, TR27 5ED

OS map: Landranger 203

Activity: Walking

Moderate: Rocky underfoot in places with some steep climbs. For further details, please see Terrain section.

Dog friendly: Dogs welcome under close control at all times.

Full trail: Miles: 5 (km: 8)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 2 hours 30 mins - 3 hours

Terrain

Some narrow paths, rocky underfoot, steep climbs. May be muddy. Be aware of cliff edges and the risk of unstable cliffs and rock falls.

Total steps: 12

Start point: Godrevy National Trust car park, grid ref: SW583423

1. From the car park by Godrevy Café and the wooden car park hut make your way along the boardwalk through the Towans (Cornish for sand dunes). Catch your first glimpses of St Ives Bay as you head out of the dunes and walk towards the lifeguard hut. Bear right and follow the path along the grassy clifftop.
2. Continue along the grassy clifftop as St Ives Bay opens up on your left. Look down to the beach on your left as you walk past the small parking area on your right.
3. The path joins the road briefly, and then carries straight on where the road bends to the right. Take care to watch out for vehicles at this point. Follow the coast path along the clifftop with the sands of Godrevy Cove below you. Turn right by the path to the beach and head through the meadow field and up the stony slope towards the headland.
4. Allow the lighthouse to guide you up on to Godrevy Head. A good place to sit a while to enjoy the view. The path now bends right following round the headland as it leaves St Ives Bay heading east along the north Cornwall coastline.
5. Follow the established coast path, with the sea on your left and farmland on your right.
6. The next headland you will discover is called The Knavocks. The track is often muddy through the heathland, so tread carefully. Continue round the headland on this path and you'll reach a wooden stile, closely followed by a stone stile. This next field is often grazed by cattle. Walk through the field, over the stone stile by the farm gate and on to the wide, stony track.
7. Towards the end of this track turn left through the granite gateposts and follow the path as it winds close to the cliff edge. Continue on the path as it heads along the clifftop towards Hell's Mouth.
8. Hell's Mouth is the half-way point of the walk. The inlet below is certainly dramatic and it's easy to see why it got its fearsome name. After taking in the view it's time to turn

round and head back the way you came, this time keeping the sea on your right as you walk back up the slope.

9. Follow the path back along the clifftop and then round the short dog-leg just before joining the wide stony track. Continue along the track with the cliffs on your right and the farm fields on your left.
10. As you reach the end of the track, carry straight on over the stone stile next to the farm gate and into the field. Go through the field and over the two stiles back on to the Knavocks. Several paths run through the Knavocks so you could venture 'off road' if you want to explore. Otherwise, stay on the coast path until you're about to start rounding the curve of the headland, here you can turn left up the path towards the trig point.
11. At the trig point you can just see over into Mount's Bay on the south coast, with glimpses of the top of St Michael's Mount. Continue on past the trig point and rejoin the main path. Go through the gate and carry on along the path towards Godrevy headland.
12. Heading back towards Godrevy Head you can either retrace your steps around the headland, or take the path on the left through the fields to join back up with the coast path above Godrevy Cove. Follow the path past the path to the beach and back along the low clifftop towards the lifeguard hut. Just past the lifeguard hut, turn left and follow the wooden boardwalk path through the dunes and back to the car park and refreshments at Godrevy Café.

End point: Godrevy National Trust car park, grid ref: SW583423
