

WALK NO 3

AYRMER COVE - TOBY'S POINT - RINGMORE

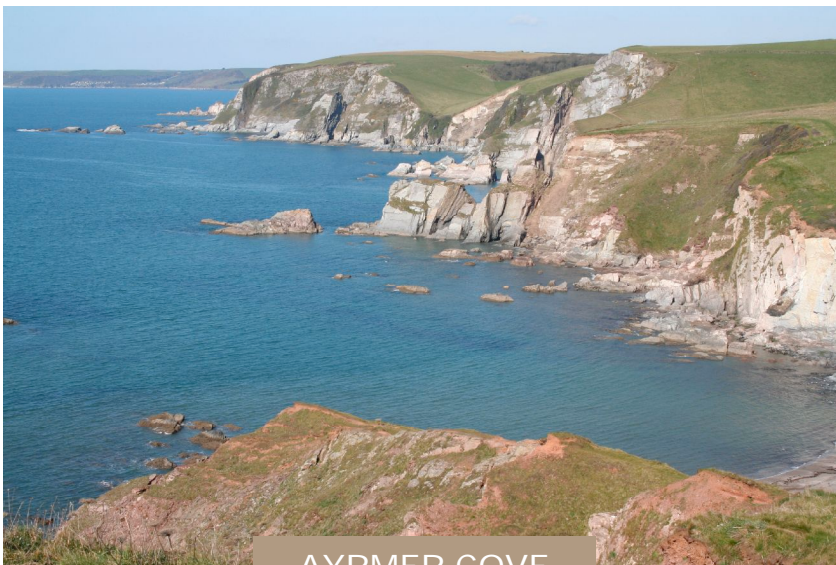
(Incorporating Public Footpath number 12 if starting from Bigbury-on-Sea)

Distance: Approx 2.6 miles. Grading: Moderate

Time: Approx 1-1½hours

This is a walk, which has some magnificent views of both coastal scenery across Bigbury Bay to Hope Cove and Bolt Tail, also in the other direction towards Wembury and beyond (on a clear day). The circular walk takes us outside our own parish, into the adjoining parish of Ringmore. Although the walk described starts and finishes at the National Trust car park for Ayrmere Cove at Ringmore, it could also be commenced at Bigbury-on-Sea, which would add a further mile to the journey.

The walk starts from the entrance of the NT car park where a sign directs you to Ayrmere Cove via Toby's Point. After passing through a gate the path is enclosed by a fence at the field edge. Proceed along this path until you reach Toby's point on the coast path. Turning right at this point the path then descends the cliff to Ayrmere Cove. The path is well marked but do take care, as it can be very slippery.



On reaching the beach cross the stream by a footbridge and ascend to a well-defined cliff path. This can be a bit of a scramble but there are some steps to assist you.

Keep ascending until you see a stile, to the right of this is a kissing gate, go through this

and follow the path climbing through the fields keeping the hedge to your left. After passing through 3 gates look out for a fingerpost, which will direct you right towards Ringmore.

When you reach the point where the road bears to the left towards the Church turn right down a lane marked "No Through Road" at this junction. Proceed along this lane until reaching a field gate at its end on the LHS of a bungalow. Pass through the gate and into a field. There are good views to Bigbury at this point and also down the valley to Challaborough.

Proceed across the field, keeping the hedge to your RHS. After a short distance a field opening will be reached. Go through this and then ascend the next field through a kissing gate and a well-marked enclosed path.



At the end of the enclosed section the path now curves right and then left to the corner of the field where there is a stile. Cross the stile and the small footbridge spanning Cockle Stream and then ascend the field keeping the hedge to your LHS. On reaching the top of the field go through the gate and cross the road to a stone stile situated in the bank opposite. Take care as this stile is rather steep. The stile takes you into a field where there is a fingerpost directing you down across the field to the valley and a rough track. Pause for a moment at this point and take in the views to both the left and right.

On reaching the track, cross over it and continue through a kissing gate into a field. Keeping the hedge to your RHS ascend this steep field until reaching a stile at the top. Cross the stile and proceed up through the next field until reaching a gate, go through this and proceed up the steep track until another field is reached. Keeping the fence to your LHS an intersection of footpaths is soon reached. Turn right at this junction and proceed along the field path to the old concrete lookout. Crossing the stile at this point continue over the field keeping the fence to your LHS until descending to another stile at the top of Parker Road. It is worth taking your time over this stretch, it being one of the highest points in the Parish, as the views are spectacular taking in the whole of Bigbury Bay.

After crossing the stile proceed down Parker Road to the finishing point at Bigbury-on-Sea car park.