

WALK NO 7

BIGBURY-ON-SEA — RINGMORE - COCKLE STREAM

(Incorporating Public Footpaths numbers 12,15,14,19,9,7 and 10)

Distance: Approx 6 miles Grading: Moderate

Time: Approx 2½hours

This walk, which starts from the car park at Bigbury-on-Sea, takes in coastal path walking, farmland paths and a little road walking.

Leave the car park by the steps near the shop and turn left to join Marine Drive. Keeping left proceed towards Challaborough by the coastal path. On descending to Challaborough pause to take in the excellent views of the bay and the coast beyond, on a clear day it is possible to see Wembury and Plymouth Hoe in the distance.

On reaching Challaborough continue across the top of the beach along the road and then bear left to join up with the coast path, which is across a small car park. A gentle climb will take you to the cliff top and a NT sign marked Ayrmer Cove. Continue along the cliff top to Toby's Point taking time to admire the views in both directions, east to Hope Cove and Bolt Head and west to Wembury and beyond. After Toby's Point descend to Ayrmer Cove taking care to observe the re-routed path, as in places due to erosion and land slips old vegetation has been erected to block the original path closer to the cliff edge. Furthermore look out for the unexpected rabbit holes, which have a nasty habit of being in the wrong place. Further along the coast the NT have erected a sign warning of these but not at this point.



The view of the cove is excellent as you descend to the beach that is usually deserted. On reaching the beach follow the path across ignoring the fingerpost sign to Ringmore, cross the stream by the wooden bridge and bear right through a farm gate onto a well-worn track. Continue along this track, which slopes

up gently before levelling, until reaching the end of the valley.

At this point bear right across the valley and after going through a wooden gate the outskirts of Ringmore will be reached.

If you arrive at the cluster of barns on the hour you will most likely hear the chiming of the charming clock, which is proudly displayed on one of the barns.

When a clearing is reached with a small stream running across the path look out for a sign on your right as you ascend the path and this will direct you left over a stile into a field.

Follow the signs through the fields to a stile and proceed along the well-defined path passing a thatched cottage on your left before eventually arriving at Bigbury Green.

After a short walk along the road you will arrive back at the car park.



PITT LANE