

Suggested Walks 11

Ringmore to Hoist Point & Beacon Point

This walk involves several steep climbs but the views are stunning. In Spring it has the added benefit of returning by The Orchard wood which is swathed with bluebells & some primroses.

Park in Ayrmer Cove NT Car Park in Ringmore. Exit by the info board, go through the gate and turn left down Smugglers Lane, a path used to bring contraband up to the secret room at the Journey's End pub. At Ayrmer Cove, turn right & climb the steep path up the other side of the cove. Continue along the top & down into the next bay, Westcombe Beach. Take care in slippery weather.



The post at the bottom signs Kingston (1½ miles) and Bigbury on Sea (1¾ miles). Cross the bridge and climb the steep cliff path. Pass the sign for Scobbiscombe Farm, & enjoy the fab views from the bench provided at Hoist Point. The name reflects the efforts of the farmers in hauling up seaweed from the beach to fertilise the fields in the past.



Continue along the back of Hoist Beach, looking out for the rare Cirl Buntings which nest up here. Continue towards Wonwell, and down into Freshwater, a good place to picnic out of the wind whilst enjoying a great view back to Burgh Island.

After a steepish climb out of Freshwater, the walking is fairly easy above Gutterslide beach, passing the Meddrick Rocks on the shoreline. Go through the gate & continue along above Beacon Beach. Go through another gate & eventually up to Beacon Point, the site of one of the beacons warning of the Spanish Armada. The views are spectacular along the coast in both directions.

Return along the same path. On reaching the NT sign above Ayrmer Cove, it is possible to make a diversion. Rather than climbing down the hill to the beach and back up Smugglers Lane to the Car Park, go through the gate on the left up the side of the field, keeping the hedge to the left. Continue along the side of the 2nd & 3rd fields. There is a great view of Ringmore Village. Exit the 3rd field & turn right along the edge of the field with the hedge on the right until a small gate is reached giving access into the woods, alongside a larger field gate.



Enter the woods & follow the zig zag path down through the woods. In spring there are swathes of bluebells & primroses also. Go through the gate at the bottom & join the main path up to Ringmore, where refreshment can be found in the 13th century pub The Journey's End.

Walk up the road opposite the pub, turn left & then right up the lane to reach the Car Park.