



# Hayle Harbour and the Towans



Length 7 Miles



Time Required 3 Hrs



Difficulty Easy – no steep climbs. Good wet weather walk



Refreshments/Toilets In Hayle and at Black Rock (in season)

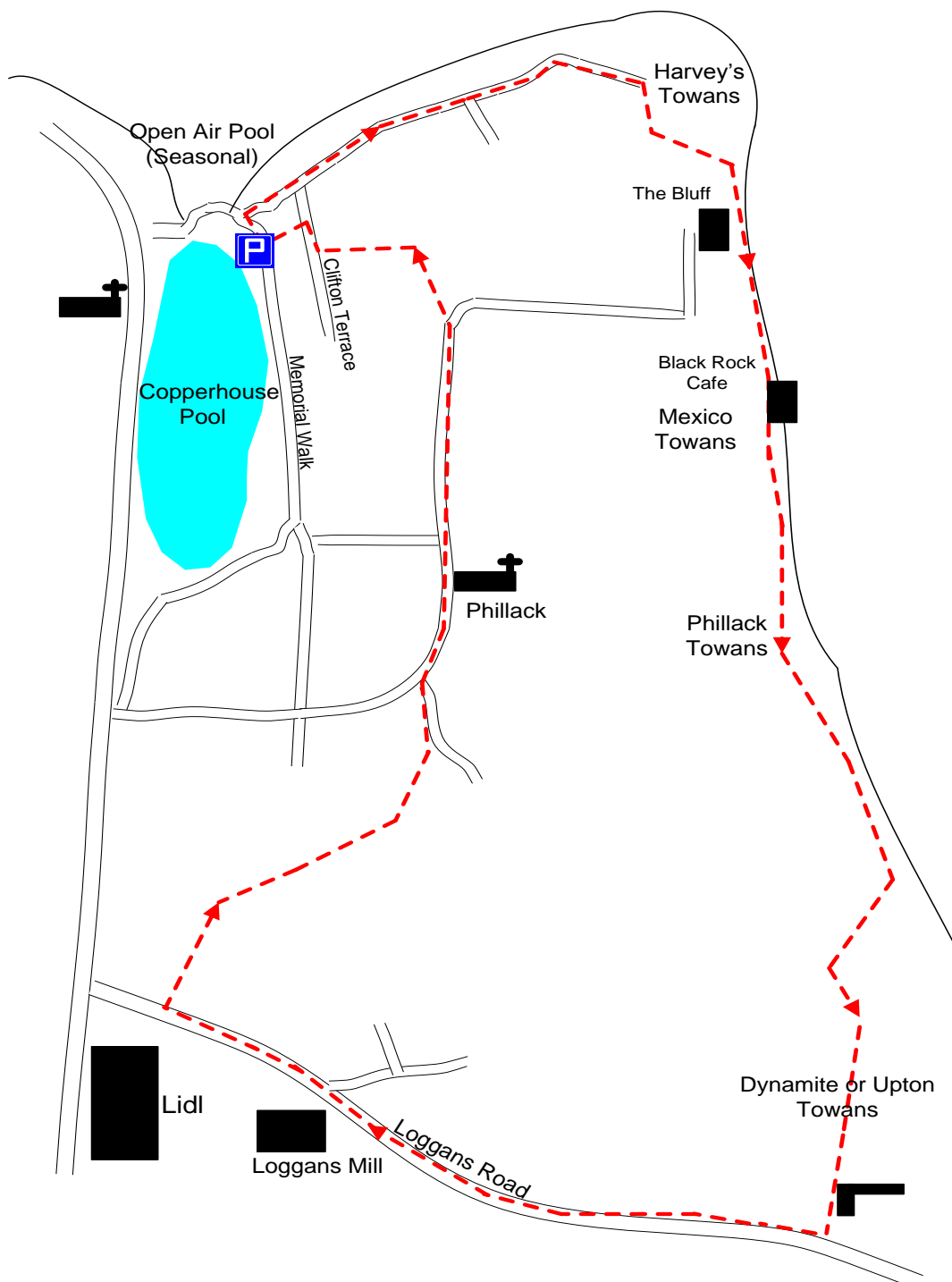


Car Parking Hayle Open Air Swimming Pool (557377)



OS Map Explorer Map 102 - Lands End

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## Hayle Harbour and the Towans (2)

The walk starts at the free car park adjacent to Hayle Open-Air Swimming Pool and Copperhouse Pool (557377).

From the car park turn left towards the harbour and then turn right and follow the harbour road towards the sea passing the Quayside Café and Thyatira Archive.

By the old Arsenic works chimney turn right and then left up the hill to the car parking area on Harvey's Towans.

There are good views here across the Hayle Estuary and back towards Hayle Viaduct.

Make towards the far right corner of the parking area and follow the sandy path between the chalets and the sea. The path emerges onto a small car park by some chalets on Riviere Towans. Turn left and follow the road as it swings left ignoring the track by the five bar metal gate which leads down to the beach. At the apex of the bend take the waymarked path in front of the breeze block wall which leads down some steps towards the remnants of an old gun emplacement.

Continue along the path past The Bluff pub and restaurant and Hayle Surf Life Saving Club to Black Rock where there is a seasonal shop and public toilet. The path continues along the top of the cliff and presents good views across Hayle Beach to Carbis Bay and St Ives. As the path continues between the caravan park and the sea there is a Cornish wall on your left which is rich in wild garlic. From here there are good views of Godrevy Lighthouse.

As you follow the path around it leads to an information plaque mounted on a stone plinth above another old gun emplacement which also marks the boundary between Harvey's Towans and Mexico Towans. Cross over the stepped path which leads from the caravan park to the sea and walk inland towards the waymark post on the horizon. At the waymark post turn slightly left to follow the obvious path across the Towans.



Looking back towards Hayle Viaduct



The short grassland of the Towans



## Hayle Harbour and the Towans (3)

As you approach a flat grass capped mound the path swings around to the left and heads back towards the sea. Turn right at the next marker post and take the path which now runs parallel to the beach and up towards a waymark sign on the summit of a dune. Follow the path over and down the other side of the dune into a dip. Where the path forks the right fork leads to the caravan site. We take the left fork which then goes downhill almost to the beach and the runs parallel with it.

The path opens out onto a tarmac track which leads from Beachside Campsite to the sea. There is a seat here where you may like to rest a short while before climbing the wooden steps beyond. Above the lifeguard hut the path heads inland onto Phillack Towans and a short cropped grassy area and then swings back towards the sea once more and then inland again to another information plaque on a stone plinth.

Turn to the left and out of the car park to follow the path as it zig zags in the general direction of the lighthouse. Carry on across the front of the St Ives Bay Campsite and towards a small car park where there is another stone mounted information plaque. Do NOT go up the steps near the plaque but make for the far end of the car park and go up the waymarked path. Go over the beach track and continue on the dune path unto Upton or Dynamite Towans. The area gets its name as it was once the site of the National Explosive Works and the remains of the stores can be seen in many of the hollows.

Follow the path down into the valley. In the bottom of the valley you will come to a cinder track. Turn right onto the track and follow it as it leads away from the sea. The track widens as it gets further from the sea and rises and turns left under the overhead powerlines. Follow the path around and towards the chimney of the Explosive Works. At the chimney turn right and then right again at the metal gate to follow the path down behind the houses of Upton Towans. Follow the path around and right and make towards the lay-by on Hayle-Gwithian road.



Looking out over the Towans to Godreavy Lighthouse



The chimney at Dynamite Towans



## Hayle Harbour and the Towans (4)

Climb the stile over the wall into the lay-by and then turn left along the pavement. Carry on along past St Ives Bay Campsite and Loggans Way. Opposite the old Loggans Mill take the footpath on the right up the hill towards No 15. The path then goes to the side of No 15 and up behind St Mary's Gardens.

The path emerges onto a lane. Turn left and carry straight on emerging on Lethleen Lane.

On Lethleen Lane turn right and go past Phillack Church, the Bucket of Blood and continue along the road past Rievere Farm. Where the road turns sharp right go straight on along the bridleway. The bridleway turns sharp left and then emerges onto Clifton Terrace. Turn right onto the terrace after about 200m opposite No 15 there is a path on the right which leads down the hill and back to the start of the walk.