

Walk 1 - The Quay, Viaduct and Estuary

From the station approach, turn right towards the railway bridge. The area to your left just before the railway bridge is known as the "rec" as it used to be the school playing field. It is still used by the local children who can often be heard wielding shovels as they enhance their BMX track! The entrance closest to the rail bridge is that of the former goods yard of which nothing now remains.

Continuing under the rail bridge known as Fancy Bridge, turn left down Quay Road. Follow the road round to the left onto the quay.



Although in private ownership there is a public footpath across it and you will find it a most pleasant place to sit a while. Once an important quay for agriculture, stone and lime, the lime kilns are still there. Now the river is no longer dredged, the channel is fairly narrow and impassable for craft of any size.

The viaduct is very imposing as it towers above the estuary. The footpath continues from the far end of the quay through the woods and under the viaduct. The foundations of Brunel's original wooden viaduct can be glimpsed through the trees above the path.

The path descends some steep steps to emerge in a field and continues across the bottom of it, skirting the boundary of the Port Eliot gardens. The house on the right is known as Battery Lodge. Continue over the stile and into Quay Lane. The doctors surgery is on the left and then The Bothy, the former Port Eliot estate nursery, on the right. Emerging onto the B3249 turn left to return to the station.



St Germans quay by the artist Brian Hoskin



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