

Start the 2nd best walk in the world



Wainwright's coast to coast walk from St Bees to Robin Hood's Bay was recently voted the second best walk in the world and it deserves this accolade.

You can easily enjoy the first part of this great experience.

St Bees can be reached from Glenfield by car, train or bus. The path starts from the lovely beach at St Bees and is rightly commemorated with an impressive plaque.

For a path that is intended to traverse the country from west to east it is incongruous that the first stage heads almost completely in the wrong direction, but Wainwright fully appreciated the beauty of the Cumbrian coast and included as much as possible before heading east.

There is plenty of time to enjoy lunch in the village,

where there is a choice of pubs and cafes, and to explore the lovely beach before heading towards Whitehaven.

The route quickly ascends the cliffs of St Bees Head with dramatic seascapes on one side, including views of the Isle of Man, and gentle pastoral views heading towards the Lake District fells on the other.

The path is clear, easy and never seriously steep, although care must be taken as it sometimes hugs the edge of the cliffs.

Fleswick Bay is an unexpected highlight that will demand time to explore, and if you are lucky with the weather, develop a little bit of a tan.

The whole route is a haven of wildlife and the observant will see much that is unexpected. Thousands of seabirds nest on

the cliffs in the late spring.

The path becomes a track and you pass the Haig mining museum on your right. Look out for the shaft cap over King Pit.

Continue directly towards "The Candlestick" and down steps towards the harbour entrance. At the bottom of the steps turn right under a small bridge into Harbour View.

Head downhill and turn left immediately before the distinctive, derelict ventilation structure and then down steps towards The Beacon.

Turn right along Mount Pleasant and down a long flight of steps to the harbour.

Follow the front, past the bandstand, and turn right into Lowther Street 30 yards after the bollards across the road.

AN EXHILARATING WALK ALONG THE CUMBRIAN COAST

St Bees to Whitehaven

Wainwright's Coast to Coast Walk

A. Wainwright devised the St Bees to Robin Hood's Bay to take walkers across England's most beautiful countryside, hugging the high ground wherever possible.

The 192 mile trek is an experience never to be forgotten and the first

section follows the Cumbrian coast giving tantalising glimpses of the fabulous Lake District scenery to come. Maybe when you have read Andrew's diary and complete the first stage, you will be inspired to follow his, and Wainwright's, footsteps across England



Wainwright's plaque at St Bees.



Special points of interest:

- *Travel to St Bees by car, train or bus*
- *St Bees beach and charming village*
- *Magnificent cliffs and coastal scenery with views to Scotland and the Isle of Man*
- *Fleswick Bay*
- *St Bees lighthouse*
- *Limitless coastal wildlife*
- *Dramatic panoramic views over Whitehaven harbour*