

BASSET'S COVE

This Cove is in a line of beaches beneath the 'North Cliffs' between [Portreath](#) and [Gwithian](#). Like the others, access is difficult and only recommended for those who have the confidence and experience of scrambling down a path that is steep and in places barely exists. It is named after John Francis Basset the local 19th Century mining entrepreneur who lived at nearby Tehidy which is now a Country Park and unusually has fully mature oak woodlands existing less than 150m from the windswept exposed cliffs.



Access route down the cliff



View looking west

Cove to the east and [Deadman's Cove](#) and [Greenbank Cove](#) to the west at low water.



There is little or no beach at high water but as the tide recedes there is a wide sandy strip that gives way to rocky ledges and boulders. However the beach profile can change with storms and seasons with greater or lesser amounts of sand on occasions.



There is no safety equipment. Swimming is not recommended at any stage of the tide due to strong currents and its remote location. It is occasionally used by local surfers but getting a board down to the beach is not easy and again not recommended. It is not a snorkelling beach although at low water there are numerous rock pools.



There are no restrictions on dogs. The nearest toilets and facilities are at [Portreath](#) although there is a cafe and toilets at Tehidy which means a walk of 1km through the Country Park from the North Cliffs car park.



The sandy Cove beneath the cliffs at low water



TR14 OHE - 2kms west of [Portreath](#) on the B3301 to [Hayle](#) there is a track on the right which leads (230m) down to the small National Trust car park (capacity 25 cars). The Cove is immediately beneath the car park. On the easterly side of the car park is the way down to the beach but care needs to be taken with footing as it is steep and in places the ground is loose. It is possible to walk along the foreshore from [Porthcadjack Cove](#) and [Mirrose Well](#)



Looking west



Sandy and rocky foreshore



The route down to the Cove



View from the Coast Path



Location – Part of OS Explorer Map 104



Water quality is believed to be good. It is a north facing beach that is not for the feint hearted.