

# CHAPEL PORTH

Surrounded by famous mining remains, notably the photogenic Wheal Coates engine house perched on the edge of the cliffs above the beach, it has a backdrop of exposed windswept cliffs and facing north-west it takes the full force of the Atlantic especially in winter. It is a popular family beach that is easily accessible. It is owned by the National Trust and within the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site.



View of the beach at low water in summer



**TR5 ONS** - At the entrance to the village of St. Agnes on the B3277, Chapel Porth is signposted and is a distance of 2.5kms. There is a National Trust car park (capacity over 60 cars) in the valley immediately above the beach. There is an alternative car park in a field some 700m along the access road further up the valley (capacity over 130 cars) which is open at peak times. Parking is prohibited along narrow access road. Access from the car park in the field involves a rather lengthy walk down the road.



At high water the narrow inlet beach consists of stones and boulders but at low water there is a vast golden sandy beach which stretches beyond the headlands either side of the 'Porth' southwards to [Porthtowan](#) and northwards towards Tubby's Head, a distance of nearly 2kms. There are a number of natural arches and caves of interest. There is a stream which flows down the valley and across the beach.



There is safety equipment and RNLI Lifeguards are on duty from mid-May until the end of September. Entering the sea



Easy access on to the beach



A fine family beach



Expanse of sand at low water

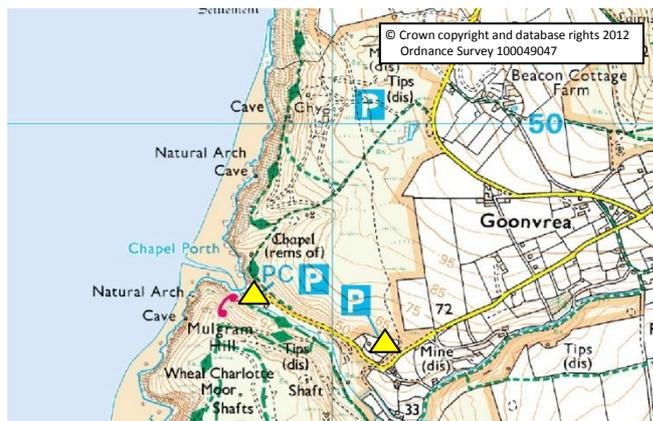


A stony beach above high water

must only be undertaken within the designated bathing area when the Lifeguards are on duty, and when permitted, because of notorious rip currents. If the conditions are right it can produce some of the best surf in Cornwall with a variety of lefts and rights working between mid and low tide. It is not a snorkelling beach. At low water there are countless rock pools to explore on either side of the beach. It is well known locally as a good fishing spot, especially for bass at the right time of year.



There are restrictions from Easter Day until the end of September when dogs are not permitted. There are toilets in the car park above the beach which are open all year. There is a small cafe with a good reputation in the National Trust car park. There are hire facilities for surfing equipment in both nearby St. Agnes and [Porthtowan](#) together with restaurants, pubs and shops.



Location – Extract from OS Explorer Map 104



The quality of the stream and the sea water is believed to be good. The beach is cleaned. The beach is one of stark contrasts. At high water in winter with a heavy sea running it is totally different to a fine day in summer at low water when it has a certain Cornish magic.