

# SANDY COVE

## Pendeen Watch

This small north facing cove immediately below Pendeen Lighthouse does not appear to have a documented name, even on historical maps, but is known locally as Sandy Cove. For much of the year it lives up to its name although after periods of winter gales the sand can diminish and it can be quite stony.



The Cove at low water

Due to cliff falls a few years ago access to the cove has changed and now involves a scramble down rocks on the north-westerly side of the beach which means that it is not accessible for over an hour or so either side of high water.



**TR19 7ED** - From the B3306 at Pendeen, (4kms north-east of St.Just) follow the road to Pendeen Lighthouse (1.5kms) which is signposted; take the right fork by the Lighthouse for 100m to a parking area (about 30+ cars). Walk back along the track to the Lighthouse and follow the path that runs northwards by the side of the wall (or along the curved road that leads to the Lighthouse entrance) where there is a gate and steps giving access to Pendeen New Cliff. Follow the worn grass path due northwards which leads to rock platforms with the cove on the right – go down the rocks immediately



The access rocks in foreground Gently sloping sandy beach



Stony beach at high water



Three Stone Oar in the distance

next to the beach but the final drop on to the beach can be difficult if sand levels have dropped.



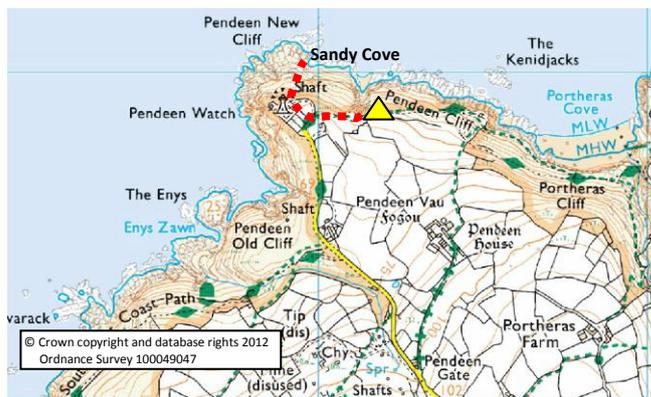
At high water there is little or no beach with an area of stones beneath the cliff. For much of the year there is a delightful gently sloping sandy beach interspersed with dark metabasite rocks.



There is safety equipment on the cliffs immediately above the beach. It is not really safe for swimming especially at low tide due to strong currents around the headland, although in calm conditions it can be possible on a rising high tide if care is taken. Surfing is not possible due to the rocks although the surf often looks tempting! It is not a snorkelling beach except in very calm conditions when the normal strong swell abates and then it can be worthwhile. There are few rock pools of note.



There are no restrictions on dogs although to some the access might make it impossible for dogs to get on to the beach. There are no facilities. There are toilets, shops and pubs at the village of Pendeen.



Location Part of OS Explorer Map 102



Water quality is good and it is clean beach. It is a little known cove that never gets crowded. The Three Stone Oar rocks 500m from the beach are a haven for seabirds and seals. [Pendeen Cove](#) (or [Boat Cove](#)) is close by and it is a fine 800m walk eastwards to [Portheras Cove](#).