

ST.IVES

(overview of the beaches)

This famous small Harbour and Town oozes charm and character and has some of the best beaches in Cornwall. From [Porthmeor Beach](#) which faces north receiving the full force of the Atlantic swell and surf to the sheltered south facing [Harbour Beach](#) and the east facing [Porthminster](#), [Porthgwithden](#) and a number of small beaches in between. All the beaches are within relatively close walking distance of each other.



Porthmeor at low water looking towards 'The Island'



TR26 1LP – At the roundabout on the A30 west of Hayle take the A3074. At the next roundabout (the entrance to Lelant) either continue along the A3074 or turn left and follow the route to St.Ives marked 'day visitors'. In the height of the holiday season it is often better to use the alternative route as it enters the Town from the west and nearer the main car parks and avoids congestion in the narrow streets in the centre of the town and a lengthy one way system which can be confusing if the detailed route is not known. It is even better to use the train from the Park and Ride System at Lelant or St.Erth which is well signposted; it is a memorable train ride with stunning views across the Bay as the train winds its way along the cliffs around [Carbis Bay](#) and Porthminster Point and arrives in the Town close to the centre.



The Harbour Beach



Porthminster Beach



Porthgwithden Beach

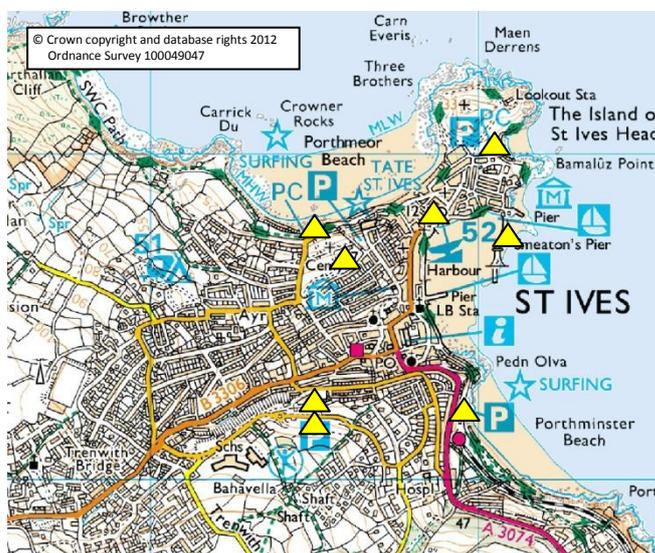


Bamaluz Beach

The main car park for the Town – **TR26 1DD** – is Trenwith; it is a large car park but a 600m walk to the Harbour area. Other car parks are The Station – **TR26 2EA** – which is good for the Town and [Porthminster](#). Barnoon – **TR26 1JG** – for [Porthmeor](#) and the [Harbour Beach](#). The small Sloop Car Park – **TR26 1LP** – is next to the [Harbour Beach](#). The Island – **TR26 1PL** – serves [Porthgwithden](#), [Porthmeor](#) and [Bamaluz](#) beaches. Porthmeor – **TR26 1TG**; The Harbour – **TR26 1PT**; Park Avenue – **TR26 1QE**.



The wonderful fine golden sands are the trademark of the St.Ives beaches both when the tide is in or out. Apart from [Porthmeor](#) they are all good beaches for swimming when conditions prevail which is unusual on the north coast; however it is best to swim on a rising tide and at [Porthgwithden](#) not to venture to far out from the shore at low water because of strong currents around 'The Island'. At [Porthmeor](#) it is advisable to only swim in the designated area when the Lifeguards are on duty but it is a great beach for surfing and can produce very big waves and hold a big swell and with protection from the prevailing westerlies often resulting in wonderful clean surf. There is surfing tuition from the beach in the summer months. There are many good rock pools on either side of [Porthmeor](#) and also some at [Bamaluz](#) and [Pednolva](#) but only a few at [Porthminster](#). They are not snorkelling beaches but it is sometimes worthwhile around Bamaluz Point.



Location – Part of OS Explorer Map 102