

# HARBOUR BEACH

## or Town Beach (St.Ives)

A wonderful beach at the heart of picturesque St.Ives. Being part of a working Harbour where local fishermen still land their catches, it oozes character and charm but can be very busy in the height of summer. It is bounded by Western Pier on one side and Smeaton's Pier on the other.



Harbour Beach at low water



**TR26 1PU** - Car parking details are shown in the overview for [St.Ives](#). It is very accessible from Wharf Road on the western side of the harbour either down the lifeboat slipway or steps, from the 'Sloop' slipway or steps down from the Wharf, or, from steps down from Smeaton's Pier (with its two lighthouses) on the eastern side. Its easy access makes it very suitable for the less mobile.



At high water there is only a thin strip of beach from the Sloop slipway, in front of The Wharf and on to Smeaton's Pier. However the fine golden sand is amongst the best in Cornwall. When the tide goes out, virtually the whole harbour is exposed with water retreating right to the end of Smeaton's Pier. Even on



The 'Sloop' slipway mark



Dry sand above high water

a very windy day there is usually a part of the harbour that is sheltered and in mid-summer it can appear to be almost tropical. With the beach surrounded by harbour walls, the wonderful sand and all the harbour activity ensures it has a lot to offer.



Looking towards Smeaton's Pier



View from Western Pier



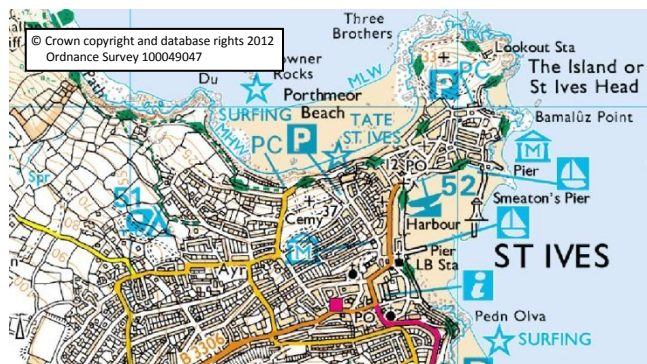
There are a number of safety/rescue equipment points around the harbour. Other details are shown in the overview for [St.Ives](#).



Dogs are permitted from November until Easter Day and 19.00 to 8.00hrs all year but are not allowed during the spring and summer months from 8.00 until 19.00 hrs.



There are 3 toilet locations around the harbour. Behind the Lifeboat Station next to Lambeth Walk Beach, in the car park behind 'The Sloop' and at the entrance to Smeaton's Pier. There are countless cafes, beach shops, restaurants and pubs all around the harbour, and, with Fore Street, the main shopping street in the town, nearby, it has so many facilities close at hand. It is an ideal place to have a pasty or ice cream and watch world go by! The two slipways can be used to launch from trailers although a charge is made by the harbourmaster who has an office on Smeaton's Pier.



Location – part of OS Explorer Map 102



Water quality, with a few exceptions, is excellent. Although a working harbour and all the tourist bustle surrounding it, the beach is very special.