

# PORTGISKEY

A small cove to the south of the [Pentewan Sands](#) and joins this much larger beach at low water. It also gives access to much of the southerly end of Pentewan Sands, also known as Sconhoe Beach, where there is no direct public access. It is a quiet and secluded easterly facing cove with the remains of former Pilchard Cellars above the beach. Access to the beach involves a walk along the Coast Path.



Portgiskey at low water



**PL26 6BT**- this postcode is for Pentewan Sands Holiday Park which is 500m north of Portgiskey. Take the B3273 south from St.Austell or north from Mevagissey to Pentewan village where there is a small car park (capacity 50 cars) or a limited amount of roadside parking. It is then a walk next to the former Harbour to get on to Pentewan Sands and then a walk along the beach (1.2kms) but this can only be done at low tide. If the tide is higher it means walking along the B3273 southwards past the Holiday Park and up the hill to where the Coast Path leaves the road (1.3kms). Portgiskey is at the bottom of the first valley where there is a stile and a path that leads down to the beach. Alternatively, there are a few roadside parking spaces on the B3273 just above where the Coast path leaves the road which makes the walk less than 250m.



The Cove from the south



Stile and path to the beach



Remains of Pilchard Cellars



Wonderful rock pools



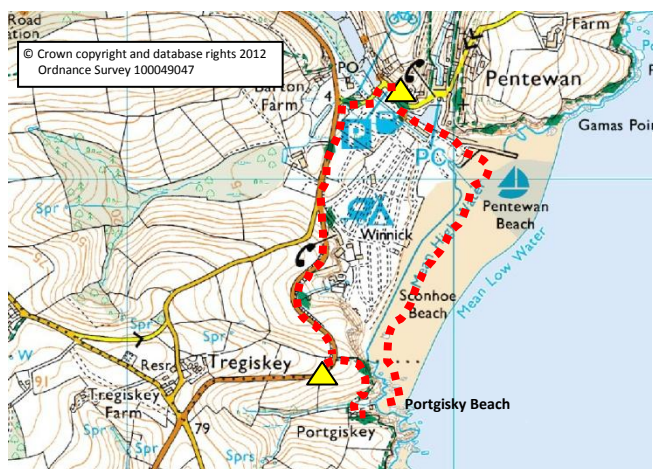
At high water there is a small area of flat stones that gives way to a sandy inlet which on the northern side joins up with Sconhoe beach. It is a very sheltered and secluded cove unless the wind is coming from the east.



There is no safety equipment although there is equipment and a summer lifeguard service run by the Holiday Park at Pentewan Sands. Swimming is relatively safe when the conditions are favourable but it is best to bathe on a rising tide. It is not a surfing beach but conditions are often suitable for bodyboarding. There is some good snorkelling to the south of the Cove. The rocks on the southerly side of the beach have numerous interesting rock pools.



There are no restrictions on Dogs at Portgiskey but there are at Pentewan Sands where dogs are not permitted except between 8.00hrs and 16.00hrs from the beginning of November until mid March. The nearest toilets, shop, pub and cafe are at Pentewan village. However, it is possible to use the restaurant/bar facilities at the Holiday Park which are open all year and as a customer use the parking facilities.



Location – Part of OS Explorer Map 107



The water quality at Pentewan is very good. It is best to visit Portgiskey at low water.