

READYMONEY COVE

This sheltered south easterly facing small cove is within a short walking distance from the centre of Fowey and is its main beach. Situated on the southerly side of the mouth of the Fowey Estuary it faces towards Polruan and out to sea. Adjacent to the Cove on the headland is St.Catherine's Castle, a 16th Century fort built to protect the Estuary and Fowey.



The sandy Cove at the mouth of the Fowey Estuary



PL231JD - At the Newtown roundabout at the entrance to Fowey either by the A3082 or B3269, take the B3415 which is signposted to the Town Centre; after 1.6kms turn right and follow the signs to Readymoney along Hanson Drive. Continue for 1km (with fine views over the mouth of the Estuary) and then through a housing estate and the relatively small car park (capacity 70+cars) is on the right. It is a 400m walk down St.Catherine's Parade (public footpath) to the beach. Alternatively, there is the main car park for the Town off Hanson Drive; this involves a walk of some 750m along Daglands Road and the Esplanade to the beach. In summer a large field is open for parking off Hanson Drive which is only 450m from the beach down Gallant's Drive then turn left and immediately right down to the Cove. From the Town Centre it is a 1km walk along the Esplanade to the Cove.



Views of the beach from the path to St.Catherine's Fort



Pontoon in summer



Rock pools to explore



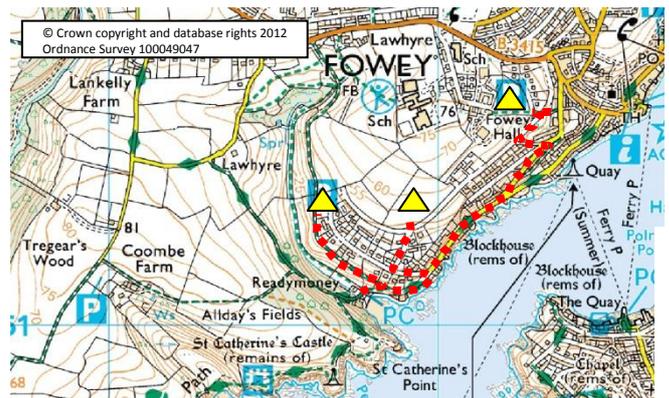
The sandy beach is fairly small nestling between Point Neptune and St.Catherine's Point; it is about 50m across with little or no beach above high water mark. At low water there is a fair area of sand. It is one of the most sheltered beaches in Cornwall but in the afternoon much of the beach can be heavily shaded except in high summer. The Fowey Harbour Commissioners place a buoy line at the entrance to the Cove to protect bathers from craft.



There is a rescue safety point above the beach. Conditions for most of the year are ideal for swimming which is safe within the Cove but there are strong currents beyond the headlands. It is not a surfing beach. There is some fine snorkelling out of the Cove especially around St.Catherine's Point to Penventinue Cove. At low water there are numerous rock pools.



Dogs are not permitted from Easter Day until October. There are toilets and a cafe immediately above the beach. There are a range of shops, pubs and restaurants in the town.



Location – Part of OS Explorer Map 107



The slipway cannot be used to launch craft in summer because of restrictions in the Cove. Water quality in recent years has been very variable; the beach is cleaned in summer. The Pontoon is a great attraction for children in summer. Daphne Du Maurier, the author, lived in the Cove.