

PEDNAVOUNDER

or Treen Beach

This wonderful south facing stretch of white exotic sand backed by sculptural granite cliffs with the photogenic headland of Logan Rock at one end could easily claim to be the UK's most attractive beach. It is constantly photographed by the thousands of visitors to the Minnack Theatre perched on the cliffs 600m to the west. Access to it is not that easy but none the less it is very popular especially by naturists who tend to congregate at the far end of the beach from the single access point. In Cornish it is derived from the words 'Pedn', meaning head and 'Vounder' which means road. It is owned by the National Trust and is close to [Porthcurno](#).



Looking down on the beach from Treen Cliff



TR19 6LF - Take the A30 from Penzance to Lands End and after 4kms turn left on to the B3283 through St.Buryan. Follow the road for a further 3kms and at the hamlet of Treen turn left and continue to the end of the road (280m) which ends in a large field which is used for car parking (capacity over 230 cars). An alternative way to get to Treen from Penzance is to take the B3315 from [Newlyn](#) and [Mousehole](#) which joins the road from St.Buryan.



At the entrance to the car park, opposite the toilets, is a track (and public bridleway). Continue along the track past the camp site and after 550m it joins up with the Coast Path. Turn right (with spectacular views of the beach) and after 250m there is a narrow path on the left which winds its way down the cliffs which are known as 'Pednavounder' at the



The majestic Logan Rock headland or 'Treryn Dinas'

westerly end of the beach. The final decent on to the sand involves a scramble down granite rocks which may be too difficult for some. An alternative way to get to Pednavounder is from the car park at [Porthcurno](#) and taking the path to the beach which leads to the Coast Path in an easterly direction. Continue for 500m and there is a well marked path on the right along Carn Kizzie. After 200m the path down to the beach is on the right.



At high water there is often only a small area of beach and this tends to be near the access point below the cliffs known as Daw Zawn. However, it can vary according to the times of year. Some summer periods there is more dry sand than others as there is greater sand accumulation, whilst in winter the sea usually comes right up to the cliffs. At low water a fabulous stretch of flat quite coarse shell-based sand is exposed which stretches from the base of the Logan Rock headland all the way to Carn Kizzie, a distance of over 650m. At spring tides it is possible to walk along the sand to [Percella Cove](#) (included in the information for Porthcurno) and beyond to Percella Point and even [Porthcurno](#) itself.

It is usual in summer for a sand bar to appear along the beach at low water which can often leave a wide shallow sandy pool and is one of the attractions of the



The westerly end of the beach early on a summer morning



Daw Zawn

Access point on to the beach

beach. At the far end of the beach beneath Logan Rock is the secluded Polpry Cove (or Prye Beach) which is favoured by naturists. The solar reflection off the granite can make the beach very warm in summer which, coupled with the azure blue sea, makes it seem almost tropical. Parts of the beach are quite exposed but the westerly end can be very sheltered.



There is safety/rescue equipment on the path down to the beach but there are no lifeguards. Lifeguards are on duty at nearby [Porthcurno](#) during the summer.



It can be reasonably safe to swim providing it is on a rising high tide and at the westerly end of the beach. The shifting nature of the sands can lead to strong rip currents at low water, especially at the Logan Rock end of the beach.



Because of the lengthy walk and access to the beach it is not a recognised surfing beach but is well known for having a good beach break that is often hollow, fast and good fun. It is best at low water. At high tide it produces a short wave which can barrel.



A sand bar often produces a shallow lagoon



It is not a recognised snorkelling beach but in very calm conditions snorkelling can be undertaken around the base of Carn Kizzie which in the clear blue water is a memorable experience.



There are a few sandy pools at low water but no rock pools.



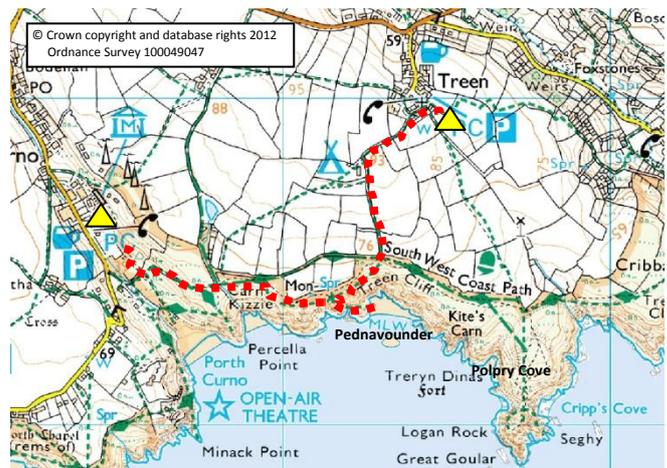
There are no restrictions on dogs. There are toilets at the car park at Treen and also at the car park at Porthcurno. There is a small cafe and shop at Treen and a well known pub. Porthcurno has a cafe, pub and village shop.



Views of the beach



The beach is normally very clean and the water quality excellent.



Location – Part of OS Explorer Map 102



The headland at Logan Rock is worth a visit as the 70 ton rectangular weathered block of granite looks as if it will topple over. In the other direction there is the famous Minnack Open Air Theatre perched on the cliffs. Rock climbers use the beach.