

PORTHALLOW

An easterly facing stony beach that still has all the evidence of being important for fishing with boats pulled up on the beach giving it charm and character. There are great views across Fal Bay and all the shipping.



At low water looking towards the point of Pol Gwarra



TR12 6PW - South of Helston take the A3083 and then the B3293 to St.Keverne where Porthallow is signposted and is about 2kms. Car parking is on the beach and having a large capacity of well over 150 cars: as a result this involves little or no walking.



With the beach less than 100m in length it has the feel of a cove with cliffs at either end which make it very sheltered from all but winds from an easterly quarter. There is evidence to suggest that Porthallow was once a sandy/shingle beach but now days it is a dark grey stone, the result of nearby quarrying. There



Looking north towards the cliffs of Gallentreath

usually dotted with small fishing boats. Despite considerable community activities on the beach in summer it is never overcrowded.



There is safety equipment but no lifeguard service as it is relatively safe for swimming at all stages of the tide. At high water the shelving nature of the beach makes it ideal for swimming.



It is not a surfing beach but is well used by kayaks, sailing dinghies and other small craft because of easy access and favourable conditions. However, if launching off the beach, care needs to be taken with the rock platforms on the southern side of the beach.



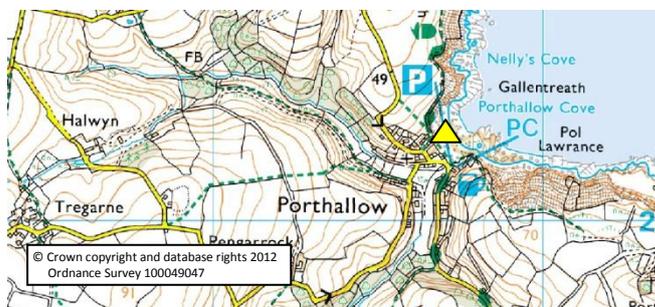
It provides excellent conditions for snorkelling and is popular with divers visiting the near-by Manacles. At low water there are numerous rock pools to explore by wandering across the foreshore to Pol Lawrance but care needs to be taken with incoming tides. It is popular for rock fishing.



Dogs are permitted all year. There are toilets at the rear of the beach which are open all year. There is a small cafe adjacent to the beach which is open during the summer together with a pub and other refreshment facilities in the village.



Fishing boats on the beach



Location - Part of OS Explorer Map 103



Water quality is excellent and the beach is fairly clean. Porthallow is of interest geologically as it marks the divide between the unusual rocks of the Lizard and the rest of Cornwall.