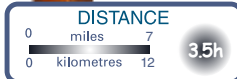
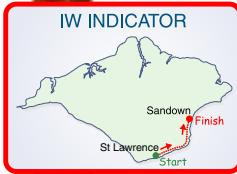
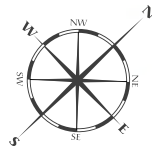


St Lawrence to Sandown Coastal Path Pub Walk



A coastal pub walk that passes through Ventnor and areas of National Trust Land before walking along Victoria promenades next to the sandy beaches of Shanklin and Sandown.



Ventnor Botanic Gardens

St Lawrence to Sandown Sights

St Lawrence

The Village takes its name from the parish church which is dedicated to Lawrence Archdeacon of Rome, who was burnt to death on a grid iron in AD258.

Ventnor Botanic Garden

The garden covers 22 acres and has extensive collections of plants from temperate zones. There is also a café bar, smuggling museum, kids playground and picnic area.

Ventnor

A small hamlet in 1830, it grew rapidly in the 1840's promoted as a spa town. The spa waters still rise from the cliff, emerging at the cascade.

Bonchurch Old Church

The Old Church is a tin building mainly dating from the 13th century and is dedicated to St Boniface a German monk.

The Landslip

The land originally slipped in 1810 and again in 1928 and 1995. It's still slowly sliding towards the sea. The reason for this movement of the land is the bed of Gault Clay which underlies the Chalk and Upper Greens and slopes towards the shore.

1 Walk down Spindlers Road passing the post office to the left. Cross over the main road (A3055) onto Old Park Road (signposted to glass making studio and the Old Park Hotel), then turn left along Woolverton Road for a short distance then take the footpath to the right, through a wooden swing gate towards Woody Bay. Before reaching the coast turn left along the landward side of Woody Bay Cottages following the coast path diversion signs. Continue along the cliff path up to Woody point and onto Orchard Bay. Walk on the track around Orchards Bay House and following the footpath to Ventnor sign (V90), walk around the edge of the field passing through a stone wall, then up the steep concrete steps to the edge of the Botanic Gardens (well worth visiting). Turn right and walk along the wooden boundary fence of the garden.

2 Upon reaching the cricket ground, turn right down the steep steps to Steephill Cove sign posted as 'Coastal Path Diversion to Ventnor via Steephill Cove'. At the foot of the steps take a sharp left, followed by a sharp right and continue down the slope to the shore. Continue past Castle Cove and on the concrete path built as part of coast defence works. Ascend to the cliff top and follow path to Ventnor. Drop down from the cliff path to Ventnor Esplanade. The 'Spy Glass Inn' is a convenient watering hole dating from the 1830's. Close by is 'The Bell' and 'The Mill Bay' pubs.

3 Follow the sea wall for around 1.5 km (1 mile) to Bonchurch, a picturesque village where Charles Dickens wrote part of David Copperfield. Good food and refreshment is available from the 'Bonchurch Inn', a 17th-century coaching inn with cobbled courtyard. The walk continues past a pottery, then turn left at the start of the row of houses. Go up the steps signposted as the Coastal Path. Climb the path behind the Houses and follow the tarmac path uphill through the copse to Bonchurch Old Church.

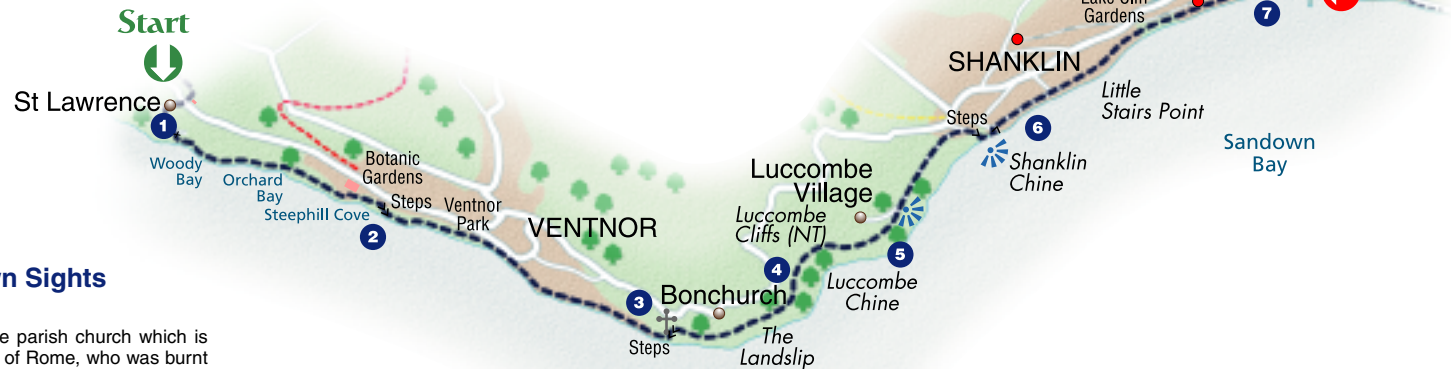
4 Turn right at the Old Church and follow the public footpath to the Landslip and Shanklin, along the front of a sports field, with Monks Bay out to your right. Continue past the entrance to Carrigden Farm and into the landslip, eventually passing the Wishing Seat. On emerging from the Landslip, pass the entrance to Rosecliff Lodge and walk down the stoney lane past Dunnose Cottage on the left and continue to the top of Luccombe Chine. A detour to the chine can be made at this point. There is a cove at the bottom of the steep stairway down the chine

which was once used by smugglers. Until the turn of the century there were several buildings at the foot of the chine but they were abandoned because of the dangers of landslips.

5 There is a National Trust sign at the top of the chine for Luccombe Cliffs and a sign post for the Coastal Path (SS2) to Shanklin. Walk up through the cliffs past Luccombe tea garden and up out of the landslip emerging at the end of Luccombe Road (single track). Turn left past a building called Highcliff from where there are good views along the coastline. Continue along Luccombe Road for about 800 metres and at the end turn right in Popham Road opposite Rylstone Gardens, through the small concrete bollards and towards the sea. Walk down the steps directly ahead to Appley Beach, pausing to admire the views to Culver down to the north-east. Turn left at the bottom of the steps, along the beach path, passing the beach huts, the thatched 'Fishermans Cottage' pub dating from 1817 and the 'Long Shoreman' Inn.

6 On reaching the road by Palestine Slipway, turn left around the sharp bend and walk up the steep path which zig-zags round to pass the 'Chine Inn' at the top. Cross the bottom of Everton Lane and follow the coastal path to Sandown signposted along the cliff top promenade. Pass the top of the lift shaft to the beach. Immediately below is the site of the Victorian pier which was swept away by the great storm of 1987. At the end of Eastcliff Promenade cross Hope Road, onto Delphi Road and continue past the Channel View Hotel, up the slope to re-join the undulating cliff top walk, passing through Lake Cliff Gardens and descending into Sandown.

7 At Fencliff Gardens walk down the flight of steps, then right at the bottom down the steep walkway to Sandown Esplanade, past the public toilets on the right. Turn left along the Esplanade and continue to the pier. The 'Jolly Sailor' pub is close by. If time permits, a visit to the 'Dinosaur Isle' museum, housed in a pterodactyl shaped building, is well worth a visit.



Shanklin Beach

For Red Funnel ferry information and places to stay, visit www.redfunnel.co.uk or phone the Travel Centre on 0844 844 9988

