

Coastal walk...3½ miles

Old Harry Rocks, Dorset

Short description: Walk across the Jurassic coastline and take in breathtaking views and unique rock formations. This walk is marked by white chalk cliffs, which are the result of 65 million years of sea erosion.

Getting there:

Road: Follow B3351 from Corfe Castle (5 miles)

Foot: Turn towards the East at the Post Office in the Village and follow School Lane past the Cross, carry on down towards the sea. On your left is the Bankes Arms

Bus: From Bournemouth/Poole-Swanage, Wilts/Dorset 150; Wareham – Studland, 143 service

Rail: Swanage Steam Railway

Ferry: from Sandbanks, Poole

Maps and Grid ref: OS Landranger 195 & Explorer OL15, GR SZ 038824

Facilities available: WCs at South Beach

Terrain: Fairly gentle walk with good conditions underfoot. Beware of sheer cliff edges.

Distance (m): 3.5 miles

Accessibility: Some steep ascents/descents, not suitable for wheelchairs. Height gain of 200ft. (70 metres) Climbs are mostly gentle.

Points of interest: From the car park walk down road past Bankes Arms pub, go left on the path signed Old Harry. Keep on this path looking out for the following features:

1. Ancient coppice woodland such as Warren Wood and Studland Wood.
2. The famous chalk stacks, the outermost is Old Harry named after the Devil
3. Remains of a WWI rifle range at Ballard Down and a wide range of chalk grassland flowers, such as the wild thyme, on the south side of Ballard Down.
4. Glebland Estate, an old church farmland

At the end of the track turn right and walk along the road. When you see a wooden stile, take a left, which leads you to the car park.

Property contact details: tel: 01929 450259

National Trust properties nearby: Brownsea Island, Clouds Hill and Corfe Castle.

