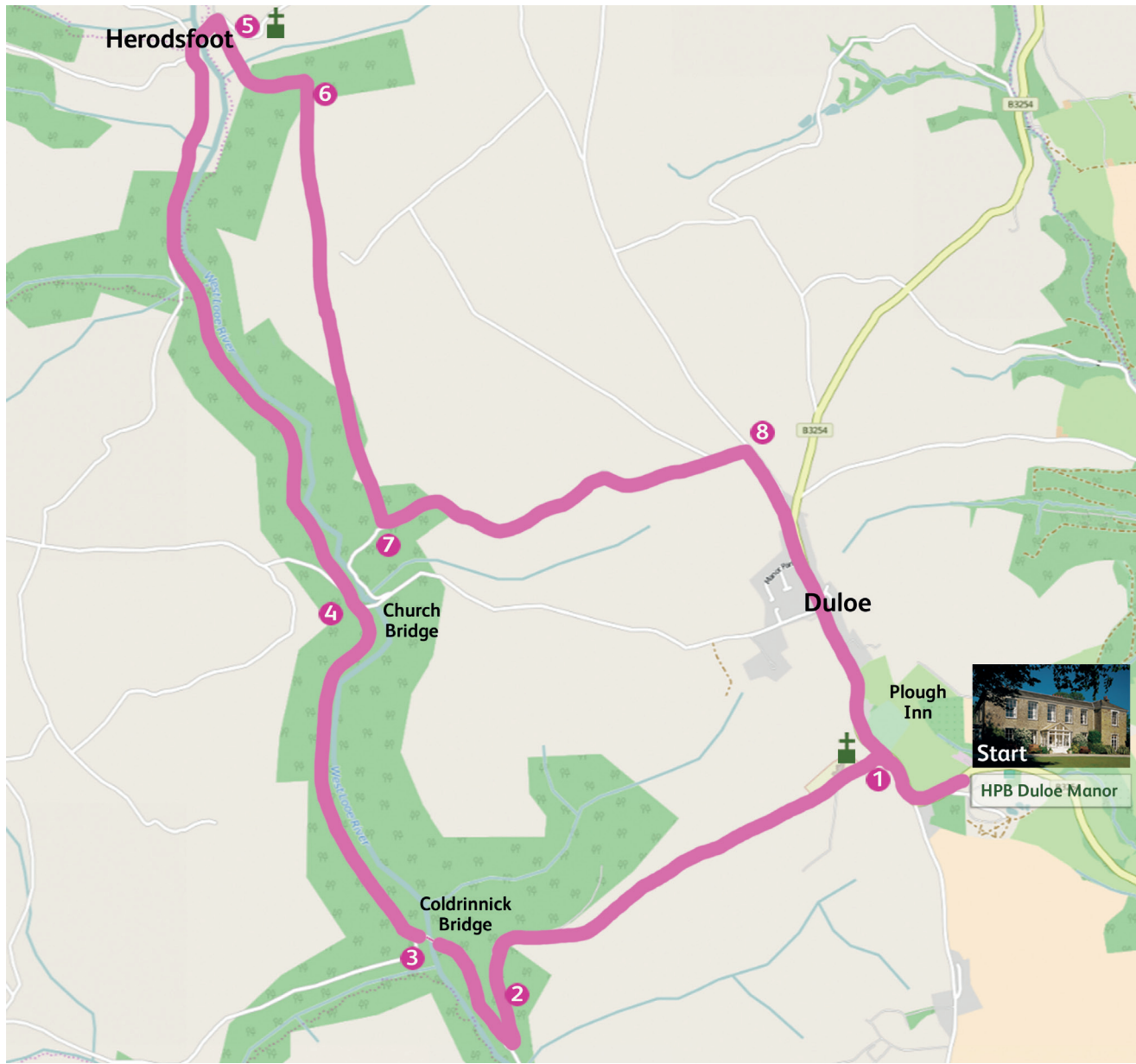


Duloe and Herodsfoot

Distance - 11km (6¾ miles) Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 107, St. Austell and Liskeard, 1:25,000 Ascent 187m (614ft)



 - Walk

 - B3254

1 - See attached instructions for details of points

Disclaimer:
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Duloe and Herodsfoot

Walk 4

Distance - 11km (6¾ miles) Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 107, St. Austell and Liskeard, 1:25,000 Ascent 187m (614ft)

Praised by none other than the late John Betjeman, Herodsfoot is in reality quite unpretentious – a pleasant cluster of houses nestling in the bottom of the West Looe Valley, with its church perched above, part way up the valley side. The village was not always so quiet; in the 19th century it was the unlikely site of a gunpowder works and there was mining for lead and silver locally, all long disappeared in the lush surrounding woodland.

With five (very minor) roads converging, Herodsfoot is still something of a focal point. This circular walk starts and finishes at Duloe Manor, sharing the outward route set out for walk no. 2, including visits to the ancient bridges at Coldrinnick and Church Bridge, continuing along the West Looe Valley to Herodsfoot and then returning high along the valley side before reaching Duloe village along another very quiet lane. There is

a long ascent on this return lane and a shorter ascent through the woodland above Herodsfoot. Underfoot the tracks are generally excellent; only the path rising from Herodsfoot is a little more demanding.

Start/car parking HPB Duloe Manor

Refreshments Plough Inn, Duloe. Picnic opportunities along the riverside.

WALK

Leave the Manor by the entrance drive. Turn left to walk along the roadside path towards the war memorial and the church, passing the junction with the road to Tredinnick on the way.

close to the river all the way to Church Bridge, the next objective. **Ignore a bridleway, with ford, which joins from the right.**

sleeper bridge over a little stream, with a waymark on a post, and enter woodland along a narrow path. The path rises; go straight across a waymarked junction for a sharper rise on a rather rough surface.

1 Turn left to follow the minor road, with the church and then the school on the right. Continue, as the extremely quiet road is restricted to 'access only' for vehicles. After a long, fairly level, section the road begins to descend the side of the valley of the West Looe River. **Ignore an apparent track on the right.** The surface is quite rough as the descent continues.

4 At Church Bridge, another fine old structure, with a small hamlet adjacent, do not cross; go past the forestry barrier to join a minor road, rising to the left. In 100m fork right to leave the road at another forest barrier, with 'public bridleway' sign. This roadway is even better, dry and even underfoot. At the end of the roadway, pass a forest barrier to join a minor road. Turn right to cross a stream and head for Herodsfoot, with the church soon visible. Join a more important road; turn right for 'Duloe and Dobwalls'. Cross a stream before reaching the centre of Herodsfoot, where the river is crossed on a simple bridge.

6 Join a broad forest track, turning right. Follow this track, through woodland high up the side of the valley, for more than one mile, passing an apparent former quarry and **ignoring a footpath joining from the right**, before reaching a forest barrier, a stream and a minor road.

2 Join a similar track at the bottom. Turn right, initially rising a little and staying parallel with the West Looe River, separated only by narrow water meadows.

7 Turn left to commence the long ascent back towards Duloe. The lane is quiet, levelling before it joins the Duloe to Dobwalls road.

3 Reach Coldrinnick Bridge, a charming ancient structure in a sylvan setting. Turn left to cross the bridge, then bear right at a vehicle-churned area to follow a forest roadway, soon ignoring a fork to the left. The roadway, probably muddy in places, stays generally

5 Forty metres after crossing the river turn right at a 'public footpath' sign. To visit the church continue up the steep road and return by the same route. Pass houses and a Zion Chapel dated 1851. Pass the house Millcombe, with a waymark on the gate post, cross a

8 Turn right to walk for 200m by the roadside to the junction at the north end of Duloe village. Continue through the village, passing the shop, the Plough Inn and the diversion to the stone circle before reaching **point 1** of the outward route, close to the church. Retrace from this point to Duloe Manor.