

Lighthouse Museum & a mountain

Distance - 6 miles



 - Walk



Disclaimer:

This route was correct at time of writing. However, alterations can happen if development or boundary changes occur, and there is no guarantee of permanent access. These walks have been published for use by site visitors on the understanding that neither HPB Management Limited nor any other person connected with Holiday Property Bond is responsible for the safety or wellbeing of those following the routes as described. It is walkers' own responsibility to be adequately prepared and equipped for the level of walk and the weather conditions and to assess the safety and accessibility of the walk.

Lighthouse Museum & a mountain

Walk 4

Distance - 6 miles Map: OS Explorer 262

Start/car parking - RSPB car park and South Stack

Given favourable weather conditions this will undoubtedly be a superb outing, with several differing attractions along the way. The first of these is Ellin's Tower, an RSPB centre, constructed originally in 1868, by Ellin, wife of the then local M.P., W. Owen Stanley.

The coastal RSPB reserve is a "gem," and at appropriate times of the year very colourful. In early September the heather and gorse are in prime condition. An unforgettable sight. Look out for Choughs – localised and declining numbers mean sightings are rare. Useful information board gives specific details of flora and fauna.



Note: It would be a great help to future walkers if you could record any inaccuracies you come across during this walk and report them to reception so that appropriate amendments can be made. Thank you for your help. **Happy walking.**

WALK

- Make towards Holyhead along the motorway, then use secondary roads to access the South Stack area. Ellin's Tower is 1/4 mile south of the lighthouse, and the car park a similar distance away from the tower itself. It's easy to locate being the first car park (on the left) to be encountered.
- Set off from the car park heading across the heathland towards Ellin's Tower, and first sight of South Stack lighthouse.
- Climb the steps towards the road. Cross straight over into a parking area, then climb some steps to a viewpoint – 360ft above sea level!
- After sampling the views turn around, head inland, following one of the paths on the left. Soon merging with a metalled surface.
- Follow the metalled surface to a major junction, then follow the direction of the waymark to the right, aiming directly for the "mountain". Another waymark indicates straight ahead and a radar station ahead and slightly left, will confirm the correct position.
- At another junction veer right (waymark) along a wide track, noting a small reservoir, far below, on the right. Where the path divides opt for the left fork, keeping to higher ground, before curving left (old stone quarry on right) and becoming narrower.
- The sprawling mass of Holyhead and a tall chimney at the aluminium works prominent.
- March onwards between limestone walls and follow way mark's, after following a grassy path, descend min 200 yards to arrive at the Breakwater Industrial Museum. Enter the complex.
- Stone quarried hereabouts was used in the construction of the long breakwater at Holyhead harbour. When that operation finished the site was used for brick production. A "Hoffman" type kiln and chimney being the centrepiece of that industry.
- Within the complex swing right, departing to the rear of the information centre. Turn left following a line of telegraph poles towards North Stack.
- Note the memorial to crewmen of the American Air Force on the right, soon after leaving the industrial museum.
- Also conspicuous are colourful rock faces. Surprising how quickly nature has reclaimed land previously quarried. An array of colour and bird life, evident in season.
- North Stack was formerly a coastguard station, with a light positioned on the rocks out to sea. On a clear day Ireland is visible from this location.

- A visit to North Stack is optional, because the route of the walk turns off left (if you start descending you have gone too far) before reaching the headland. If continuing to North Stack retrace to the turn off point.
- A waymark on the left is the point of departure from the main track. A second left turn occurs 25yds farther on.
- A steep ascent ensues to reach a cliff top path, and the option to visit Holyhead's highest point (220m) comes soon after. The destination and route are obvious, and the 1/2 hour detour comes highly recommended, whenever conditions are favourable.
- Whatever the decision, continue along the previously used path. Turn left at a junction – then (50yds) turn right at a waymark, to walk between the radar stations.
- To conclude, follow the waymarks towards a solitary telegraph pole, overlooking Ellin's Tower. A ten minute walk to the car park rounds off the day.

