

# Lesconil

# Walk 7

Distance - 8¾ miles (14km) Map: Institut Géographique National, Top25, 0519 OT, Pônt L'Abbé, 1:25,000.



 - Walk

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## Walk 7

**Distance** - 8¾ miles (14km) **Map:** Institut Géographique National, Top25, 0519 OT, Pont L'Abbé, 1:25,000.

This route includes sandy and rocky sea coast, the side of an estuary, agricultural countryside and part of a disused railway line, with the added interest of an array of dolmens, including the important site of Quélarn. For good measure there are also a 'fontaine' and an old 'four banal' (communal bread oven) beside the manor at Kerhoas. Close to the popular fishing port of le Guilvinec, Lesconil is a minor port, more pleasure than commercial. There are a few shops, banks, bars and crêperies. The walk provides an opportunity for really stretching the legs on good tracks and minor roads; it is without significant hills.

**Start/car parking** - By the port in Lesconil; public conveniences adjacent. From Hilguy take the standard route to Pont-l'Abbé, D240 via Tréméoc, then follow the signs in that town for Plobannaec and Lesconil.

**Refreshments** - Good choice in Lesconil, but take water. No drinking places on route.

**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

Walk round the back of the harbour, passing a boulder serving as a memorial stone to victims of World War II. Pass Hotel du Port. A waymark confirms that we are following a GR 34. Pass the Centre Nautique. After the Centre keep as close to the estuary as possible. Turn inland along the Rue Romain Rolland, turning right in 30 yards to reach a little inlet with track across the back. Go up the Rue Jeanne d'Arc ahead and turn right in 40 yards. Bear left (more waymarks) to regain the estuary shore. Turn left to head for the bridge/dam across the water.

**1.** Go up steps to join the road and turn right to cross the water. There is an extensive lake upstream. At the far end cross the road and turn left to follow a broad waterside track, signposted to 'Chapelle Plonivel', staying with the lake shore for some distance. In less than ¼ mile fork left to stay close to the shore, cross the top of a small dam with a pool on the right, and keep left as woodland is reached. Go straight on at a junction (*a right turn here leads to Plonivel chapel Note: quite a long diversion to the Chapel to possibly find it locked up*). A surfaced section of road is reached; on the right is Kerhoas Manor. Behind a diversion past the vehicular barrier reveals a No Entry, *although all are visible from the path it is clear that the owners do not want any visitors on their premises*, the neat stone buildings, the fontaine and the four banal.

**2.** Go 30 yards along the road and turn left, signposted 'circuit terre et mer'. Cross the top of a dam and follow a path through gorse and bracken. Turn left at a junction to head for a minor surfaced road. Go straight ahead, pass a row of large pines and join the D102. Turn left, along the new tarmaced pavement for 150 yards, then turn right into a lane signposted 'Omnisports, Kervadol & Keraleuc' etc. Pass a yellow turn right waymark; there is a dolmen in the field on the left. Go a little further to enter the field and admire this at close quarters.

**3.** Continue along the track opposite the dolmen, signposted 'Kervadol'. In a little more than 250 yards turn right at a sign to visit the two Dolmens de Kervadol. Return to the main track. Turn right, then right again at a junction beside Kervadol Farm on a tarmaced road to reach a public road. Turn left (waymark), cross the road and turn right at a junction in 300 yards, signposted 'Penbanal' etc. In 250 yards turn left to walk to the attractive hamlet of Penbanal.

**4.** Turn right on the road and then left along a grass track between buildings. Go ahead across fields to join the trackbed of a former railway line which connected Pont-L'Abbé and le Guilvinec. Turn left to follow the trackbed across agricultural land for about ½ mile, crossing a tarmaced farm access on the way. On reaching a public road, bear diagonally to the right and cross over to find the major Neolithic site of Quélarn, with interpretation board and picnic table. *The site is quite extensive, with a complex mixture of dolmens and former roofed chambers, unfortunately looted for stone in the middle ages.*

**5.** Return to the road, going diagonally across to follow a path through bracken, leading to yet another dolmen. Continue to the right to return to the road. Turn left along the roadside then, in 50 yards, turn right to walk beside a more major road. Turn left at a junction in 150 yards along an access road signposted 'Keraleuc' through sparse agricultural countryside. Pass the scattered houses of Keraleuc and continue past the 'centre equestre' of Kervignon'. Join a surfaced road at the farm of Kervignon.

**6.** Keep straight on at the road junction. Pass a couple of open fields and then turn right into a broad grass track Rise gently for 300 yards to the hamlet of Guerveur, turn right as indicated by the waymark. The agricultural track bends sharp left, passes a 'fontaine' and becomes a surfaced road at the modern hamlet of Kerlaoen. Join a public road, turning right to rise to Kersauz hamlet and a roundabout in just over 300 yards. Turn left and take a minor road signposted to 'La plage', reaching the coast at an informal parking area and rejoining GR 34.

**7.** Turn left along a gated path (or walk along the beach) towards Lesconil. 200 yards before the built-up area, bear right along a waymarked sandy track between fences, heading towards a former semaphore structure. The path stays close to the coast, wandering attractively past interesting rock scenery and a former 'fontaine' at the back of the beach, eventually reaching a vehicular barrier and a surfaced road. Walk along the Rue de la Corniche and follow the GR, turning right to find a pedestrian route by a small harbour, leading directly to the port car park.