Go through this gate, turn left and then cross a small bridge over a stream, then continue along this path as it winds its way through the sand dunes of David Burrows passing a wooden sign and then entering some low woodland towards farm buildings and another car park. Just before the farm buildings turn left at a wooden sign marked Llanmadoc, go through a small metal gate, along a narrow section of path then through a wooden kissing gate onto farmland. Walk uphill along the field passing through two more metal kissing gates and then at the third gate join a rough surfaced track and continue up the slope towards Llanmadoc Hill in the background.

At the end of the track go through a small metal gate next to the vehicle gate and continue up a lane with hedges either side until you reach the road. Walk along the road, taking in the views over Llanmadog Moors towards Worms Head and Hillend Burrows past two houses on your left, then bear left onto the lane to the left of the road, about 25m from this house turn left onto a bridleway which runs up onto Llanmadoc Hill.

Walk along this track for about 400m and then bear left at a path junction to continue gently up the slope, stay on this path until you get to a crossroads of paths and then turn left onto a well-worn grass track that runs up the hill. This path will take you to the top of Llanmadoc Hill at 186m high it is worth having a rest here to look at the views both of the coast and island.

There is a stone plinth here built by the local Community Council with help from the landowners to commemorate the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee and it is believed to be the remains of the village boundary stones that stand. The first of these has stone steps leading to it from all directions.

Inside the church, there are two large wall paintings that were uncovered. These paintings during this renovation that traces of a medieval wall painting were uncovered. These paintings were used to decorate the walls of all the churches in the area but this is one of only a few remaining in the peninsula. It is interesting to note that early Gorey Churches did not possess north side windows and this is the only church still possessing no north-side window on the whole of Gower. Inside the church, there are two large stones that stand. The first of these has been identified as the village boundary stone and dated around the 14th century. The second stone is the larger of the two and is believed to be the remains of the old churchyard cross.

This once stood on a raised platform with steps leading to it from directions. Most of these churchyard crosses were destroyed by Puritans under order of Oliver Cromwell in the 17th century.

Llanmadoc Church

Llanmadoc Church is the smallest of the Gower churches and is dedicated to St. Madox.

The building is a 19th century construction, but was extensively renovated in 1866. It was during this renovation that traces of a medieval wall painting were uncovered. These paintings were used to decorate the walls of all the churches in the area but this is one of only a few remaining in the peninsula. It is interesting to note that early Gower Churches did not possess north side windows and this is the only church still possessing no north-side window on the whole of Gower. Inside the church, there are two large stones that stand. The first of these has been identified as the village boundary stone and dated around the 14th century. The second stone is the larger of the two and is believed to be the remains of the old churchyard cross.

This once stood on a raised platform with steps leading to it from directions. Most of these churchyard crosses were destroyed by Puritans under order of Oliver Cromwell in the 17th century.

Llanmadoc

A stunning walk through an Iron Age hill fort, across open commons, along sandy dune paths and through the village of Llanmadoc. Aftordding breath taking views towards Worms Head, Whiteside Point, the Burry Estuary and beyond to the Brecon Beacons and Pembroke.

There are three short sections of quiet road to walk along that have no pavement.

Wear appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather conditions.

Reporting problems: This route follows public paths and paths over common land and on which you have the legal right to walk. If you have any difficulties, please report them to the Countryside Access Team.

Access:

By road: The walk starts from a pub in Llangennith.

By public transport: There is no public transport available.

By foot: The walk starts from a pub in Llangennith.

Useful Information

OS Explorer Map 164 Gower.

Mobile phone coverage is generally good. Stout footwear is advisable. For local public transport information, visit travelines.org.uk. Swansea Tourist Information Centre - Tel: 01792 468321.

E-mail: tourism@swansea.gov.uk - www.visitswanseabay.com

Mumbles Tourist Information Centre - Tel: 01792 361302.

E-mail: info@visitmumbles.com - www.visitmumbles.co.uk

If you encounter any problems on this walk, or would like further information on public rights of way, please contact the Countryside Access Team.

Countryside Access Team - Tel: 01792 635746 or 01792 635746

E-mail: countrysideaccess@swansea.gov.uk - www.swansea.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

The Walk

From the car park turn right and walk downhill on the lane to Cwm Ivy, when you get to the houses bear left and then right towards a set of wooden gates with a metal National Trust sign on them. Pass through the small wooden gates and continue downhill on a surfaced track through trees, looking to the right you can see over Cwm Ivy Marsh owned by the National Trust. Until recently this was a freshwater marsh but due to the collapse of the old seawall the sea now floods in on very big tides creating a huge saltwater lake. At the bottom of the track you reach a junction carry straight on and uphill towards a large rocky outcrop – Cwm Ivy Tor.

You have now joined the Gower section of the Wales Coast Path. Walk past the base of the Tor and then bear left to a wooden kissing gate next to a field gate, follow the path through an open sandy area, The Cognaer, and then up a fairly steep sandy climb into a small wood. Pass through another wooden gate on to open cliff top grassland with good views over Whiteside Sands, and Whiteside Lighthouse. Follow the well worn grass path to a viewpoint – Hills Tor and then turn left along a grass path which then bears right alongside an old walked bank.

After about 150m the path runs away from the wall and bears left and then right downhill towards a caravan site. At the bottom of the slope turn right and then left and then right again to walk through an area of low scrubland to reach another gateway.

Go through the gate along a grass track and join a surfaced farm track, go straight on through another gate and then walk past the beach access gate on your right to arrive at a small gate giving access into the sand dunes.

COAST WALKS

Gower Coast Walks

The walk links to the Gower Coast path which is marked with these waymarks.

The walk is marked with these waymarks.

Llanmadoc Circular

Whiteford Lighthouse

Built in 1865, the Grade II listed Whiteford Lighthouse is 44 feet (13 m) high and is the only surviving wave washed cast-iron lighthouse in British coastal waters. It can be seen from a distance with the aid of binoculars.

Whiteford

Whiteford (pronounced Wifford) is a large expanse of beach (Whiteford Sands), and dunescapes, pine plantations and estuary, this peninsula-in-miniature is a National Nature Reserve and an excellent opportunity to witness how the environment transforms naturally from one habitat to another.

During World War II, the Burry Estuary was used by the army as a shelling and mining range, and from time to time underwater bombs still surface at Whiteford Sands, these are regularly cleared by the Army and Navy, and are appearing less frequently as time goes by.

The Bulwark

Llanmadoc Hill affords excellent views over the neighbouring hamlets of both Llanmadoc and Cheriton, and is also where you will find the huge earthwork construction known as The Bulwark.

The Bulwark is an Iron Age hillfort enclosure with multiple defences, and is the second largest construction of its kind on the Gower Peninsula (the largest being that of Céfyn Dog, in Llannarann). Originally built to hold cattle and other livestock, the site was later adapted and fortified to protect the entire community at times of war. The defences appear today as long grassy mounds and ditches. As you take in the spectacular view, it is easy to imagine what a tactical advantage the hillfort’s location provided.

Useful Information

OS Explorer Map 164 Gower.

Mobile phone coverage is generally good. Stout footwear is advisable. For local public transport information, visit travelines.org.uk. Swansea Tourist Information Centre - Tel: 01792 468321.

E-mail: tourism@swansea.gov.uk - www.visitswanseabay.com

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The walk is marked with these waymarks.
Follow these waymarks:
- On the coast Path
- On the route

Key:
- Coast Path
- Route of Walk
- Other Paths
- Pub
- Viewpoint
- Access Land

Follow these waymarks:
- On the coast Path
- On the route