Three Crosses

In the early 19th Century Three Crosses was home to a coal mining community with several small shallow collieries in the area. These collieries had disappeared by the early years of the 20th century, and since then Three Crosses has developed as a dormitory village for Swansea.

Capel Y Coys Independent Chapel is the largest chapel on Gowerton. The current chapel building, built in 1879, is Grade II listed and was extended in 1912.

There is also a Community Woodland in Three Crosses, an area which was created by local residents and is now a candidate Site of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINC). The woodland is an interesting mix of habitats including scrub and deciduous woodland, wet grassland, a pond area, and marsh habitats, all of which provide resources for a wealth of wildlife. The site has access for people of all abilities and is especially suitable for wheelchair users.

Gowerton

The village of Gowerton is situated about 4 miles north west of Swansea city centre and is often known as the gateway to Gower.

Originally called Ffosfelin, Gowerton owes its initial growth to its position at the crossing of the South Western Railway and the London North Western Railway which meant that the coal, which in abundance, could be economically extracted.

But it is widely agreed that it was the steel industry and the Elba works in 1980 and the area now boasts a large housing estate and a sports complex.

Dunvant

The area between Dunvant and Gowerton was once quite heavily industrialised, with four nearby collieries Killan, Bishwell, Bryn Mawr and Dunvant.

Bishwell and Bryn Mawr to the south of Gowerton were short-lived and closed in the 1970s. However, the collieries in Dunvant, have a longer history with Dunvant colliery closing in 1914. Killan at its peak employed 900 men and ceased operations in 1925 following the disaster of 1924 in which five men were killed.

Dunvant Brickworks

Apart from the collieries, there were a number of stone quarries and brickworks operating in and around Dunvant in the mid to late 19th Century. The now derelict Penlan Brickworks and quarry (known as Dunvant Brickworks), are an area of conservation and ecological diversity owned and managed by the City and County of Swansea.

Gower Coast Walks

The walk is marked with these waymarks

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

Follow the path to the top of the field and take in the view. At the top of the field, bear right, then immediately left, follow the path around the bottom edge of the field through two kissing gates and into a wooded area.

Follow the worn path along a field edge then bear left into another wooded area.

At the T junction, turn right, after the kissing gate turn right over the wooden bridge. Follow the worn path for some way through wooded areas and alongside the golf course.

After a short incline, at the junction if you are in need of refreshment, turn right and follow the path to the Joiners Pub or continue to the walk, turn left and then turn right by the 12th tee.

Go over the stile and cross the field bearing left towards the houses and another stile, after a short distance, go over a third stile, cross the road and turn right.

Turn left at the footpath sign and follow the surfaced track to the farm, just after entering the farmyard, the path bears left through a field gate, head for the stile in front of you and after it turn left and head towards the stile at the bottom of the hill, follow the tree lined path over another stile. As the path bears left, look for a stile on your right hand side, go over it and follow the worn path, after a short distance, the path bears right up a short incline to a stile.

Turn left after the stile and follow the field edge path across a stile and through a kissing gate.

The path then bears right through two kissing gates and continues along the field edge before turning down a short slope.

Continue along the worn path, do not cross the first sleeper bridge, but cross the second and continue to a stile.

After the stile, turn left and follow the track for quite some time.

When you get to the junction with the Gower Way stone (number 28), turn left. Follow the surfaced track past two properties.

When you get to the property in front of you, bear left between the property and the barns, then cross the stile on the right hand side of the disapllated building into the field.

Walk across this field, heading diagonally to the left hand corner, go through the gap into the next field and bear immediately right to walk along the hedgeline. Go through the kissing gate, turn immediately left and follow the path to a stile. After the stile, turn right and walk for a short distance until you see a path on your left, follow this up a short incline to a kissing gate.

Cross the field, heading towards the fence line on the right, then head towards to the bottom corner of the field where there is a field gate near some properties. After the gate, turn right and follow the surfaced track to the road. When you reach the road, turn left, cross over you can walk along the pavement) but take extra care where the road narrows as there is no pavement, look for a kissing gate on your right, go through it and follow the path behind the houses and continue along the worn path through the wooded area.

At the waymarked junction, take the right hand path.

Where the path splits again, at a dog leg, head up the short slope, continue across the bridge and keep following the worn path.

When you reach the houses, bear right and continue until you reach the road ahead of you.

Turn left, continue to the road junction, turn right and continue onto Bryn y Mor Road.

Three Crosses and Dunvant

A picturesque walk through fields and woodland, starting and finishing close to the Gower Coast Path in the village of Gowerton with links to the villages of Three Crosses and Dunvant.

This walk takes you through former mining areas which have now recovered into pretty woodlands, alongside a golf course and across rolling fields.

Maer’s rychedd ad gael yn Gymraeg

Information correct at time of going to print (January 2018)

Photography - Caroline Gregg

Produced by the Countrywide Access Team

Other leaflets are available in this series

Gower, Three Crosses and Dunvant

The village of Gowerton is situated about 4 miles north west of Swansea city centre and is often known as the gateway to Gower.

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Gower Coast Walks

Reporting problems: this route follows public paths on which you have the legal right to walk. If you have any difficulties, please report them to the Countrywide Access Team.

Distance: The walk is approximately 6 miles (10km). You can begin at any point and walk in any direction but to follow the directions, start on Bryn-y-Mor Road by the traffic lights and walk anticlockwise.

Time: Allow 3 - 4 hours

Terrain: The walk follows field edges and wooded areas which can be uneven and muddy, there are some steep sections and at least 20 stiles to cross. Be prepared and wear appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather conditions.

Safety: There are two short sections of road to walk along, one of which has no pavement.

Refreshments: There are pubs and shops in Gowerton, Three Crosses and Dunvant.

OS map: OS Explorer Map 164 Gower.

Gower Coast Walks

COAST WALKS

Walk with the hedge line on your right, and then continue in more or less a straight line, taking care on the golf fairways, to the stile in the hedge in front of you. After the stile bear right across the field to a field gate in the right hand corner.

Go through this gate, turn right and follow the drive downhill to the road. At the end of the drive turn left, and continue up the road. There are no pavements so take extra care. Look out for the stile which lead to a stile by the big oak tree on your left.

For local public transport information

OS Explorer Map 164 Gower

Mobile phone coverage is generally good.

Stout footwear is advisable.

For local public transport information

www.traveline-cymru.info/

Gower Coast Walks

Gower, Three Crosses and Dunvant

The walk is marked with these waymarks

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

Take the path alongside the stream, bear left over the wooden bridge and continue to the road. Turn right and follow the pavement when you see the double footpath flag, turn right and follow the path between the houses. Behind the houses, turn right by the waymark arrow and follow the well worn path through the woods.

Leave the woodland via a stile, you are now on farmland, it is advisable that dogs should be kept on a lead where livestock is present.

Follow the path across two fields and over two stiles. After the second stile, the path bears left.

Continue to the cattle grid, cross the two stiles alongside it and then follow the tree lined path to another stile into another wooded area.

Follow the meandering path through the trees to another stile, turn left after the stile, Be aware that you are now entering a golf course, and the first ascent of the walk. At the top of the hill be sure to take in the spectacular view before bearing left, and then turning right.

Walk with the hedge line on your right, and then continue in more or less a straight line, taking care on the golf fairways, to the stile in the hedge in front of you. After the stile bear right across the field to a field gate in the right hand corner.

Go through this gate, turn right and follow the drive downhill to the road. At the end of the drive turn left, and continue up the road. There are no pavements so take extra care. Look out for the stile which lead to a stile by the big oak tree on your left.
Follow these waymarks:

- On the coast Path
- On other Paths