



Royal
Geographical
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with IBG

Not just another Devon seaside resort

A self guided walk around Teignmouth



Become a landscape detective and uncover Teignmouth's secrets
Find out how names, buildings and streets reveal the town's past
Discover how the sea, river and moors shaped local people's lives
Explore a dramatic physical landscape and spectacular estuary

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the stories of our landscapes
discovered through walks





This booklet is to be used alongside the audio commentary for this walk

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Not just another Devon seaside resort

Discover a different side to Teignmouth

Introduction

What do you associate with Devon? Perhaps seaside holidays in places like Torquay, driving over the moors of Dartmoor, or sampling the county's famous cream teas!

Few people will think of Teignmouth. This walk gives you the opportunity to discover why it is more than just another Devon seaside resort.



The beach at Teignmouth (c.1850)
Lithograph by Thomas Hewitt Williams
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Discover a dramatic physical landscape of steep valleys, hidden streams, crumbling cliffs, sand banks and a spectacular estuary. Find out how the town has been built on drained marshes and reclaimed sand dunes and protected from the sea by a seawall and flood defences. Explore how the town's position by the moors, river and sea has provided a livelihood for its people over the centuries.

This walk is about being a landscape detective – looking for clues in the lie of the land, in buildings and architectural styles, in street layouts and street names, in pub names and shop fronts – that help us to understand the past and present of the town.

Route overview



Stopping points

1. Teign Heritage Centre
2. Anchor beside Exeter Road
3. Promenade beside St Michael's Church
4. Junction of Regent Street and French Street
5. The Triangle (junction of Regent Street and Station Road)
6. Above railway cutting, Exeter Road
7. Bridge over railway, Fore Street
8. Junction of Fore Street, Teign Street, Bank Street and Somerset Place
9. Smoke house, Sun Lane
10. Former fish store, Willow Street
11. Junction of Quay Road and Gales Hill
12. New Quay Inn
13. End of the New Quay
14. Teign View Place, Back Beach
15. Morgans Quay, Back Beach
16. Shaldon ferry departure point, Lifeboat Lane
17. Point car park, The Strand
18. Promenade near the first kiosk
19. Promenade near the pier
20. Promenade near the pier

Practical information

Location	Teignmouth, Devon, South West England
Getting there	<p>Train - served by long distance services from London Paddington, Leeds, Manchester and Edinburgh. Also served by local trains running between Torbay and Exmouth via Newton Abbot and Exeter.</p> <p>Car - About 6 miles from Newton Abbot which is on the main A380 Exeter to Torquay road. Town and seafront parking available (charges apply).</p> <p>Bus - Served by long distance coaches plus local routes running from Exeter, Newton Abbot and Torquay.</p>
Start point & postcode	Teign Heritage Centre, 23 French Street, TQ14 8ST
Directions from railway station to start	Use the pedestrian islands to cross the road outside the station then bear left towards the large anchor beside the roundabout. Teigh Heritage Centre is the white building behind the anchor.
Finish point	Teignmouth Pier, TQ14 8BB
Onward journey	The route is almost circular. To return to the Teign Heritage Centre please use the directions on page 13.
Distance	1 ½ miles
Level	Gentle – A relatively flat route around the town and along the promenade

Conditions

The section of the walk along the Back Beach (Stops 14 to 17) can be impassable at high tides - alternative directions are provided.

Suitable for

Families - plenty for children to enjoy but take care at the water's edge

Dogs - should be kept on a lead in the town and are only allowed on beaches at certain times of year (check notices)

Wheelchairs and pushchairs - there is one set of steps at Willow Street. Step-free alternative directions are given.

Refreshments

There are various cafés, pubs and restaurants in the town and seafront

Facilities

Public toilets are available at the following locations:

- Jubilee Shelter, East Cliff walk (near Stop 3)
- Lower Brook Street (near Stops 2 and 6)
- Beside Brunswick Street car park (near Stops 12 and 13)
- Lifeboat Station (Easter–Sept only) (after Stop 16)
- The Den under Beachcomber Café (near Stops 19 and 20)

Other info

Teign Heritage Centre is open Tuesdays to Saturdays (from 8am-5pm Apr-Sept) and 8am to 4.30pm Oct-Nov). Closed Mondays except Bank Holidays (Tel: 01626 777041)

Teignmouth to Shaldon ferry sailings are subject to weather and tides. First sailing 8am, last sailing time varies throughout the year (Tel: 07896 711822)

Tourist information

Teignmouth Tourist Information Centre (Tel: 01626 215666)
Located at The Den next to the bowling green.



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These directions are for use with the Teignmouth walk audio commentary. Listen to each track then read the directions below to get to the next stop.

1. Welcome to Teignmouth

Teign Heritage Centre, 23 French Street

Directions 1

Cross the road to the large decorated anchor and listen to Track 2.

2. A hidden river

Anchor beside Exeter Road

Directions 2

Cross back over the road towards the Heritage Centre then walk towards the church with a tower. Go through the church gate and walk past the right hand side of the church. Leave the churchyard by the next gate. Cross the road (Den Promenade) and go up the ramp onto the seawall. Stop by the information board and about the church to listen to Track 3

3. A precarious position

Promenade beside St Michael's Church

Directions 3

Retrace your steps down the ramp from the sea wall and go diagonally across the road into Regent Street. After 20 metres the roads splits with Dawlish Street on the right (where the traffic goes) and Regent Street ahead. Follow Regent Street for another 20 metres to where French Street bears off to the right. At the junction is a grassy area surrounded by a wall. Stop here and listen to Track 4.

4. England's last invasion

Junction of Regent Street and French Street

Directions 4

Continue along Regent Street for another 100 metres or so to a place where various roads merge at an open area known as the Triangle. Stop at the end of Station Road on the right hand side and listen to Track 5.

5. Reclaiming the land

The Triangle (junction of Regent Street and Station Road)

Directions 5

From WH Smiths go right round the corner into Lower Brook Street. Follow it round to the right (under the arch) then turn left up Bickford Lane. Pass through the Co-op supermarket car park up to the A379 main road. Use the crossing to the right, then turn left onto a pathway by a stone wall. Stop by the wall where you have a view into the railway cutting below and listen to Track 6.

6. Steep slopes and level tracks

Above railway cutting, Exeter Road

Directions 6

Continue along the path with the railway on your right. At the end turn right up Fore Street. Stop on the railway bridge looking at the church up the road ahead and listen to Track 7.

7. A better position

Bridge over railway, Fore Street

Directions 7

Retrace your steps back to the main road. Cross over carefully opposite the fire station and turn right. Follow the pavement around to the right. At the gap in the railings opposite the Baptist Church cross over and then bear left onto the continuation of Fore Street. After about 50 metres Fore Street becomes Somerset Place. Where Bank Street goes off to the left and Teign Street to the right, stop and listen to Track 8.

8. An expanding town

Junction of Fore Street, Teign Street, Bank Street and Somerset Place

Directions 8

From the junction go along pedestrianised Teign Street. After about 50 metres is a modern building on the right called Pellew House and opposite is a narrow alley called Sun Lane. Go down Sun Lane, round the corner to an old building with a stone lower half painted white and a wooden upper part painted black. Stop here and listen to Track 9.

9. Fishy business

Smoke House, Sun Lane

Directions 9

Retrace your steps along Sun Lane then turn left along Teign Street. Pass the front arch of the Thomas Luny House on the left and the Teign Brewery on the right. At the junction with Quay Road, cross over to the white building and white perimeter wall. With the wall on your right follow the road into a narrow lane leading to Willow Street. Follow the lane round to the left. Stop where the lane turns right outside the large building with barred windows which is now used as a funeral directors and bowling club. Listen to Track 10.

10. Crossing the ocean

Former fish store, Willow Street

Directions 10

Go down the steps to the left of the Fish Store. At the bottom turn left into Old Quay Street then right into Quay Road passing warehouses on your right and a car park on your left. When you have walked almost the full length of the car park look for a road on the right called Gales Hill. Stop here and listen to Track 11.

To avoid the steps: retrace your way back along the lane that led to Willow Street. Quay Road is straight ahead.

11. Rat Island

Junction of Quay Road and Gales Hill

Directions 11

Turn along Gales Hill past the old fish stores and Ye Olde Jolly Sailor pub on the left. Note the new flood defence wall on the right by Fisherman's Quay. At the end where the road turns left into Osmonds Lane is the New Quay Inn. There is a poem painted on the wall. Stop beside this and listen to Track 12.

12. Ode to The Teign

New Quay Inn (corner of Gales Hill and Osmond's Lane)

Directions 12

Walk across the beach in front of the New Quay Inn then turn right onto the New Quay. Stop at the end overlooking the estuary and listen to Track 13.

Note: At the time of checking this walk in July 2012 there were works along the quayside between Gales Hill and Queen Street. When the works have finished it should be possible to walk along the beach or quayside in front of the New Quay Inn. If the path is blocked however use the following route: From the Keats poem go along Osmonds Lane at the side of the New Quay Inn. Turn right into Northumberland Place. After about 25 metres turn right into New Quay Street. Walk to the New Quay pub at the end and then out to the end of the New Quay.

13. Stone, clay and wood

End of the New Quay

Directions 13

Go round the other side of the New Quay to the Ship Inn. Turn right and go down the ramp onto the beach. The buildings on the left are the back of the houses accessed from Teign View Place. Stop outside these houses and listen to Track 14.

Note: At high tide you may not be able to walk along the beach here. Go up Queen Street at the side of the Ship Inn then turn right onto Northumberland Place. Turn right down Ivy Lane and stop at the shoreline.

14. Fighting the Tide

Teign View Place, Back Beach

Directions 14

Continue along the beach. Stop on the raised walkway in front of the modern development of Morgan's Quay, noticing the large jetties at right angles to the walkway, and listen to Track 15.

Note: If the tide is too high or you do not want to walk along the beach, go up Ivy Lane and turn right along the Strand. The other side of Morgans Quay is on the right.

15. Torpedo boats and luxury yachts

Morgans Quay, Back Beach

Directions 15

Continue along the walkway and beach to the ferry departure point at the end of Lifeboat Lane. Stop here and listen to Track 16.

Note: If you are taking the alternative route away from the shore, continue along the Strand. At the end go straight on at No Through Road signs. At the RNLI Lifeboat Station follow the road around to the right. Stop at the shore and listen to Track 16.

16. Crossing the estuary

Shaldon ferry departure point, Lifeboat Lane

Directions 16

From the shore, go along Lifeboat Lane. Go up the ramp to the right of the Lifeboat Station and carefully cross the car park to the railings overlooking the sea. Stop here and listen to Track 17.

17. Sand and spit

Point car park, The Strand

Directions 17

Follow the railings with the sea on your right. Walk through the car park and onto the promenade with the sea on your right. Pass the small lighthouse and skate park. Stop near the first turreted kiosk and listen to Track 18.

18. A fashionable resort

Promenade near the first kiosk

Directions 18

Continue along the promenade towards the pier. Stop shortly after the pier near the Teignbridge notice board and listen to Track 19.

19. Bathing and flooding

Promenade near the pier

Directions 19

Remain on the Promenade near the Pier and listen to Track 20.

20. Hidden stories

Promenade near the pier

Directions 20

You can enjoy the seafront or explore more of the town from here.

To return to the railway station, continue along the Promenade as far as the next turreted kiosk. Turn left past the kiosk and over the steps/ramp to Den Promenade. Cross the road and parking area then go along the alleyway at the side of the fish and chip shop called The Street With No Name. At the junction with Regent Street go straight across into French Street. At the end of French Street is the Teign Heritage Centre where you started the walk. The station is across the road.

Credits

The RGS-IBG would like to thank the following people and organisations for their assistance in producing this Discovering Britain walk:

- **Pat Wilson** for creating the walk, taking photographs and providing the audio commentary
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There is a tremendous variety within our shores – whether in the countryside, in towns and cities or at the seaside. And every landscape has a story to tell about our past and present.

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