

Some stages of the South West Coast Path in England

The name says it all: a path along a southwest coast, in this case that of England. Along the coast of counties such as Cornwall, Devon and Somerset. In total more than 1000 km or 630 miles long fully signposted. When saying the names of these counties out loud and having to rethink units for almost everything, you realize that you are really in England! However, walking on the left on this walking route is not (yet) mandatory. Which is not really possible, because large parts of the route only consist of a path of

The famous English painter Thomas Gainsborough said of the stage town of Lynmouth: "*the most delightful place for a landscape painter*". A beautiful coastal town where, even as a hiker, you should definitely use *The famous Lynton and Lynmouth funicular Cliff Railway*. A kind of public lift, made of robust English steel, which climbs a dune (the) of the coast via a rack railway and where many English families shout "hurray" after the short ride, arriving at the top. It provides a beautiful view! On this peninsula, in Victorian times, the hills and dunes were described as "Little Switzerland".so recognizable...



‘South West Coast Path’

Landscape of 'Outstanding Natural Beauty'

Cornwall, with its palm trees the self-proclaimed subtropical corner of England, but where the weather can be just as bad as in the rest of the country. Nevertheless, it offers the hiker a lot of hiking pleasure. This longest *national trail* in the country leads along and over steep and high cliffs with mostly magnificent views of the ocean (the Celtic Sea or Bristol Channel). Every day the area offers new experiences and vistas.

The route crosses a number of national parks and areas designated as *Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty*. This gives room for making **combinations**: a stretch along the coast and then through a National Park inland. This can be done, for example, with a trip through part of the Exmoor National Park, via part of the equally well-known walking route the *Two Moors Way* and then a piece of *Coast Path*.

The route has steep drops and rises at times. Because of the so-called "combes". Rivers, which flowed into the ocean here for centuries, have created heavily eroded valleys. This has also searched for the names of many port towns through which the route runs. For the hiker, this means that "bumps" have to be overcome.

In this valley is suddenly the *Culbone Church*, the smallest (*parish*) church in England, which dates from the 12th century. Preserving, preserving and cherishing legacies from the past: leave that to the English. This can also be seen in the often beautiful old buildings in the idyllic port towns through which the route runs.



'South West Coast Path' Devonshire

Upon arrival at *Tintagel Castle*, the highlight of England's cherished past is clearly visible. It is said that King Arthur was conceived here, or washed up on the waves of the sea – opinions differ – and has been cared for by Merlin since childhood. *Merlin's cave* – a sea cave – is prominent here and can still be admired! During your walking tour, take the time to let the story told here sink in.

General tips

- Heaviness: a good condition is required. The route also has moments that are not really suitable for people with a fear of heights;
- Starting point: the route is not tied to a specific starting point. You can start anywhere, possibly depending on the number of days you wish to walk;



Illfracombe, once an important port town



Culbone church

