

FREE



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Discover Brixham's Secrets...

Buccaneers Way



Start/finish

Prince William of Orange statue, the Quay, Brixham. A lovely circular walk back through time of approximately 2 miles/1 hour with wonderful views over the town, harbour and Bay.

Please note: There is a large flight of steps to go down along the way, but there is a handrail!



Discover Brixham's Secrets...

Buccaneers Way

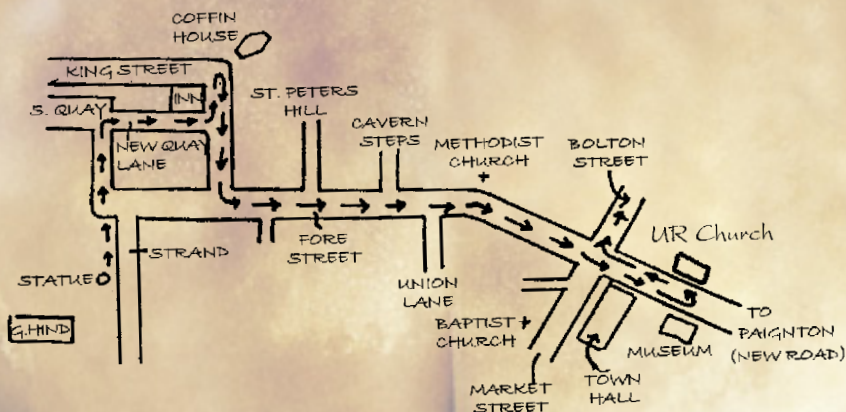
The walk starts from the Prince William of Orange statue which was erected in 1888 at the cost of 700 pounds to mark the 200th anniversary of his landing in Brixham (in 1689 he went on to jointly reign with this Protestant wife Mary). With the Golden Hind replica behind you, stroll towards the Southern Quay (you will probably see artists at work!).

Take the narrow road on your right (New Quay Lane), notice the clothes line stretching from one side of the street to the other. You will now have reached King Street and across the road is "Ye Olde Coffin House" (currently "Destiny"). The story goes that a father, on being told by his daughter that she wished to marry a young man whom he considered unsuitable, said he would rather see her in a coffin first, so the young man built the house in the shape of a coffin, the couple married and lived there happily ever after!

Walk downhill and turn left (noting the benchmark) into Fore Street. This, the main shopping area, is very colourful in summer with its floral displays and pavement cafes. Watch for St. Peter's Hill on your left and the tiled name sign. Why not complete the checklist of all these special named signs? See the inside back cover for details.



The Coffin House



Soon you will pass the Methodist Church, built for £3000 in 1816. Opposite the church, the Cooperative store occupies the building that used to house Brixham's Cinema. The cinema closed in 1966. Ahead there are the traffic lights at Bolton Cross. Straight across is New Road which leads to Torquay and Paignton.



As you cross over to New Road, the Baptist Church is on your right. In medieval times a ferry used to ply from the Smuggler's Haunt (on your right) to the Bolton Hotel (on your left). When the foundations for the Baptist Church were laid, the silted bottom proved too soft, and the church had to be built on piles sunk into the harder rock below. Also on your right, you can see the tower of All Saints Church. A visit to the church is a recommended extension to "Blackbeard's Trail", a wonderful walk that also starts on the harbourside and goes up the other side of the town and harbour.

On the corner of Market Street and New Road stands the town hall opened on October 1st 1886, which houses amongst other things a theatre with which John Slater (Sgt. Stone in BBC TV's Z-Cars) was associated for several years. The Town Hall architect was also the designer of the original Oldway Mansion in Paignton. Look for the blue plaque on the building to find out more!

A stream used to flow down where Bolton Street is now, to a reservoir (constructed 1801) where the Town Hall now stands. The water was pumped to King's Quay to provide fresh water for the boats anchored there. Just beyond the Town Hall is the Heritage Museum which is open throughout the summer and is well worth a visit, being much bigger than the outside might suggest!

Returning to the crossroads it is time to explore Bolton Street. (Look for the blue and white tiled name sign.) As you stroll up the street look for another tiled name sign on your left (Cavern Road). Here at Cavern Mews is the site of Brixham's first police station (until circa 1902.)

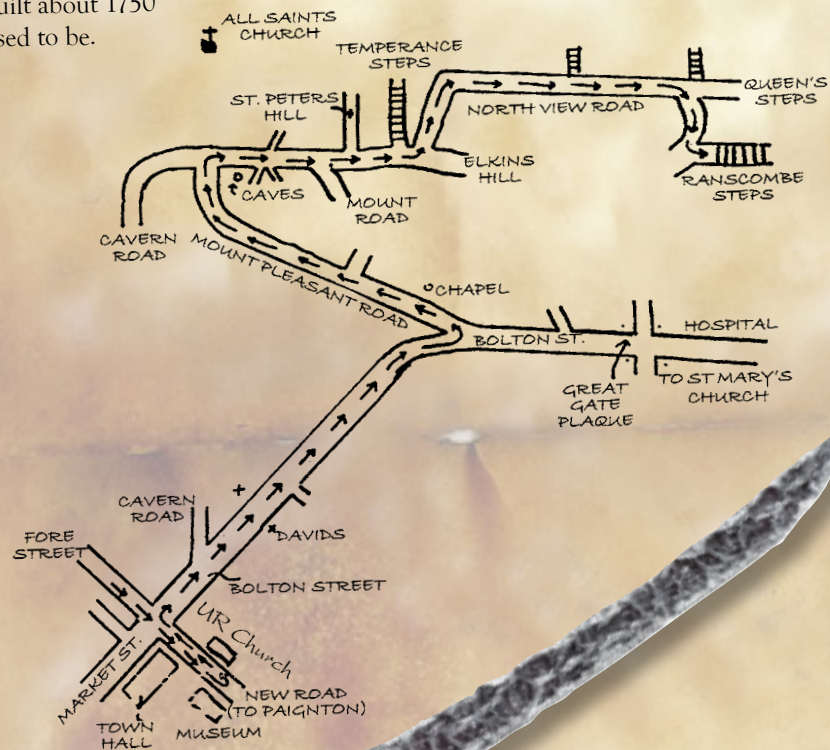
Further up Bolton Street is another benchmark. Look out for a shop called David's at No. 43, the home of a Buccaneer "No Eyes Ron". Pop in for a friendly chat or for the guide to the "Blackbeard's Trail" walk. Don't miss the "Life at Sea" exhibition inside the shop.



Brixham Heritage Museum

The building almost opposite David's was the United Reformed Church until 2010.

You will shortly turn left into Mount Pleasant Road (and look for another tiled name sign slightly masked by foliage) but before doing so, notice the traffic lights at the end of Bolton Street. These are at the crossroads where the "Great Gate", a former toll gate built about 1750 used to be.



Strolling up Mount Pleasant Road you pass a small chapel on your right. This is the Beacon of Light, and is where the Buccaneers meet on winter Thursdays! Continue until you reach a T-junction. Cavern Road is on your left and All Saints Church is straight ahead.



All Saints Church, Brixham.

Continue along the road and when you reach the junction with Mount Road, keep left, the road dips slightly and there is another tiled name sign to spot. Watch for St Peter's Hill on your left. Here was a small church, now closed (St Peter the Fisherman) which was built for the fishing community. Continue past two houses on your left. Just after Temperance Place the road climbs steeply (Elkins Hill). Avoid this by bearing left into North View Road from which superb views of the harbour area are obtained. Be careful not to miss the tiled name sign - it is halfway along on your right. At the end of North View Road the road climbs steeply and bears to the right. When the road finally makes a hairpin bend take a path on the left. This leads to Ranscombe Steps (which have a handrail). Enjoy the views!

Look for the tiled name sign as you reach the bottom of the steps. You will emerge at Ranscombe Road. Notice opposite the tiny entrance to Heath Road. Turn left down Ranscombe Road - views all the way!

When you reach a mini roundabout decide how much more time you would like to spend on the walk. By turning left you can enjoy pleasant views and be back at the Statue in 5 minutes. However it is worthwhile continuing the walk as follows. Firstly, look for two tiled name signs - then turn right (signposted "marina") along Berry Head Road.



The Cottage Hospital and District Nursing Institute was in Cavern Road until 1928.

Turn right and soon you will see No. 107 Mount Pleasant Road on your right. Here is the entrance to Brixham Cavern. (Unfortunately, although of great interest, these caves haven't been open to the public since 1977.) The cavern is 135 feet from north to south, and 100 feet from east to west, and was discovered by accident when a workman went to recover a tool which had disappeared down a fissure in the rock!

Continue along the road and when you reach the junction with Mount Road, keep left, the road dips slightly and there is another tiled name sign



Statue of Prince William of Orange



Soon on your left you will see Grenville House Outdoor Activity Centre, formerly known as Grenville House British Seamen's Boy's Home, opened in 1863. Beyond this is the war memorial, with splendid views of the Breakwater, Freshwater Quarry Cliffs and Torquay. Take the road to the left, this leads to the Breakwater Hard. Here is a car park and a pleasant beach. A café and toilets (both seasonal) are nearby.

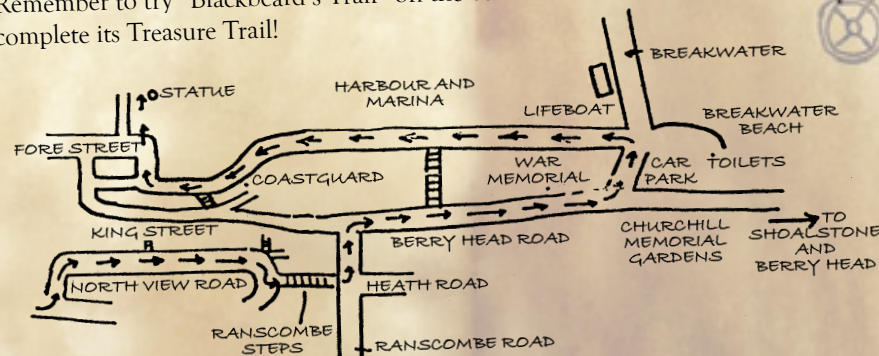
The walk along Breakwater (which is 3000 ft long and was complete in 1916) is very rewarding if time allows. The lighthouse at the end of the Breakwater was the last oil-operated lighthouse in England. It was replaced by an electric lamp in 1984.



Grenville House

Look out for the Baywalk plaques on the Breakwater itself. The walkway back to Brixham Harbour is a delight, passing the Lifeboat station and the Marina. Reflect that it was on this site that the "Mayflower II" (a replica of the Pilgrim Father's craft) was built for £75,000. This crossed the Atlantic Ocean on 1957 under the command of Commander Alan Villiers. Soon, with wonderful views all the way, you return to the starting point.

Remember to try "Blackbeard's Trail" on the other side of the harbour and complete its Treasure Trail!



Breakwater Beach



Checklist Here is a list of 11 tiled street name sign you will pass when walking Buccaneers Way. How many can you spot?

- St Peter's Hill
- Cavern Steps
- Union Lane
- Bolton Street
- Cavern Road
- Mount Pleasant Road (West End)

- Mount Pleasant Road (East End)
- North View Road
- Ranscombe Steps
- Ranscombe Road
- King Street

The Brixham Buccaneers hope you have enjoyed your walk! Donations are welcome for this leaflet. Please ask where you picked up your copy. Walking regularly will improve your health and that of the town by keeping driving to a minimum. Aim to walk as far as you can, building it up each walk.

Too far to walk back? Why not hop on a local bus. There are many bus stops along the walks all with frequent buses too. For times, phone 0871 200 22 33.

Why not try these walks?

- Blackbeard's Trail
- Brixham Breakwater 1 mile round robin
- Paignton Green - Circular one mile walk
- Torquay Harbour to / from Paignton Harbour (3/4 mile)



Don't want to walk alone!

Bay Walks are free and supervised. They are great for getting healthier and meeting new people. They're fun and sociable and the places you can discover are amazing!

Bay Walks are graded to allow you to choose the one that's right for you. SHORT walks are ideal for beginners, those recovering from surgery or for those with mobility limitations.

For more info on Bay Walks, phone 01803 321867 or visit www.torbaycaretrust.nhs.uk

The Brixham Buccaneers' pirate trails are supported by:

Brixham Town Council		Torbay Council
Brixham Community Partnership	The Brixham Chamber of Trade	English Riviera Tourism Company
Brixham Museum	The Golden Hind	Ghost Walk
Sheepskin and Suede Shop	Smuggler's Story	Torbay Care Trust

Original artwork by Daphne Van Marle

Special thanks to DJ Crony - for supplying the text and putting the walks together

Brixham Visitor Information Point (Open all year)

Located within Hobb Nobs Gift Shop, 19-20 The Quay, Brixham, TQ5 8AW. Tel: 0844 474 2233

For more information visit www.brixhambuccaneers.co.uk



South Devon Healthcare **NHS**
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Thank you to: Joe Brown (Spiral Studio) for the waymark sign design