



Torbay Coast &  
Countryside Trust

# Visual Guide

This information is designed to help you prepare for a visit to **Berry Head National Nature Reserve** in Torbay.

Created by

Heritage  
Ability



A project by the English Riviera UNESCO  
Global Geopark



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



English Riviera  
UNESCO  
Global Geopark

# General Information

Berry Head is a National Nature Reserve in Brixham. It is open to the public all year round and is free to visit, parking is chargeable.

You can enjoy superb coastal walks, and spot a wide range of wildlife on land or at sea.

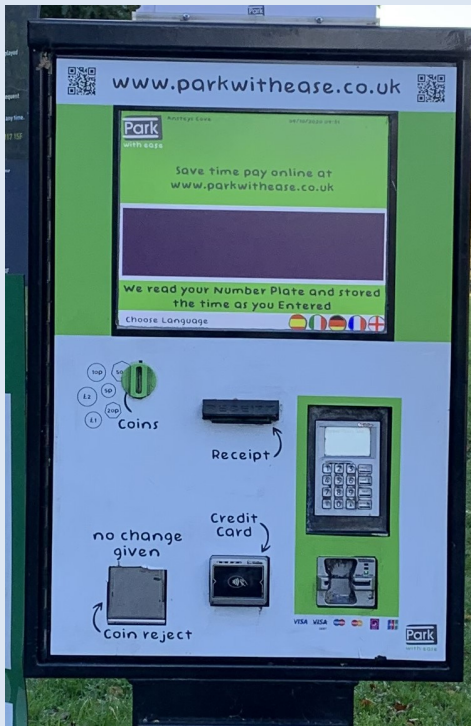
At Berry Head there is over 170 acres of diverse habitat and wildlife, fascinating history and stunning scenery. You will find two garrison forts, dating back to 1795 and a working lighthouse. There is also a bird hide for spotting the protected guillemot colony that live and breed on the cliffs here.



Dogs are welcome but may need to be kept on leads in certain areas where livestock are present (see signs on site).

There is level access to much of the site with tarmac or laid paths into both the North and South Forts.

# Getting there



Berry Head is easily accessible by car. You will drive down a narrow lane with passing bays before reaching the car park.

There is a pay on exit car park. When leaving simply enter your vehicle registration into the machine and pay the amount required.

## Charges:

1 hour	£1.50
2 hours	£3.00
3 hours	£4.50
4 hours and over	£6.00



There is ample car parking including 4 accessible bays.

# Facilities



There are toilets in the building to the back of the car park.

The toilets are open most of the year between 8am and 5pm. These times may vary.



There is an accessible toilet, two ladies toilets and one gents.

# Exploring Berry Head



As you exit the car park you will see a cattle grid with gates on either side.



The gate is easy to open, there is a large handle you can pull at the top of the gate or a 2 way latch which can easily be accessed by wheelchair users.



Follow the path directly in front of you as you walk through the gate.



At the end the path splits into two directions.

The path on the left leads you to the quarry, we would not recommend this route for disabled visitors or those with limited mobility due to the rocky terrain.

Follow the main route to the right which takes you to the visitor centre and cafe.



Continue down the path to the North Fort.

You will walk through another gate with a lift latch.



As you enter the North Fort you will see the visitor centre on your right. The Guardhouse Café is behind the visitor centre.

The visitor centre is usually open from Easter holidays until October half term. However due to Covid-19 restrictions the visitor centre is currently closed.



To enter the café go to the left of the visitor centre.

If you need help entering the café please alert a member of staff who will be happy to assist.

The café is currently operating a takeaway service.



Customers should wear masks inside the café.

The café are operating the track and trace system, the QR code is available on the front door and at the till point.

Café opening times vary so do check their website for the latest updates:

[www.guardhousecafe.com](http://www.guardhousecafe.com)



At the back of the visitor centre and café you can follow the route across the grass to the Bird Hide.

There is a slightly uneven surface upon entering the path.



The path down to the Bird Hide slopes down and there is a left turn near the bottom of the path.



There is level access in the Bird Hide.

It is a fantastic spot to view the guillemot colony and other wildlife.



Make your way back to the front of the visitor centre and continue on the main path towards the headland.

You will pass the Artillery Store, that is normally open to visit and contains information about the greater horse shoe bats, that also live at Berry Head. It is currently closed because of COVID19 restrictions.



You will see the lighthouse on your left as you continue forward.

It is the shortest, highest and deepest lighthouse in the country!

The pathway is slightly rocky and uneven as you get closer to the lighthouse.



At the end of the headland is a compass set in stone.

Look around for fantastic views of Torbay and see if you can spot the wildlife; from up to 200 different species of bird to the charming harbour porpoise.



From here, continue on the main path back towards the car park.

Before you reach the final set of gates you will see another narrower path.

This path leads to the South Fort.



There is a bridge to enter the South Fort. Unfortunately part of it is currently inaccessible so the bridge is narrower than normal.



There is no set route or path to follow around the South Fort so it mainly involves walking on grass. The ground is uneven in places.

Exit the South Fort back across the bridge.



You can turn left after the bridge and walk through the gate to follow the path around the Fort.

The path is narrow and the terrain is rocky in places so this route is not accessible for wheelchair users.

There is one other gate to go through and when you reach the end of the path you can turn back and return to the South Fort entrance.



A small team of rangers and volunteers support the running of the site.

Our staff and volunteers can be recognised by their branded clothing.

They will be happy to assist you if needed.



We hope you enjoy your visit.

**This visual guide is part of a suite prepared for the English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark and funded by Torbay Council's Voluntary and Community Sector Covid 19 Grants Scheme as part of the Geopark Covid Transformation Project 2020**



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**For more information about Heritage Ability, visit [www.heritageability.org](http://www.heritageability.org)**



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