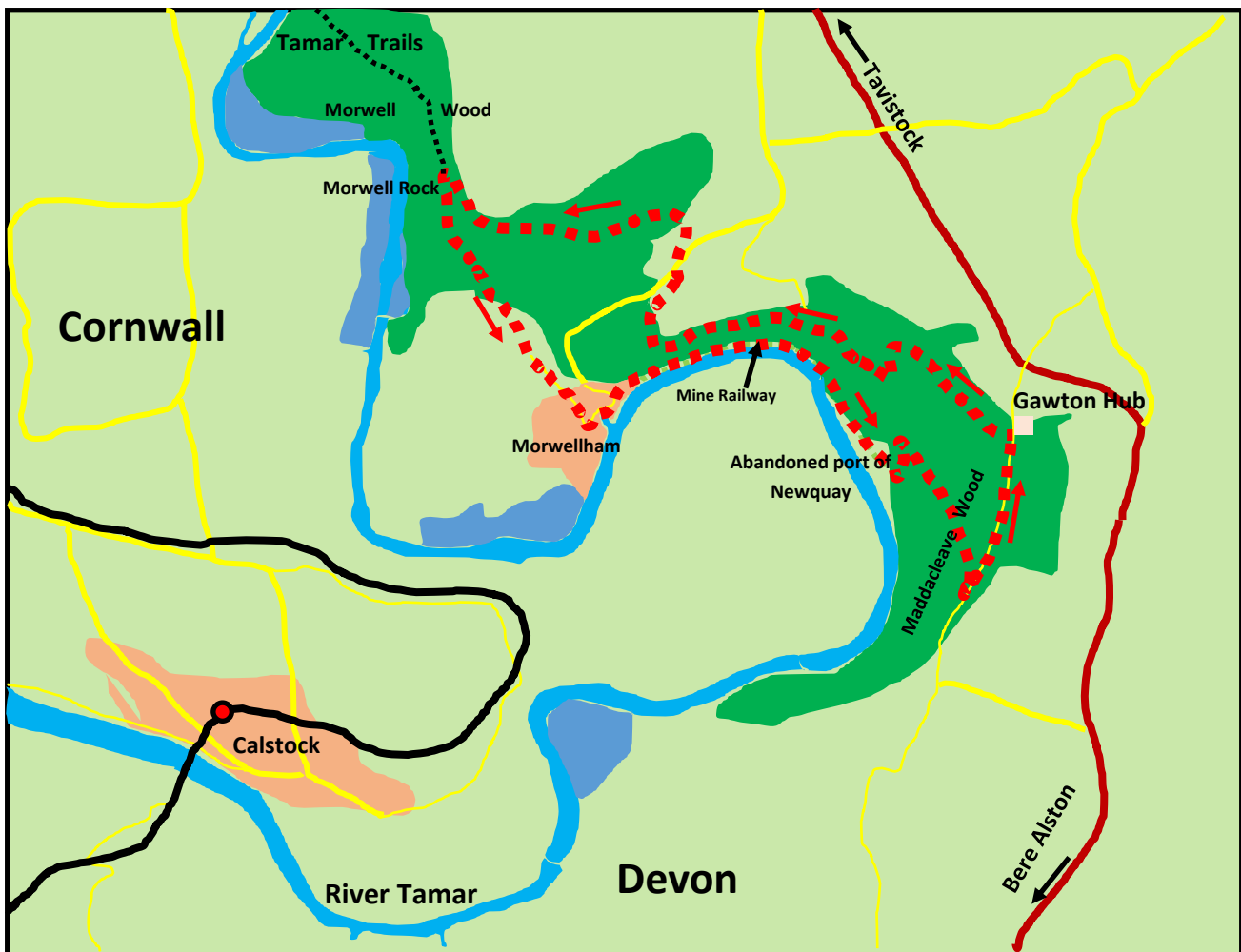


Walk 5 Morwellham

Morwellham was once just a small port and quay serving Tavistock but in the late 18th and early 19th century it was substantially increased in size to cope with the export of copper tin arsenic and manganese from the local mines especially Devon Consols mines which you will visit in **Walk 7**. Morwellham port and quay was once the largest copper quay in Europe employing hundreds of men women and children. A little further downstream you will pass by Newquay another abandoned quay that prospered greatly from the mining.

The walk is about 4.5 miles and starts at Maddacleave car park PL19 8JN , SX458696 also known as the Gawton Hub car park.





The photo is of Morwellham quay which you will pass through.

Starting out from Maddacleave car park walk back out of the of the car park and go straight across the access road.

Step through into the wood turn right and walk along to the next gate way.



With the gate behind you walk on down through the wood following a wide path. The path is used by cyclist but mainly for coming back up.

In Maddacleave Wood you are very likely to encounter cyclist tearing down woodland tracks. However if you keep to the route you should be safe enough.



Where there is a choice always follow the wider track that zig-zags downhill ignoring the left and right turns that are part of the downhill cycle tracks.

When the wide track splits in two keep right.



A little bit further on we turn very sharply right to go downhill but the change of direction is easy to miss. Look out for a marker post with a direction sign on it.

Go around the barrier and down to a much wider track.





When you reach the wider track turn right and follow the sign to Morwell Rocks and Morwellham



Stay on the track through a gate which is sometimes closed. About 100m further on a signpost on the right shows two ways to Morwell Rock and Morwellham we want the walkers route so here turn left.

The narrow path takes you through a gate and over a stream just behind it and then along a disused leat cut through the rock

A little bit further on the path makes a sharp right hand turn. Follow it around and through the wood.



Turn right when you reach a woodland road that leads to a reservoir that you may have seen on your left. The reservoir was built in the 1930's and feeds the power station below.

<https://www.southwestwater.co.uk/about-us/blog/blog-2014-year-page/happy-80th-birthday-morwellham/>

When you reach the main road turn right and then



A short way down this track you arrive at a bench next to a Tavistock Canal information board.

Go over the bridge to follow a woodland path passing on your way an inclined plane and an information board.

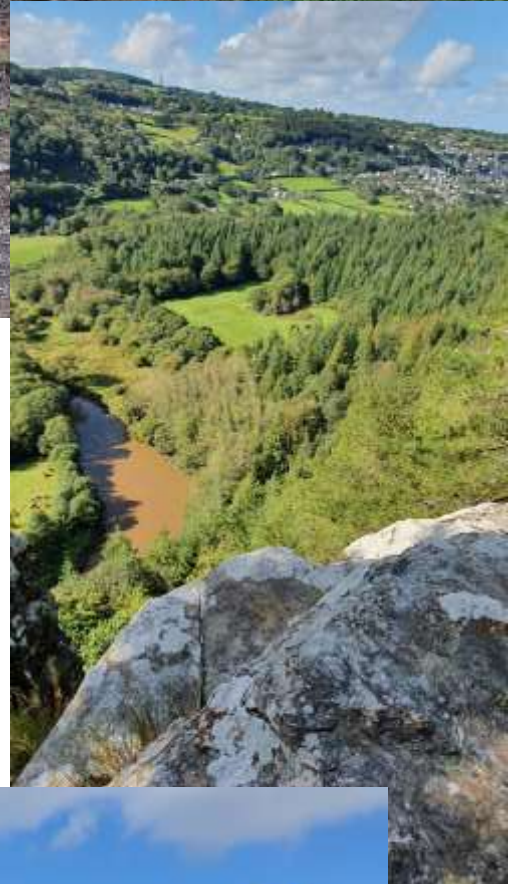




The path takes you through the woods all the way to Morwell Rock where you can and enjoy a very fine view but please stay behind the barrier it is a very very long way down.

Having taken in the view head off down hill to Morwellham. You will pass a sign to a wheel pit on your right which is worth visiting as a short excursion.

The path and then road will take you all the way down to Morwellham village passing a row of houses on the way.



Arriving in the village centre walk out of the village passing the Ship Inn on your left.



As the road climbs out of the village it makes a sharp left hand turn. Here go straight ahead towards George and Charlotte copper mine

(A sharper right turn is the access to the hydro-electric power station)



Walk on past the now rusting trains and on to the railway line which is a public footpath. Unless you have long legs to step on the sleepers it is not a particularly easy to walk on the track best keep to the right. Soon you pass the mine entrance with a mine shaft right next to it. Keep going.



A few yards past where the mine railway exits the tunnel the track starts to become overgrown. Here fork right to walk next to a wall.



Looking over the wall you will see two mooring bollards which are just about all that remains at this end of Newquay a now deserted village and port.



Continuing the walk go under the arch of the inclined plane

On your right you will see the old dock and overgrown buildings.

Passing the lime kilns on your left walk on up through the wood. It is now up hill all the way back to Maddacleave car park but you have just had a long level walk so you really can't complain. Stay on this track all the way up to a gate.





Go through the gate and then sharply left up the County road passing an old quarry on your right.

About 70m past the quarry go very sharply right. An easily missed turning. Look out for a post on your left.

Then carry on up hill in almost a straight line on this woodland track ignoring any sharp turns and at all junctions taking the uphill option in front of you.



As you walk up the hill you will be passing through another extensive mining area. This is Wheal Gawton mine or Bedford Consoles and is believed to date from 1635



When you reach a gate turn left and walk on up the woodland track and back to Maddacleave car park.