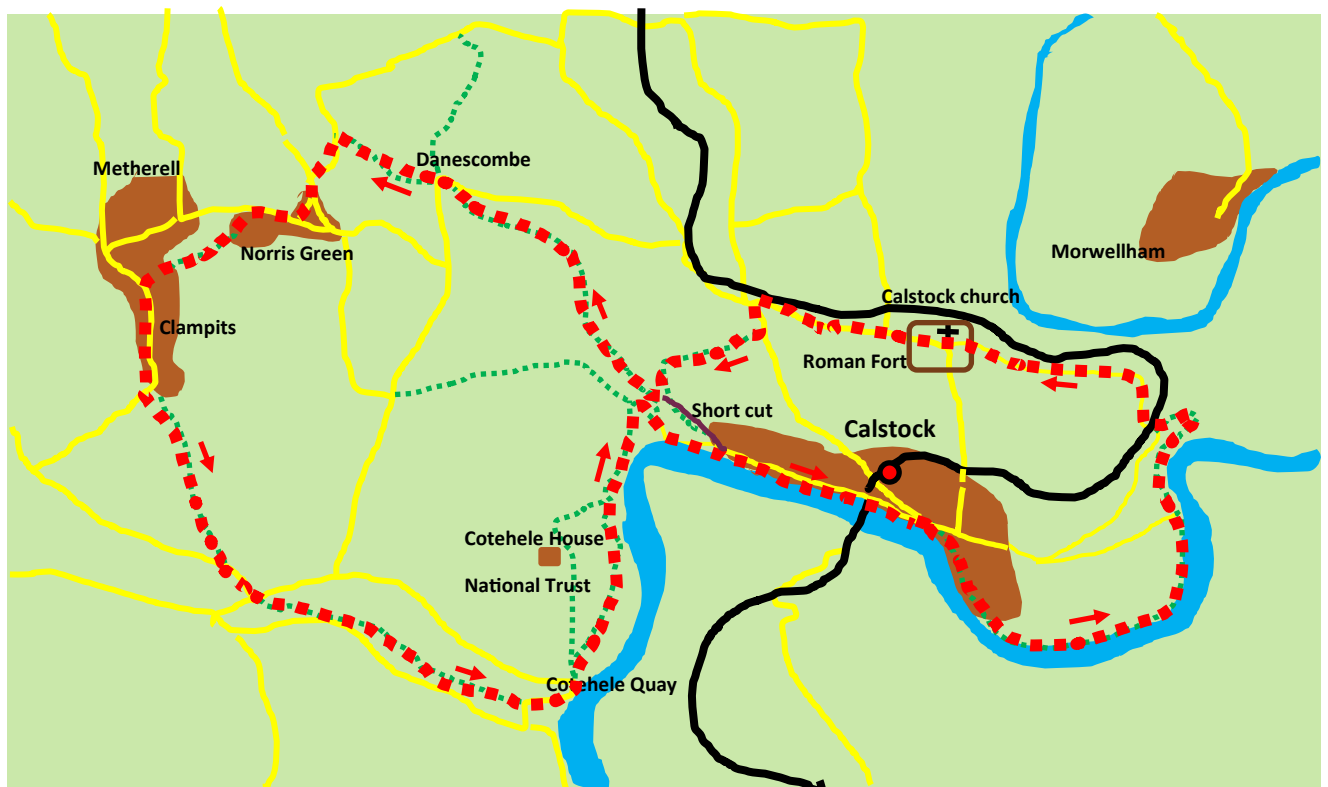


## Walk 4 Calstock and Cotehele

A 7 mile or 3 mile walk

Calstock's past was suddenly brought to life in 2007 when a previously unknown Roman fort was discovered quite by accident by a team of archaeologists from Exeter University who were hunting for a medieval ore smelting site. The long and shortcut walk both go past the site of the Roman Fort where you will also find an information board next to the church which is located high up overlooking the village. On the longer walk You will pass through the hamlet of Danescombe so called because it is said the Vikings came through here on their way to help the Cornish to defeat the Saxons at Hingston Down in 838. Unfortunately they lost. The long walk will also take you through the National Trust grounds of Cotehele House returning to Calstock via Cotehele Quay. The walk passes through the NT car park at Cotehele Quay so if you want to combine the walk with a visit to the house this would be the better place to park.



If you are not visiting Cotehele house start at the bus stop opposite the Tamar Inn in Calstock PL18 9QA SX SX435685 for the 7 mile walk returning via Cotehele Quay. The shortcut reduces the walk by about 4 miles. A good time to do this walk is the early spring to see all the daffodils.

To get to Calstock there is an hourly bus service from Callington and Tavistock as well as a railway station with trains from Plymouth via Gunnislake. If you are driving be aware that in the summer the village car park is often full.



Setting off from the bus stop take the path with the river on your right. Very quickly you will be walking along a very similar embankment to that which you walked along in **Walk 3**.

Ahead of you are the chimneys of Okel Tor Mine and Rumleigh brickworks. Go through the gate at the end of the embankment and start to walk on uphill passing the lime kilns on your left.







About 200m up the hill there is a right fork for the Okel Tor mine excursion. Its well worth doing, and you will be coming back here in order to continue on uphill. *Having explored Okel Tor mine, walked along the river bank and looked at all the information boards, and returned to this junction continue on uphill .*



At the top of the hill turn left and walk along to the level crossing. Cross over the railway and walk on up hill to the church (about 1k). Keep going past the church ignoring the left turn that will take you back down to the village.

On your left next to the cemetery is an information board that will tell you all about the 1st Century Roman occupation of the area.



Using the pavement on the other side of the road keep going for another 500m until you reach a T junction.





**Turn left to walk down hill but only for 120m**

**When you reach this tall building turn right to follow the direction of the footpath finger post. Its quite a narrow path which has a sharp left hand bend at the end.**

**Just past the bend you come to a footpath T junction here turn right**

**and walk on up to a bridge. Looking down you will see the route of the East Cornwall Mineral Railway line which is now a footpath and where we want to be. On the other side of the bridge take the steps on your left to get down to the footpath and when you reach it turn right and head off down hill to go over two bridges.**



**Having gone over the second bridge the path takes you down to a much wider track.**



**Short Walk** For the short walk **turn right**, passing this very fine view of the river and on reaching the road turn **left** and walk back into the village passing under Calstock viaduct. You do have some magnificent views of the river from this footpath



## Cotehele Loop

For those of you on the longer walk **turn left** and walk under the bridge that you have just walked over.



In about 150m on reaching this long straight track/driveway turn right. Part way along this track keep left at a fork and then staying on the wider path walk on to the Danescombe valley



and turn right.

Keeping the stream on your left walk in Viking footsteps all the way up to Danescombe







When you reach road at Danescombe turn left. Just past the white house the road bends sharply left.

Here turn right and then straightaway fork left and walk up the path between a barn and some cottages on your left.



After passing this rather sad building that was a paper mill in the 18th and 19th century

keep left and go up the hill on another woodland walk. You might want to pause for breath here before setting off as it is uphill all the way.

Passing through a kissing gate near the top of the wood you will then walk along the edge of a field soon reaching a road.





Having reached the road turn left and as there is quite a long slow right hand bend you will find it safer to stay on the left.

At the T junction turn left and walk up to the hamlet of Norris Green



Fork right



At the end of this short road turn right then in about 120m turn left into a small estate of mainly bungalows called Nichols Meadow.



In Nichols Meadow take the first right turn



walk between a fence and a hedge



through a gate and along the edge of a paddock.



On the other side of the paddock go through the gate and down the vehicle track for another 50m.





When the track makes a very sharp right turn keep straight on and go past a bollard and into Clampits part of the village of Metherell

Walk up past the cottages on the left and past the back of the Carpenters Arms pub on your right.

On arriving at a T junction turn left and stay on the road for 300m until it narrows and makes a sharp right turn.



As the road bends right go straight ahead over the stile by the gate and walk firstly along the edge of the field then when it opens out go straight across and down and over another small stile in the hedge.

When you get to a gap in the hedge on your left you have a choice of paths as they both end up at the same place. (the path through the wood on your left is less rugged)



When you reach the road turn left and stay on the road until you reach a T junction.





At the T junction go straight across and onto a National Trust permissive path that takes you down to a path by a fast flowing stream. With the stream on your right head off along the wide level track

passing



Cotehele Mill (open to NT members)

and

Cotehele bridge



soon arriving at Cotehele Quay



Having had a good look at the quay and all the buildings find the wide surfaced track that leads up into the woods from behind the car park. Ignoring any sign posts for Cotehele House and with the Tamar on your right take the track that leads back to Calstock. On your way you will pass a small chapel that was built by the



Edgcumbe family in memory of a daring escape by Sir Richard Edgcumbe from his pursuers in 1483.

Stay on the wider level track at all time ignoring any paths on the left or right.



When you reach the row of cottages turn right and again follow the river Tamar which has also made a sharp right turn.



Stay on the road all the way back to the village centre passing underneath Calstock Viaduct.