

Cost

For 2 people sharing a double or twin room, the cost of the 7-night course will be £795.00 per person; for single occupancy, the cost will be £895.00 per person.

What's included in the cost?

- The services of Chris Darmon as tutor who will be available to you at all reasonable times
- Accommodation and meals as specified in the brochure
- Admission charges to any museums/mines visited

What's excluded from the cost?

- The cost of travel between your home and West Cornwall and return
- Travel insurance
- Incidental expenses.

Insurance

Everyone booking a place and paying a deposit is advised to take out holiday insurance. This can cover you against loss of money in the event of cancellation etc. Cover is often included with many credit cards.

Booking

Your booking will be confirmed upon receipt of either a deposit of £250.00 per person or the full payment and a completed booking form. The balance will be payable February 29th 2012. The tour will run if there are 10 bookings by December 31st. 2011.

Your money...

Upon receipt, all monies paid for these tours are placed in a specific 'client trust account' where it cannot be drawn by us until after completion of the tour. This is in accordance with EU Directives and ensures that your money is safe in the unlikely event of corporate failure by Geo Supplies.

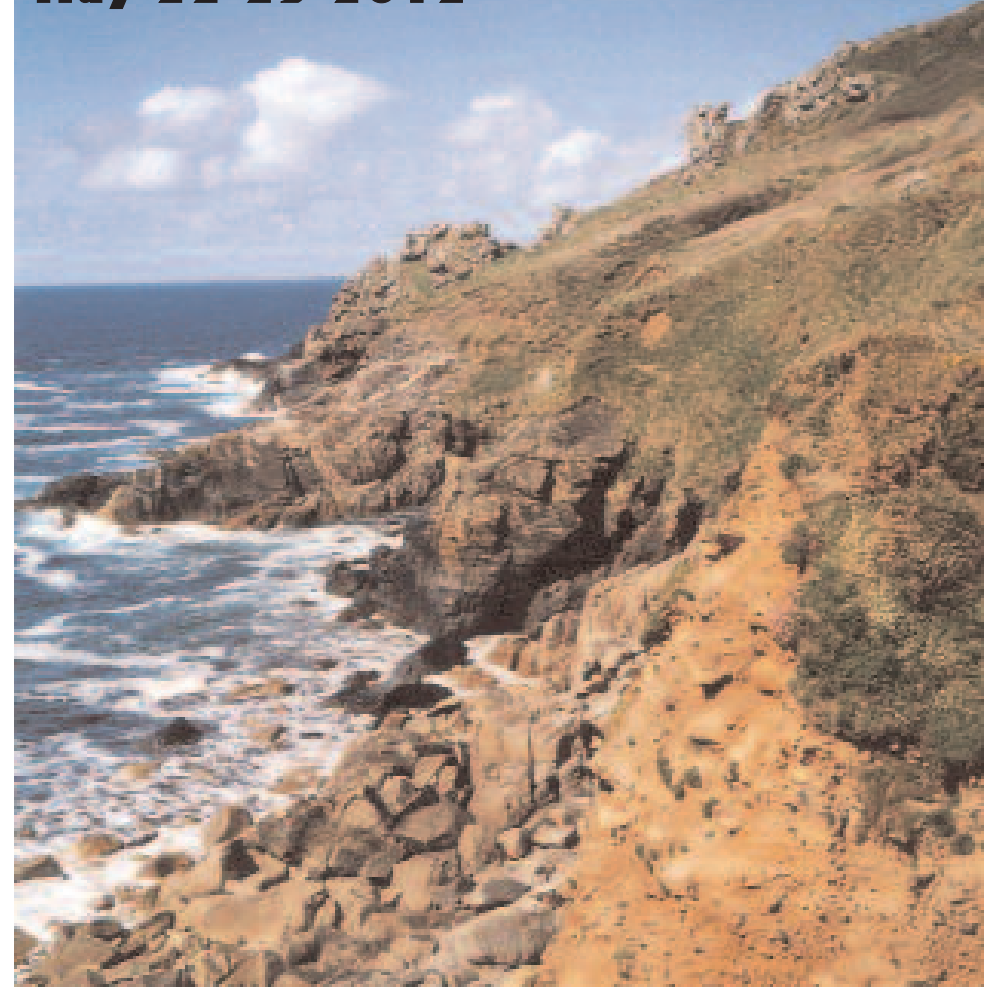
If you have any questions or queries after reading this brochure, please contact Chris Darmon. Email: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk



Down to Earth

"Earth science learning for all"

Geology Field Course to West Cornwall and The Lizard May 22-29 2012



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Down to Earth is a division of Geo Supplies Ltd.

An introduction to the course...

British Geological Survey has published a booklet on West Cornwall entitled: "West Cornwall, a landscape for leisure" and if ever there can be such a thing, West Cornwall undoubtedly has it! The coastal scenery with its rocky granite coves, is unique in the British Isles. Sandy bays, seem to attract quaint fishing villages like a magnet and everywhere is beautiful.

Our course, which will be based in the small town of Helston and world famous for its 'floral dance', will take in the best of Cornish geology from St Agnes in the North to Lands End in the West, to the Lizard in the South and along the way you will be able to experience a wide variety of different rocks and minerals and see some superb geological structures.

There are so many contrasts within a small area: the granites of Land's End, the mines of the North Coast, the sandy bays of Porthleven and the amazing rocks of the Lizard Peninsula. Here, you'll see rocks from an ancient ophiolite complex - including mantle peridotites, now altered to serpentine and a sheeted dyke swarm at Coverack.

Come and share this 'geological paradise' with me. You will enjoy the experience!



Chris Darmon BSc
Tour Organiser/Leader

The Geology

West Cornwall has such varied geology within a small area. Igneous rocks are well represented with basaltic pillow lavas near St. Ives and several granites, especially the Land's End boss. The granite landscape with its tors and acid soil and vegetation is so very special.

Minerals associated with the granites have produced tin and copper in large quantities from numerous mines in the area. The former Devonian sediments have been metamorphosed to slate, and often show folding and faulting. We'll be visiting the mines of the St. Just and St. Ives area and will take in Botallack Mine and the museum at Geevor. We'll also take you a unique tin stamp in the Blue Hills near to St. Agnes where you can see the only tin producing operation in Cornwall.

In the Lizard Peninsular we have preserved one of the finest examples of a slice through an ancient seafloor and into the upper parts of the mantle. This is an ancient ophiolite complex, associated with a former subduction zone. Rock types such as serpentine, as well as banded gneisses and pillow lavas are all exposed within a small area. In the melange you will see an amazing jumble of rock types - in short a geologist's paradise!

With so many different rock types this is a great area to see the rich diversity of the rock record and to take in the different field techniques we use to understand them. For those that wish, there will be plenty of hands-on opportunities. If you like field sketching or photography, there should be plenty for you on this tour with stunning coastal landscapes.

Getting There

West Cornwall can be reached easily by train from all parts of the UK, with the nearest mainline station being Redruth, from where there is a regular bus service to Helston. The nearest airports would be Plymouth or Newquay. Road transport to the area is also quite easy.

Getting Around

We'll be making use of shared vehicles for this course. Daily distances will often be very modest, with only the North Cornwall day really involving any mileage. Should we not have enough drivers for the course, we can quite easily make use of the good local bus services in operation with those of you with bus passes able to get around for free. It may also be possible to hire an additional vehicle locally for a day or so, should this be necessary.

Drivers are asked to indicate on the booking form if they are willing to provide spaces for any passengers - who are asked to contribute towards fuel costs.

Walking

This is not an area of particularly difficult terrain, although there will be steep (often with steps) ascents and descents of cliffs. We'll get you as close as possible to the relevant sites and will, in almost every case, involve minimal walking distances. Everything therefore should be within the capabilities of all of the party.

However, if at any time you wish to 'opt out' that will be fully acceptable and understood. In view of the uncertainties of the weather you are strongly advised to bring all waterproofs and walking boots - particularly as you may be walking over rough ground.

Accommodation & Food

Good food and a good night's rest are important elements to our tours and we have worked hard to bring you the best local accommodation. The Georgian Strathallan Guest House is family run and offers good breakfasts and ensuite rooms as standard. A 3-course evening meal is included, which will also be taken at the guest house with one evening at a local restaurant. Single accommodation is available, but is limited and subject to a modest supplement. We are happy to help anyone looking for someone to share a twin bedded room - simply indicate on the booking form.

Itinerary

At this stage, this is meant to be indicative of the course content. Final details will be worked out in accordance with the wishes of the group and the prevailing weather and tidal conditions.

- The coastal geology of St. Ives and Cape Cornwall
- Mines and coastal geology around St. Agnes and Cligga Head
- Geology and mines around Geevor, St Just and Land's End
- The geology of Mount's Bay
- Geology around Porthmeoor Cove
- An ancient seafloor - the geology of a subduction zone in the Lizard
- Visits to Geevor Mine and the Blue Hills tin stamper

