



Down to Earth

"Earth science learning for all"

North Cornwall April 2-9 2022



The coastline, around Bude

A word from your leaders...

We last visited the Bude area of North Cornwall in 2018, so it's high time that we returned! The hotel we stayed in last time was the Cliff Hotel, which catered for our needs very well indeed, so we are lased to return once again. This hotel has catered for the needs of geology groups for a number of years, and knows how to feed hungry students. They are looking forward to our return.

Bude is a good centre from which to explore the varied geology of Cornwall from Hartland Quay in the east to Padstow in the west. The area is dominated by rocks of Devonian and Carboniferous age that have been subjected to much deformation and low grade metamorphism to slate grade. There are also volcanics and igneous intrusions in places like Tintagel. We'll also take a look at the Bodmin Moor granite, taking in both granite alteration, including china clay and tor scenery. All in all, an amazing area that offers great geological and landscape variety.

We'll have the use of a minibus, with additional cars, as required for this trip. It's an area that Chris knows well, and also one that Colin enjoys with its fabulous landscapes and variety of rock types.

Kind regards

Chris Darton & Colin Schofield
Course Organisers/Leaders

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Getting to North Cornwall

For those coming by public transport, the best railway station is Exeter with a fairly good bus service from there to Bude. For those coming by road, the area is easily reached with the motorway network and then a good A road to North Cornwall. We may be able to offer a limited number of places in the minibus from Exeter, please enquire nearer to the date.

Getting Around

As usual, we'll have the use of a 17-seater minibus, driven by 'our Colin'. There may also be a need for a couple of extra cars, so we may be looking for a couple of volunteer drivers! If you wish to use your car instead of the minibus that would be fine.

Walking

Everything should be within the capabilities of all of the party. We will always try to get as close as possible to the sites, but this will still mean that there are some walks of a couple of miles, to see the best exposures. Because many of the sites are coastal there will be some short, steep ascents and descents.

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 will be walking over rough ground.

The geology of the North Cornwall

The geology of this area, like much of the rest of SW England is dominated by Devonian and Carboniferous sediments, into which have been intruded large granites. The sediments have been mildly metamorphosed, to slate grade and have been subject to severe contortion by the effects of the Variscan Orogeny. Understanding the big picture here is not easy with some very large strike slip faults aligned roughly E-W, indeed the Bristol Channel may be defined by such a fault line. The area and region have been subject to much recent geophysical research that has revealed much about the deep basement rocks that is helping us to get a much better 'handle' on the geological history.

On the ground, we will be able to study different fold styles from the tight plastic folds in slate at Boscastle through the zigzag folds at Millook Haven to the box folds of Bude. All this gives rise to some superb coastal scenery with caves, arches and stacks. We will also take a look at some volcanic rocks in the Tintagel area and may also take in some inland granite scenery. If you like large scale folding and faulting then this area will be heaven for you. This part of the SW is not an area noted for its mining history, but there are plenty of reminders of coastal slate quarrying - with some superb relics to be seen.



Itinerary

At this stage, this is meant to be indicative of the field trip content. Final details will be worked out in accordance with the wishes of the group, the state of the tides and the prevailing weather.

- The geology of the Boscastle area - beautiful scenery and folding
- Tintagel Island and Castle - folds, thrusts and volcanic
- The zigzag folds of Millook and the box folds of Bude
- The geology of Hartland Quay & cliffs
- The granites of Bodmin Moor
- Folding and sedimentary structures of Crackington Haven
- The slate quarries of Delabole, including a guided tour
- The geology of Trebarwith Strand - boudins, thrusts and volcanic ash

Accommodation & Food

Good food and a good night's rest are important elements to our trips and so we always try to use small, family run, hotels and guesthouses.

For this trip, we have secured accommodation at the Cliff Hotel in Bude, a comfortable, family owned and run hotel, that is well used to catering for the needs of geological parties. All rooms are en suite and the food is excellent. They will be providing us with breakfasts and evening meals. 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. A packed lunch, sourced locally, will be provided for each field day.



Cost

For 2 people sharing a double or twin room, the cost of the 7-night tour will be £1095.00 per person. For a single room, the price will be £1295.00.

What's included in the cost?

- The services of Chris Damon & Colin Schofield as tutors who will be available to you at all reasonable times
- Accommodation and meals as specified in the brochure
- Packed lunches for each field day
- Admissions to museums and archaeological sites as visited by all of the group

What's excluded from the cost?

- The cost of travel between your home and Bude
- Travel insurance
- Incidental expenses.

Insurance

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

Booking

Your booking will be confirmed upon receipt of either a deposit of £300.00 per person or the full payment and a completed booking form. The balance will be payable not later than January 31st 2022. The trip will run subject to a minimum of 12 people signing up by September 30th 2021.

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.

What happens next?

As soon as we are in a position of confirming that the trip will run - we will let you know. You will then be free to start making your own travel plans and to take advantage of any early deals on train/air tickets.

Please don't make any such arrangements until we have been in touch with you.

Also see information contained in our 'Residential Field Trips 2021/2'



Rocks and structures of Tintagel Island.