



Down to Earth

"Earth science learning for all"

The Pembrokeshire Coast

June 25 - July 2 2022



Cobblers Hole, near St Anne's Head
(Photo: Chris Darmon)

A word from your leaders...

We last visited the Pembrokeshire Coast of South Wales in 2014 and so we thought that we were overdue for a return. For this trip we will be based at the Premier Inn on the outskirts of Haverfordwest making it easily accessible by train. There's an on site restaurant for our evening meals and a choice of single or double/twin rooms.

There are so many excellent localities within easy reach of our base that it's difficult to make choices. You can rest assured that we'll be taking in as many of the classics as we can. This is field geology at its very best, with something for everybody. Whilst many of our sites will be on the coast, we'll also take in some inland places as well.

This trip is aimed at a wide audience including anyone with an interest in geology and natural history. No prior knowledge is expected or assumed. We start where you are - providing you with the help you need to get the most out of the tour. In essence, you'll be 'reading the rocks' - gleaning information about events that have taken place over hundreds of millions of years. You'll see the rocks, minerals, fossils and structures that provide us with clues about what has happened in the geological past.

Book up early to avoid disappointment!

Chris Darmon & Colin Schofield
Course Organisers/Leaders

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Getting to and from the area

Haverfordwest has a railway station, with a decent service of trains from all parts of South Wales and beyond.. Some of the trains originate in Manchester and come down through the Welsh Borders.. If you are coming by road, it may seem like a long trek along winding roads, but it's well worth it!

Getting Around

For this trip we will have the use of a hired 17-seater minibus. My friend and colleague Colin will be driving, ensuring that we are safely and comfortably transported around the area. If there are too many people for the bus, we would hope to have the use of at least one extra car.

Walking

This is not an area of particularly difficult terrain, although there will be some fairly steep ascents and descents of cliffs to reach the shore. 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.

The Geology of Pembrokeshire

The oldest rocks of Pembrokeshire are a late Precambrian volcanic sequence that is intruded by a granophyre. These are followed by an extensive series of Cambrian sedimentary rocks, mainly turbidities but also including shallow water sandstones and conglomerates. Some of these rocks are fossiliferous containing the remains of trilobites. The overlying Ordovician rocks include a number of igneous types, including pillow lavas, volcanic ashes along with gabbro and dolerite intrusion. Some of the Ordovician shales contain numerous graptolites. The Silurian period is represented by further volcanics and sedimentary rocks, beautifully exposed in Marloes Bay. Later rocks, including Devonian and Carboniferous sediments are never far away.

For all these varied rocks, it is structures that really get people excited about Pembrokeshire geology with superb folding and faulting on a grand scale. These date from the Variscan Orogeny and mainly occurred during the Carboniferous. The landscape is 'finished off' with the effects of glaciation and changes in sea level giving rise to wave cut planforms and raised beaches. There's something for everyone here in Pembrokeshire!

Accommodation & Food



Good food and a good night's rest are important elements to our tours and we normally try to use local family run accommodation, but this has not proved possible this time. Accordingly we have booked the modern Premier Inn which is situated on the outskirts of Haverfordwest. It offers a good choice of single and double/twin rooms. There's an on site restaurant for breakfasts and evening meals. Packed lunches will be sourced locally.

Single accommodation is available, but is limited and is subject to a modest supplement. We are happy to help anyone looking for someone of the same sex 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, the tides and the prevailing weather.

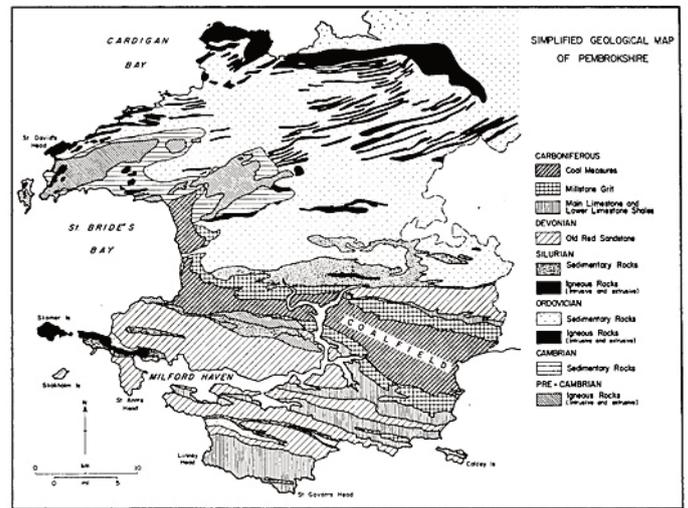
- Precambrian and Cambrian rocks in the St. Davids area
- Ordovician rocks of the Fishguard area, including Abereiddy Bay and Poppit Sands
- Silurian rocks of Marloes Bay
- Old Red Sandstone rocks of Pembrokeshire
- Carboniferous rocks of Pembrokeshire
- Quaternary deposits of the area

Cost

For 2 people sharing a double or twin room, the cost of this 7-night tour will be £1195.00 per person; for single occupancy, the cost will be £1395.00 per person, (up to a maximum of 5).

What's included in the cost?

- The services of Chris Darmon & Colin Schofield as tutors who will be available to you at all reasonable times
- Accommodation and meals as specified in the brochure



- Use of hired transport during the week

What's excluded from the cost?

- The cost of travel between your home and Johnston and return
- Travel insurance
- Incidental expenses

Insurance

Everyone booking a place and paying a deposit must take out holiday insurance. This can cover you against loss of money in the event of cancellation etc. Cover is often included in with your credit card or bank account.

Booking

Please fill in and return a completed booking form.. Your booking will be confirmed upon receipt of either a deposit of £300.00 per person or the full payment. The balance of the brochure price will be due by March 31st 2022.

This trip will run provided a minimum of 12 people have booked by December 31st. 2021.

Your money...

Upon receipt, all monies paid for these trips 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 2022' which can be viewed on our website: www.geosupplies.co.uk

