



This walk takes in some spectacular coastal views of the islet of Burhou, and if you choose the longer walk, a Watermill. With some very steep inclines, it is not for those who have difficulty walking.

- 1** This walk starts at the Visitor Information Centre. Turn up Victoria Street, passing St Anne's church on your right, to the T-junction at the top. Turn right on to High Street.
- 2** Follow High Street past the Coronation Inn on your left and the Museum on your right, along Le Huret and into Marais Square.
- 3** Turn right just before the Marais Hall Pub and walk up the hill, part of La Trigale's one way system.
- 4** Carry on up the hill walking past a cross roads with the turning to Allée des Fées on your right.
- 5** Continue along the road towards the airport.

**6** Go past the airport entrance and Judge Barbenson's cattle trough, following the road as it curves around the blind bend, which rises then falls.

**7** You will reach a junction and in front of you is a sign marked the Zig-Zag. Follow this track towards the sea.

**8** Walk down the track and after about 50 metres, turn right. This takes you past an old brick well, which supplied Fort Tourgis.

**9** Follow this winding track, heading down towards the sea.

#### THE GIFFOINE

*The area of heathland around you, known as the Giffoine, is one of the best sites on the island to see the elusive Dartford warbler. The island of Burhou will come into view; home to puffins, storm petrels and many other species of seabird.*

Fort Tourgis can be seen on your right with a white cone-shaped marine navigation day mark in front of it. The track will start

to zig-zag down the hill.

**10** There is a walker's shelter halfway down on the left containing information on the area. From outside there are excellent views across Hannaine Bay to the south and Clonque Bay to the north.

**11** At the bottom of the Zig-Zag turn right and carry on along the path, keeping Fort Clonque behind you and the sea to your left.

**FORT CLONQUE (No Access)**

*Fort Clonque, built in 1855, is now owned by the Landmark Trust and can be rented as self-catering accommodation.*

**CLONQUE BAY**

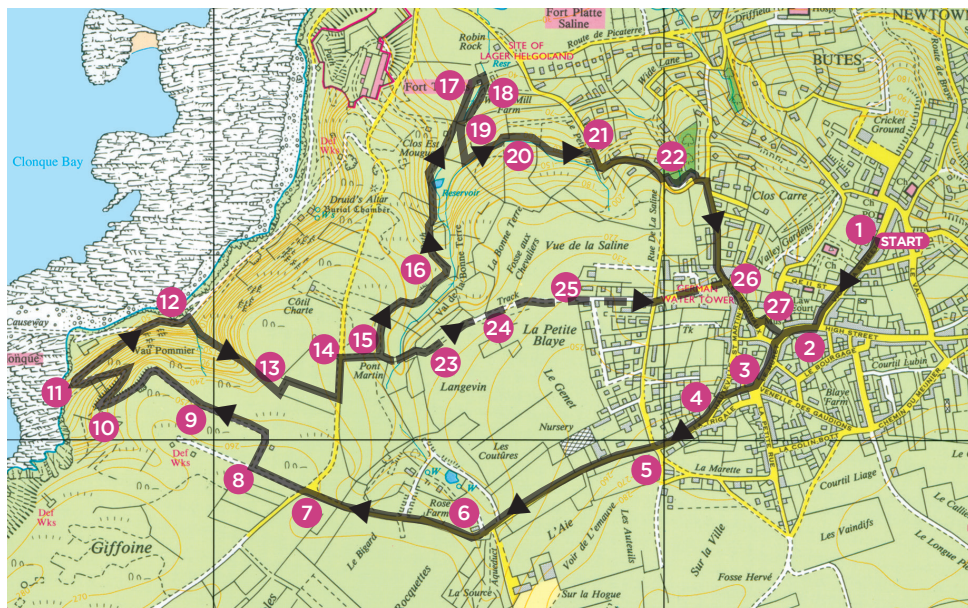
*Clonque Bay is the heart of Alderney's Internationally Important Wetland (RAMSAR) site. It contains the largest area*

*of inter-tidal rock on Alderney. The rockpools hold a vast array of fauna including starfish, brown velvet and spider crabs and, at the lowest tides, ormers. Wading birds include large numbers of little egrets, curlews, whimbrels and oystercatchers.*

**12** Walk along the track until you reach a white stone path marker below a rock formation. Turn right onto the steep 'Blue Bridge' path which leads up the valley and away from the sea.

**Please be warned that this path can get very wet**, but is a great place to spot the occasional visiting bird including short eared owls in the autumn.

**13** Follow the narrow path up the valley until you reach a tarmac road where you need to turn left. Remember to look back at the view.





**14** Walk down the road for only 20 metres until you see a stone on your right marked 'St Vignalis'. Turn onto the path which goes down into the Bonne Terre valley.

**15** Where the path forks, choose to either bear left to the Watermill, and on to number **16** or take a shorter route back to St Anne and skip to number **23**



### THE BONNE TERRE VALLEY

*The Bonne Terre valley contains the largest number of greater tussock sedge found in the Channel Islands. These plants, up to 2 metres tall, are Britain's largest native grass. The secluded valley also has flowering hawthorn, native bluebells and is home to a diverse range of bees, damsel and dragonflies, as well as being a good place to spot butterflies.*

**16** Follow the path downhill and 'Watermill' signs. **Please be careful there are steep sections.** Approaching the end of this path you will need to cross the stream by either taking the

wooden bridge or by hopping from stone to stone.

**17** At the end of the path follow the sign indicating 'Watermill'. With the hedge on your left, pass on your right a grassed over Mill pond that once supplied and controlled the flow of water to the Watermill.

### WATERMILL

*The earliest record of the Mill is from the 1200s. The present building is an authentic rebuild of the 1792 mill which has been lovingly restored by volunteers for everyone to enjoy.*

**18** Loop around the Watermill and go back to where you were at point 17 following the stream.

**19** At the water treatment building, turn left, walking across the meadow towards the hill and follow the fence up the hill to a path.

**20** Turn left and keep left, following the path to a wooded area.





**21** When you reach the road, turn right up the steep hill for 150m and at the next left bend in the road, opposite a junction, you will see a gap in the wall to your left with a white stone. Take this path going down through 'Ladysmith' and then join the road again at the other end.

### LADYSMITH

*Ladysmith is one of Alderney's finest remaining Abrevoir Publiques (public watering place for livestock) and has the island's last remaining flagstone Lavoir (public washing place), which can become slightly lost in the overgrowth 20m down the valley from the main track.*

**22** Following the path through Ladysmith will return you to the road and shortly thereafter you will reach the German Water Tower. **Now go to number 26**

**23** Continue up the hill with 'Pont Martin' on your right until you reach St Vignalis' Garden on your right, accessed through a wooden gate.

### PONT MARTIN & ST VIGNALIS GARDEN

*Pont Martin, which now just looks like a stone walled embankment, was originally the largest of three dams supplying the Watermill downstream.*

*St Vignalis Garden was originally a cattle trough but has been converted into a peaceful public garden in remembrance of St Vignalis.*

**24** Follow the wooded path up to a stile and leave the wooded area to go across the field towards the houses.

**25** Exit the field through the gate and walk down Fosse aux Chevaliers and across the crossroads towards the German Water Tower.

### WATER TOWER

*Built in WWII as the headquarters for the Luftwaffe (German Air Force), the building, known locally as the 'Water Tower', has at its top a header tank to pressurise the post-war town water system. The tower dominates the skyline of St Anne and formed a vital link in the German coast-watching surveillance of occupied Europe.*

**26** From the Water Tower follow the road around, passing the railings into Connaught Square, to the front of the Island Hall.

### ISLAND HALL

*The Island Hall was built in the 1760s by the Le Mesurier family as both their private residence and Government House. It was subsequently used for various purposes including a recreation centre for the German military during WWII and a community hall afterwards. It is now the island's government headquarters.*

**27** To the right of the Island Hall is a wooden gate into the old church yard. Here you can see the remains of the original town church and its Clock Tower. The path will lead you back onto High Street. Turn left on High Street and then left again back on to Victoria Street.

