



A gentle walk around the historic centre of St Anne, enjoyed any time of the year. This walk takes in prominent public buildings and private residences, as well as the quaint old quarter.

1 Starting from the Visitor Information Centre, walk part-way up Victoria Street, as far as the Prince Albert Memorial Gate on your right; a striking entrance to St Anne's Church.

VICTORIA STREET

Victoria Street was originally a sandy lane called *Rue de Sablon* that ran from the oldest settlement of the town, *Le Bourgage*, down to *Braye Harbour*. A number of fine Georgian houses remain, such as *St Catherine's* (with a *Blue Plaque*, opposite the *Post Office*). The street was renamed *Victoria Street* in 1854, after *Queen Victoria* who visited *Alderney* with *Prince Albert*. They took great interest in the construction of the harbour breakwater and the 18 forts and batteries.

2 Turn right, through the Prince Albert Memorial Gate into St Anne's churchyard.

ST ANNE'S CHURCH

The parish church of St Anne – the largest in the Channel Islands – was a gift from the Rev. John Le Mesurier, to the parishioners of Alderney. Consecrated in 1850, it was designed by the eminent Victorian architect Sir George Gilbert Scott and is built from local and imported Caen stone. The church houses a fine organ, beautiful windows and a peal of twelve bells in the tower.

3 Follow the path, opposite the main door of the church, up towards Queen Elizabeth II Street.

Just before the gate on your right there is the only British war grave on the island. Sapper G E Onions of the Royal Engineers was only 22 years old when he was killed during German mine clearance at the end of WWII. Over 30,000 mines were cleared before the evacuated population could return to the island in December 1945.

4 Once on Queen Elizabeth II Street you will see The Court House on the opposite side of the road.

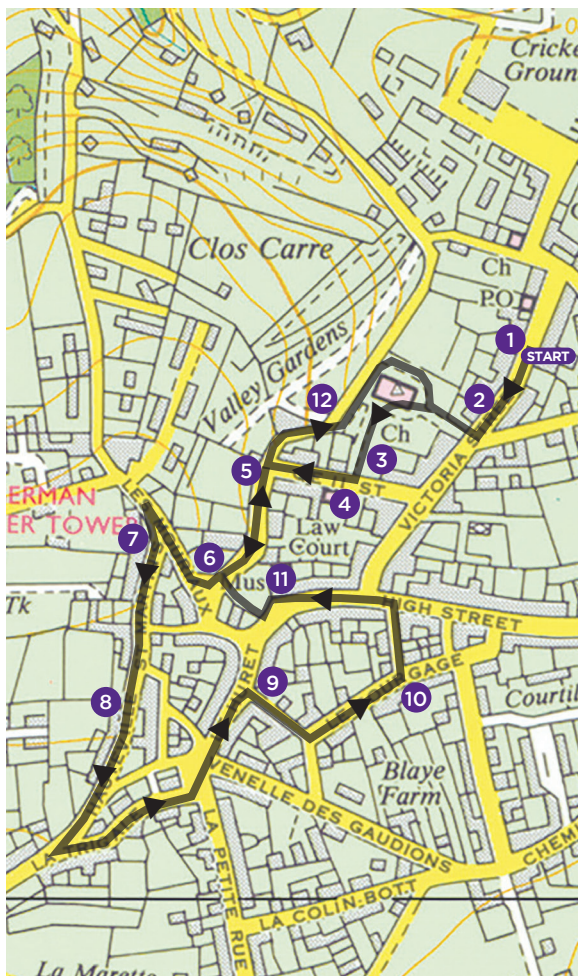
COURT HOUSE

The Court House was built in 1851 to house Alderney's Court and Gaol. The population at this time had increased with the influx of workmen needed for the construction of the Victorian fortifications. The 1861 census recorded a population of 4,932. Alderney's civil and criminal court still functions within the building. On the left of the main Court door, you can see a plaque commemorating the evacuation of the people of Alderney on the 23rd June 1940, only a few days before the arrival of the occupying German forces.

5 Continue walking to the right, passing the police station entrance on your left, to the end of the street and turn left. On your left you will pass the former Methodist Chapel, which is nowadays the Masonic Lodge. A little further along, on the right, you will see the Alderney Library, home to the Alderney Bayeux Tapestry 'Finale'.

ALDERNEY BAYEUX TAPESTRY

Alderney resident, Kate Russell had the idea of 'completing' the famous Bayeux Tapestry with a 3 metre long 'Alderney Finale'. Over 400 people contributed stitches, including Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall.



- 6 Continue until you reach a cobbled area, known as The Royal Connaught Square, with Island Hall behind you.

ROYAL CONNAUGHT SQUARE

Originally known as St Anne's Square, the Royal Connaught Square is flanked by attractive buildings including the former Vicarage (left of the Square), and the former residence of TH White, a 20th century author (opposite the Island Hall entrance). The Island Hall was erected in 1765 by the Le Mesurier family who had held the Governorship of the Island from 1729. In 1887 the building was purchased by the Sisters of Mercy and it remained a convent until the 1950s. It now houses the administrative offices of the States of Alderney.

- 7 Follow the road that leads up the left side of the Island Hall for a short distance, after the first bend you will see Les Mouriaux House on your left.

LES MOURIAUX HOUSE

Built in 1779, it was the residence for the Le Mesurier family. At the time of its construction, the house stood within an estate which took in all the land to the north east.



- 8 Switch back to follow the cobbled lane along St Martins. Walk to the end of the cobbles and continue straight on through Hauteville, until you reach a junction. Keep right and walk up to La Trigale. Turn sharply left to walk down towards Marais Square.

A cottage in Hauteville contains sandstone lintel brackets dating from the mid 1300s. Walking downhill towards Marais Square from La Trigale, you will pass a cottage on your right which retains a Norman arched stone doorway dating from around 1460. In Marais Square there is an 'abreuvoir public'





livestock drinking trough. Settlement occurred in this area due to the close proximity of good agricultural land at the Blaye (the flat land at the top of the island).

9 Turn left and follow the cobbled road, Le Huret, until you reach a turning on your right, opposite St Anne's Guest House. Walk up the short, cobbled lane.

You are walking through the original town settlement dating from the 12th to 13th century. Note the attractive cobbles with larger stone slabs on the right hand side, probably the original pavement.

10 Turn left at the top into Le Bourgage. Continue along until you reach a left turn. Follow the lane down to the junction. Turn left onto High Street and continue across the top of Victoria Street, towards the Museum.

ALDERNEY MUSEUM

John Le Mesurier, the island's then hereditary Governor, erected the building in 1790. It was the island's first school for boys; it is believed the girls were educated at Les Mouriaux House. It remained until the new school was built in the late 1960s

on Braye Hill. Today the building houses the award-winning Alderney Society Museum, packed with exhibits and artefacts from Alderney's fascinating past. Well worth a visit. Open April - October (by request at other times).

11 With the Museum on your right, go through the gate to the left of the old phone box and up the steps. With the Clock Tower on your right, follow the mosaic path (created by local organisations to mark the Millennium) through the old churchyard and to the steps at the other end.

CLOCK TOWER

Built in 1767, this is all that remains of the original church of St Anne. It still has the two original bells, which are heard daily, striking every quarter hour.

12 Walk down the steps and turn right. Retrace your steps, passing the entrance to Queen Elizabeth II Street and follow the road as it bends to the right. Enter the churchyard through a small gate and follow the tarmac path around the Church and up towards the Prince Albert Memorial Gate. Turn left and walk down Victoria Street to the Visitor Information Centre.