

## Whitehaven Coast Access Statement

Haig Colliery, Solway Road, Kells, Cumbria CA28 9BG

Grid Ref: NX 966176

T: 017687 74649 (North Lakes office in Keswick, during office hours)

E: [northlakes@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:northlakes@nationaltrust.org.uk)

W: [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/whitehaven-coast](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/whitehaven-coast)

### Introduction

This is a coastal clifftop site, covering approximately 30 acres, with open flower rich grasslands, spectacular sea views across the Solway Firth and Irish Sea to Scotland and the Isle of Man. The site is situated south west of Whitehaven, a Georgian gem town with large a harbour complex and early industrial relics.



The main access point to this area by car is from the North at the Haig Colliery car park which is arrived at via High Road (a residential road to the south-west of the main town area) then three right turns in quick succession onto the Haig Colliery approach road.

If arriving on foot the walk is a steep climb up from the Harbour area via a combination of pushchair accessible paths, or paths and steep flights of steps:

- From Harbour View Road there is a crushed stone path linking to the coastal path by steps or a slope.
- Rosemary Lane has access by various paths of crushed stone, grass, tarmac or paved.
- West Strand gives access to tarmac paths via steps or slopes.

From the South the site is can be accessed from St Bees head, a [challenging coastal path walk](#) approximately 11.2km (7 miles) through an unspoilt rural landscape designated as a heritage coast with monastic influences and high cliffs supporting a sea bird colony and designated as a SSSI and MCZ for the shoreline below. This path is part of the [England Coast Path](#), a national trail which can be picked up here, shown with an acorn symbol.

Mobile reception is generally good except on the seaward side of the cliff

In an emergency contact 999 or 112, ask for the coastguard between the clifftop and the sea. Whitehaven Coast Ranger Chris Gomersall can be contacted on 07785 22 66 98.

Dogs are welcome but should be kept under control. There is no water on site.

There is generally no livestock on site, with the exception of horses which are contained in separate fields with no public access.

There are no waymarked trails on the site, though there are way-markers to key features such as the Harbour, the Lighthouse and the Candlestick etc.

This area is not staffed but there may be a Ranger working on site at any given time.

There are no refreshments onsite, but there is a non-NT café at the Beacon Heritage Centre, West Strand, Whitehaven, Cumbria CA28 7LY, just ½ mile walk North from the Haig Colliery car park on good but steep paths and steps.

There are no toilets on site, the nearest are located at the Beacon Heritage Centre (see above).

## Arrival & Parking Facilities

Follow brown signs to Haig Mining Museum. Turn right off Basket road and the car park is 200m along a very good road with a slight gradient and a pavement. The car park itself has approximately 30 unmarked spaces; there are 3 designated disabled spaces, no badges are

required. The car park surface is crushed limestone. There are no payment machines and no lighting.

There is additional non-NT 'Pay and Display' parking around the harbour area of the town, [Harbour commissioners](#) and [Copeland Borough Council](#)

There are buses into Whitehaven and town services that stop on Solway Road and High Road, please check [Copeland Bus timetables](#) for more information.

There is a train station in Whitehaven, approximately 1½ miles walk from Haig Colliery car park. This train service runs from Carlisle in the North to Barrow-in-Furness in the South. Please check with [National Rail Enquiries](#) for more details

## Trails

The [England Coast Path](#) national trail can be picked up here, shown on the map below as a blue dashed line and on site with an acorn symbol. This path is a graded surfaced route suitable for wheelchairs. There are steep gradients at the Harbour end of this path. There are handrails at the Candlestick and on Wellington Terrace steps.

There are a good number of benches throughout the site, approximately 400m apart.

There are viewpoints above Saltom pit and Jonathan Swift house, another at the Candlestick and at Wellington Terrace.

There are information boards at West Strand, Wellington Terrace, Candlestick, King Pit and Saltom Pit but no seats or shelters at these points.

Please be aware this is a cliff top site and there are steep drops if you leave the paths near the cliff edge.

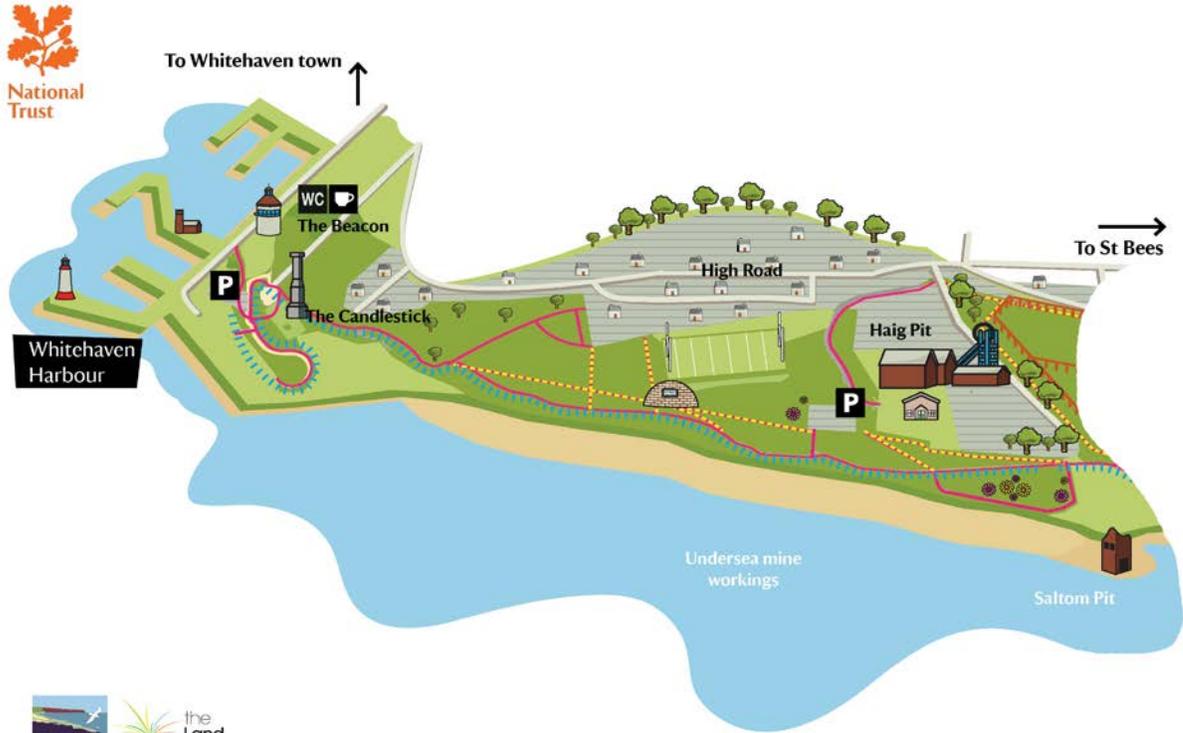
## Contact details for more information

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E: [northlakes@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:northlakes@nationaltrust.org.uk)

**Date:** December 2016

## Map

See below:



[www.thelandtrust.org.uk](http://www.thelandtrust.org.uk) • [www.colourfulcoast.org.uk](http://www.colourfulcoast.org.uk) • [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/whitehaven-coast](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/whitehaven-coast)