

Forty five HALL ROAD – COAST and “ANOTHER PLACE”

Although not a short walk it is very easy and pleasant to stroll along the Merseyside coast. See the sea, sand, sunshine, shipping and statues. On the way you see a bit of Liverpool and use the underground train.

Catch a train to Liverpool. Alight at Lime Street station. At the front of Lime Street station go to your left along Lime Street uphill.

Leave Lime Street at the front and go slightly left to cross onto Elliot Street (across from ‘The Crown’). Turn left by the Wetherspoons onto Great Charlotte Street, and at the end turn right onto Ranelagh Street a very short way. Cross left to enter the shopping arcade on the opposite side and Central Station entrance is facing you at the far end.

Catch a Southport train. Alight at Hall Road station.

You leave the platform *past the old (attractive) brick building*, and turn right along the straight road to the coast. *Notice the new build flats on the right at the roundabout.*

Go over the roundabout and turn left along the beach or prom. *There are now wide views across the Mersey to North Wales. You can see Birkenhead and also New Brighton - which used to have a ‘Blackpool’ tower.*

On the beach you will come to 100 statues. *These constitute Anthony Gormley’s installation “Another Place”. Notice how the barnacles have grown on the cast iron statues where the sea covers them – marine life needs iron to thrive, and there is very little in the sea. The podia of the statues are gradually being exposed.*

As you continue south, Seaforth Docks and the new wind farm are ahead of you. *Seaforth is a very busy container port that now handles all the traffic that used to go into the centre of Liverpool.*

Before you get as far as the pipeline pier (with lights) that comes out across the beach, you will see a domed building on your left – go towards this. *This is the new Crosby Leisure Centre and there is a nice (and very welcome) café inside.*

OPTIONS:

A) (shorter): From the café continue up the street (it is called Mariner's Road). Cross Bridge Road and continue along Mersey Road. *St Nicholas (Blundellsands) church is to your right.*

After a very short distance go left along Agnes Road and Crosby station is on your right. Go through the underpass to the other platform for a train back to Liverpool.

B) (longer): Continue south along the promenade. *It is gradually being covered by the dunes. At this end the statues are up to their knees in sand.*

Eventually the view opens out to the beach again. *At flood tide a procession of ships can be seen entering the Mersey. The furthest south statue is almost at Seaforth Docks.*

On the left is Crosby Boating Lake. Take the path left across this and go to the children's play area. *Notice the impressive tower of Christ's Church.* Behind the marina area is a long wall. Head to the gap in it (It changes from red to grey). Cross Marine Crescent (*elegant with seaside pastels*) and go up South Road. *This is Waterloo village – it has a seaside shopping street feel. There are cafes, shops and pubs. Real Ale is on offer at The Raven, The Old Bank Inn and also at STAMPS almost opposite the station.*

The station is on the right. Descend the steps and catch a train from the left hand platform face to Liverpool.

Alight at Liverpool Central Station and retrace the route from the shopping centre to Lime Street.

CLASSIFICATION: A MEDIUM LENGTH WALK (3.5miles). EASY.
BEACH, PANORAMIC VIEWS, STATUES, PUBLIC
OPEN SPACE, CAFE, SHOPS, PUB.
RAIL FARE: category three.

Maps: OS 1:50 000 SHEET 108. LIVERPOOL A-Z
PHILIP'S STREET ATLAS -LIVERPOOL