

Walk: SOC 05
Location: Pembrey Park, Pembrey Forest & Pembrey Beach (and Kidwelly Castle)

Directions: Down to Swansea, joint M4 J45, go West to J48 M4 and follow signs to Pembrey Park, or set Sat Nav to get to Pembrey, then look out for signs to Pembrey Park. It is well signposted from the motorway but then the signs become rather pathetic and you can miss it. The nearer you get to Pembrey, you will find it is not that well signposted. If you are going north coming out of Pembrey, it is almost immediately on your left before Kidwelly, marked by a small brown tourist sign. If you have gone beyond Pembrey's small airfield on your left, then you've gone too far.

For Kidwelly Castle, continue on past Pembrey and the airfield signs and Kidwelly is on your left. Kidwelly castle is in the town centre pretty well and does not make a full dog walk, though dogs on leads are allowed in the castle.

Distance (miles): 34.2
 Time (hours): 1.04
 Length of Walk: 2-5 hours or more; you can make a day of it here. Bring a picnic.
 Dates Walked:
 Pembrey Park: 24/12/2008, 27/09/2009,
 Woodland outside Park: 06/12/2009 (includes Kidwelly Castle)

Parking: £2.00 in the winter but up to £6.00 or more in the high season/ summer.

Pop in to: There is a small woodland walk on the right before you get to the park, which is further along a private looking stretch of road. This is worth popping in to if you are not wishing to go to the Park itself.

Description: Pembrey Beach is vast. I have never walked the length of it, but it seems to go on forever and must be much larger than Rhossili. You have a choice of woodland walks, beach walks, or parkland walks.

There is extensive parkland in Pembrey Park itself, around which you can walk for hours, and from which you can access either the beach, or extensive woodland which also seems to go on for miles.

You can park anywhere in the Park, either near the beach, or at various viewpoints. There must be parking for 6,000 cars – yet whenever I go the various parking areas are all deserted. There is plenty of varied woodland to explore, including woodland beyond the official Park itself – Pembrey Forest. I did one four hour walk through the woodland, with pram, thinking I was doing a circular walk, but had to retrace my steps. This is because once you come out of the Park, the woodland area can be a bit confusing, though within the park it is quite logical as you can keep your bearings according to the sea.

The beach at low tide goes on for a mile or more before you reach the sea, or so it seems. Ideal area for dogs to have a good run, for children to play on the sandy beach and worth visiting more than once.

Pictures taken on 06/12/2009 (Kidwelly Castle):



Kidwelly Castle (dogs allowed in on leads)



