



Cornwall's nationally protected landscape



Cornwall
Area of Outstanding
Natural Beauty

01 *Hortland
Marsland to
Menapoint Church*

Cornwall AONB Local Section



Section 01

Hartland (Marsland to Menapoint Church)



Dannon Chapel

Coralie Barrow

Location:

This small section of the AONB runs southwards from the Devon border to just above Bude. It shares a boundary with the North Devon AONB at its eastern boundary and more or less follows the A39 trunk road (Atlantic Highway) to Menapoint Church.

AONB Section	Area (ha)	% of total AONB area
01 Hartland	2,601	2.7%

Cornwall's Landscape Character Areas:

- CA37: Western Culm Plateau
- CA38: Bude Basin

Marine Character Areas covering the coast / adjacent waters

- MCA 44: Hartland Point to Port Isaac Bay



01

Special Qualities of Hartland (Marsland to Menapoint Church)

Statement of Significance | *Creating a Sense of Place*

The Key Landscape Characteristic of this section of the AONB is a high coastal plateau of carboniferous sandstones and slates known as the Culm Measures. The cliffs are sheer; reaching 140m in some places and are intensely folded and faulted. The sea has sculpted a striking wave-cut platform, which at low tide reveals a rock stratum of folded and faulted ridges. These shores are punctuated occasionally by sandy coves and beaches at the mouths of stream valleys, notably at the aptly named Sandymouth.

The land rises gently to a ridge of 200m and is dissected by numerous streams which form deeply incised valleys containing streams that cascade as small waterfalls onto the rocky, narrow, boulder strewn shoreline below.

Coastal heathland and grassland mosaics fringe the cliff tops, particularly in the north, whilst the steep valley sides are colonised with broadleaved woodland, some ancient, as found in the Coombe and Marsland Valleys.

Views along the coastline are breathtaking and extensive. The dramatic coastal cliffs and unusual rock formations, together with its ancient history, provides an interesting and unique landscape.

Small hamlets and isolated farm holdings make up this sparsely populated section of the Cornwall AONB and the lack of populace further emphasises its remoteness. Local slate and sandstone, together with cob and thatch, are characteristic of the homes in this area. Originally these were lime washed or slate-hung but are now more commonly rendered.

On a clear day Lundy Island can be seen out to the northwest. Further south, the coastal plateau decreases to a much lower cliff line with views southward towards Bude and the visually intrusive GCHQ at Morwenstow.



Hawkers Hut below
Morwenstow church | Coralie Barrow





Land Use

This is a pastoral landscape with the field pattern revealing ancient enclosures, although many of the hedges have now been removed to provide access for farm machinery. The Section features large areas of land for arable crops and further inland there is a significant amount of dairy farming.

Significant Landowners

- **The National Trust manages land specifically around the coastline at Morwenstow and from Duckpool to Sandymouth.**

Biodiversity & Geodiversity

The key habitat types in this Section include culm grassland, maritime cliff and slope, lowland heathland, species-rich grasslands, heath in coastal valleys and native broadleaved woodland.

The Culm grassland found on the unimproved wet pasturelands of the inland plateau has an acidic quality producing a unique flora, which is nationally rare.

Key species of interest for this section;

- Peregrine
- Atlantic woodlands
- Chough
- Rare lichens
- Bryophyte

Culture and Heritage

At Morwenstow, the Norman Church is built into the valley side with its tower on the seaward side. Its vicarage, notable for its many chimneys of differing styles, was once home to the late Reverend Robert Stephen Hawker who wrote Trelawney – The Song of the Western Men.

A little way north from the vicarage, on a steep sided coastal cliff, sits Hawker's Hut, owned by the National Trust where the Reverend Hawker used to compose his sermons and poetry.

A Romano-British fort and medieval port for Kilkhampton was discovered on the beach at Duckpool in the 1980s.

Partnerships and Neighbourhood Plan

- Support joint working with the North Devon AONB Partnership on the actions for the Hartland Peninsula
- Kilkhampton have a Parish Plan

Other Designations

Much of the coastline in the Hartland section of the Cornwall AONB is included in the 'Steeple Point to Marsland' SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) and SAC (Special Area of Conservation). The sea off Hartland Point to Tintagel is designated as a Marine Conservation Zone.





Landscape Condition

- The Council for the Protection of Rural England’s tranquillity, intrusion and night blight mapping shows Hartland to be the most ‘undisturbed’ section of the Cornwall AONB.
- The Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (ERCCIS) report that few areas of culm grassland now remain in north Cornwall.
- Bracken encroachment affects coastal marginal land especially within the coastal valleys leading to loss of biodiversity and changes in landscape character.
- Sycamore has become established in broadleaved woodlands.
- The large structures of GCHQ Bude at Morwenstow are visually intrusive.
- Coastal erosion poses a significant risk to heritage features and coastal communities, potentially resulting in them being lost.
- Dutch elm disease has had a significant impact on hedgerow elm in this area affecting habitat connectivity and landscape character.



The Cornwall State of the AONB Report and Cornwall AONB Atlas interactive map provide more detail and insight



Section 1
Kilhampton Castle

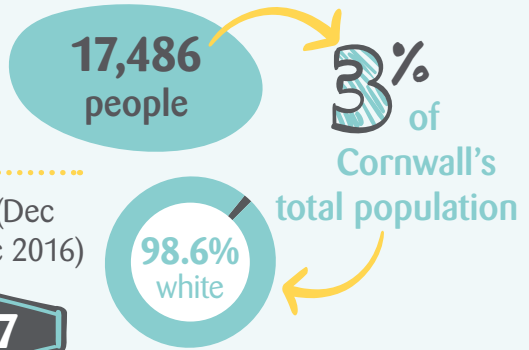


Community Network Area (CNA) : AONB section within CNA
Bude : Hartland and Pentire Point to Widemouth

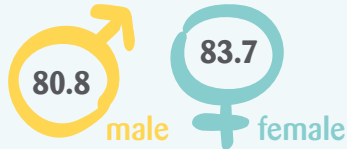
Index of Multiple Deprivation Percentile by CNA : 2015 : 2019
 43.3% : 42.2%



Population
 Health and Wellbeing in Bude (2016/2017)



Life expectancy (years)



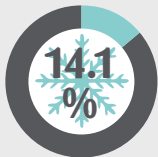
Births (2015)



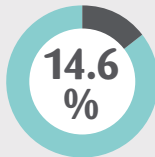
Deaths (Dec 2013-Dec 2016)



Inequalities
 Health and Wellbeing in Bude



of Bude's households are fuel poor



of Bude's children live in low-income families

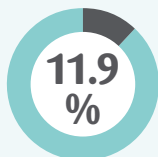


local children in receipt of free school meals

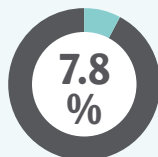
715 Bude residents claim Disability Living Allowance → { 3% of Cornwall's total population }



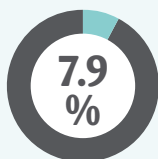
Risk Groups Health and Wellbeing in Bude



Obesity (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



Diabetes (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



Chronic Kidney Disease (% of residents on the Chronic Disease Register)



residents who speak English as an additional language





01 Hartland: Policies & Objectives

The policies and objectives below are applicable to this Local Section – they should, however, be read in conjunction with the Cornwall AONB Strategy Aims, Policies and Objectives which are applicable to the whole designation.

Policy	Detail	References to the main aims, policies & objectives
H-P1	Require all development to support the conservation and enhancement of the undeveloped character of the coast, in order to retain its rugged and simple tranquillity, maintaining the sparsely populated settlement pattern and tranquil characteristics of this section of the Cornwall AONB. Respect local vernacular, scale and use of materials that makes this area distinctive.	LS-P1, LS-P2, LS-P3, LS-P4, LS-P6, LS-Ob1, LS-Ob2, LS-Ob3, LS-Ob4, LS-Ob6 NRLM-Ob9, NRLM-Ob10, NRLM-Ob11 CCBR-P1, CCBR-Ob4 HC-Ob1, HC-Ob7, HC-Ob11 RSA-P1, RSA-P3, RSA-P4 HWB-Ob2, HWB-Ob5 SCE-P2, SCE-P3, SCE-P5, SCE-P6, SCE-Ob1 PD-P1, PD-P2, PD-P3, PD-P7, PD-P12, PD-P14, PD-P18
H-P2	Seek to maintain current low levels of light pollution in order to maintain dark night skies.	LS-P1, LS-P2, LS-P3, LS-Ob6 NRLM-Ob11 RSA-P1, RSA-Ob5 HWB-Ob2, HWB-Ob5 SCE-P3, SCE-P6, SCE-Ob1, SCE-Ob5 PD-P2, PD-P12
H-P3	Seek a reduction in landscape and visual impacts of tourism including better integration of holiday sites, visitor infrastructure and signage by respecting local character in external works, landscaping, site design and layout. Pay particular attention to the increase in scale, massing and associated development for example, but not limited to, Duckpool, Sandymouth and Morwenstow.	LS-P1, LS-P2, LS-P3, LS-P4, LS-P6, LS-Ob6 NRLM-Ob11 HC-Ob1, HC-Ob8 RSA-P1, RSA-P2, RSA-P3, RSA-Ob5 HWB-Ob2 SCE-P3, SCE-P5, SCE-P6 SCE-Ob1, SCE-Ob5 PD-P9





Objective	Detail	References to the main aims, policies & objectives
H-Ob1	Support opportunities to increase the awareness and protection of the heritage of the area, in order to promote, conserve and enhance landscape character and natural beauty, paying particular attention to those that may be impacted upon by coastal change.	LS-P1, LS-P2, LS-P4, LS-P6 LS-Ob1, LS-Ob2, LS-Ob3, LS-Ob4, LS-Ob5, LS-Ob6 NRLM-Ob10 CCBR-Ob4 HC-Ob1, HC-Ob3, HC-Ob4, HC-Ob6, HC-Ob7, HC-Ob8, HC-Ob9, HC-Ob10, HC-Ob11, HC-Ob12, HC-Ob13, HC-Ob14 RSA-P3, RSA-Ob3, RSA-Ob5 HWB-Ob1, HWB-Ob2, HWB-Ob3, HWB-Ob4 SCE-P2, SCE-P5, SCE-P6, SCE-Ob1, SCE-Ob2, SCE-Ob4, SCE-Ob5
H-Ob2	Consider the small-scale planting of local provenance native tree species such as Sessile Oak, Hazel and Alder to act as a future seed source for native woodland establishment where this is currently absent or sparse to assist subsequent natural regeneration.	LS-P1, LS-Ob1, LS-Ob2, LS-Ob3, LS-Ob4, LS-Ob5 NRLM-Ob1, NRLM-Ob2, NRLM-Ob3, NRLM-Ob5, NRLM-Ob12, NRLM-Ob13 CCBR-P1, CCBR-Ob1, CCBR-Ob2, CCBR-Ob3 SCE-Ob1, SCE-Ob2, SCE-Ob4
H-Ob3	Encourage sensitive management and potential removal of Sycamores in native broadleaved woodlands in a manner that is consistent with conserving and enhancing local landscape character, and biodiversity, and provided regeneration can occur using native species. Particularly at Coombe Valley, Stanbury, The Tidna, and Marsland Valley.	LS-P1 LS-Ob1, LS-Ob2, LS-Ob3, LS-Ob5 NRLM-Ob1, NRLM-Ob3, NRLM-Ob5 CCBR-Ob1, CCBR-Ob3 SCE-Ob2



Thank you for supporting and advocating for Cornwall AONB



Cornwall Wildlife Trust

