

Ilfracombe, Devon, England

A Victorian resort town pinned between slate cliffs and the Bristol Channel, where Damien Hirst's colossal harbour statue sets the tone for a place that's simultaneously traditional and delightfully odd.

 Tender port (no pier)

 Typical call: 6–8 hrs

 Currency: British Pound (GBP)

 Language: English

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender — ships anchor in Bristol Channel; 10–15 min ride to the Old Harbour

Walk to centre: 0 min — tender lands right in the harbour heart

Best for: Scenic walks, public art, Victorian history, seafood

Don't miss: Verity statue, Tunnels Beaches, Lantern Hill chapel views

Getting around:  Taxi  £5–£10 ·  Rideshare  Uber ·  Hop-on hop-off  Hop-on hop-off

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Verity & the Harbour Art Walk** — Start at Damien Hirst's 66-foot bronze pregnant figure at the pier entrance — one side reveals raw anatomy.
- Tunnels Beaches** — Four tunnels hand-quarried by Welsh miners in the 1820s lead to sheltered coves and a Victorian tidal bathing pool.
- Capstone Hill & South West Coast Path** — A distinctive dome rising directly from the seafront.
- St Nicholas Chapel (Lantern Hill)** — A 14th-century chapel perched high above the harbour that doubles as the UK's oldest working lighthouse.
- Lundy Island Day Trip** — Boat trips depart from Ilfracombe harbour to Lundy Island, a remote granite island in the Bristol Channel.

BEST WALKS

- Harbour to Lantern Hill Loop** 1.5 miles · 45–60 min · Easy-moderate — From the harbour tender landing, pass Verity on the pier, then loop up through town to St Nicholas Chapel on Lantern Hill for harbour views, before descending back to...
- Capstone Hill & Wildersmouth Beach** 1 mile · 30–45 min · Moderate — From the harbour, walk along the seafront to Wildersmouth Beach (shingle, good for rock-pooling), then climb Capstone Hill for a sweeping 360° view of the North Devon...
- Town to Tunnels Beaches** 0.8 miles each way · 25 min · Easy — Mostly flat walk through town along Wilder Road to the famous hand-carved tunnels.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		55°	45°	11d
Jun		65°	55°	14d
Aug		66°	59°	18d
Sep		64°	57°	14d
Oct		59°	53°	16d

 **DAYLIGHT & MONEY**

Apr 6:21AM–8:12PM · Jun 5:00AM–9:33PM · Aug 6:03AM–8:37PM · Sep 6:52AM–7:30PM · Oct 7:40AM–6:22PM

 Currency: British Pound (GBP)

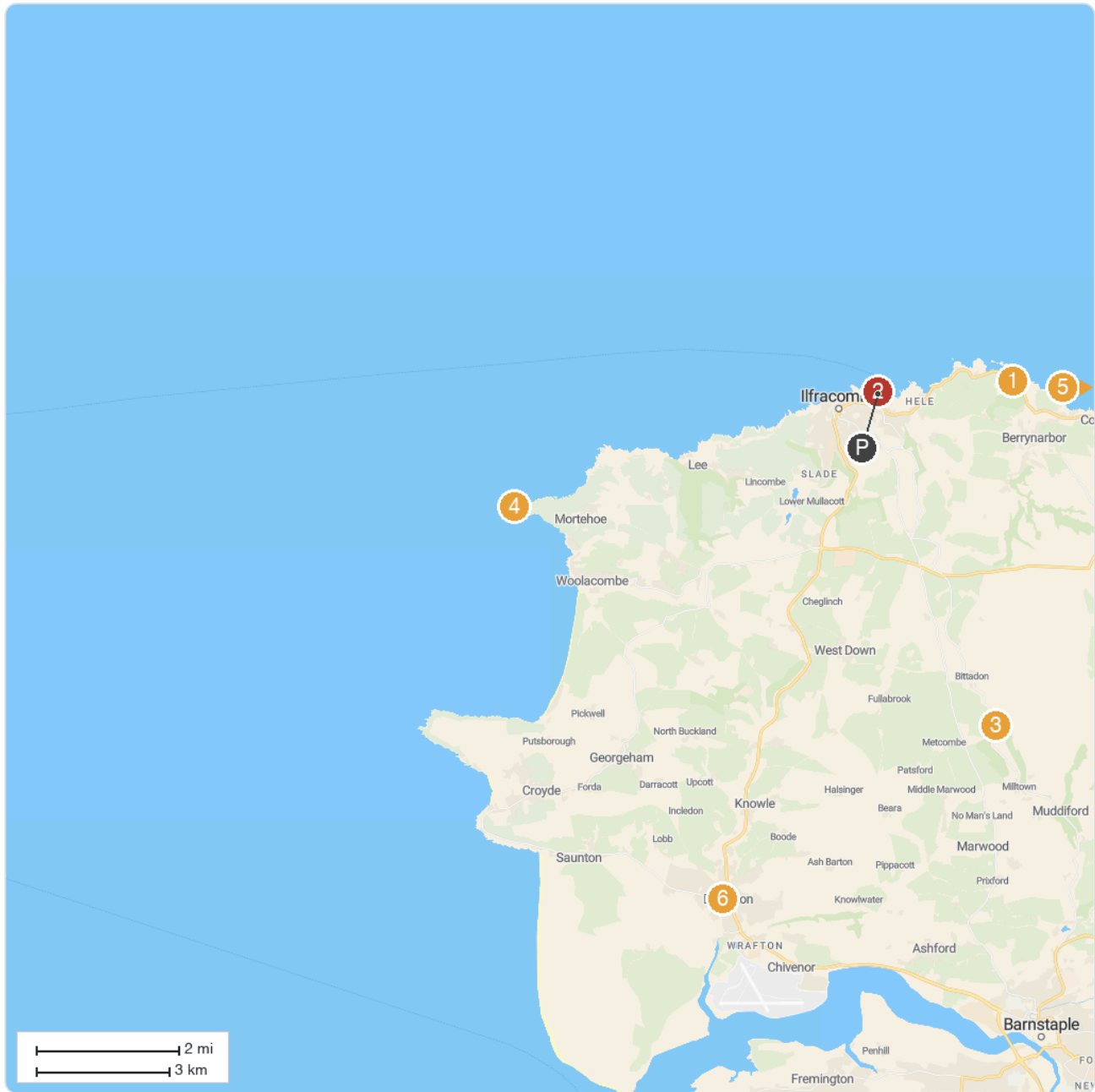
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Pack layers and a rain jacket. North Devon weather shifts fast — sunshine and sea mist can swap within the hour. Comfortable grip shoes are essential for the hilly streets.
- Watch the tide. The tidal range here is extreme. Keep an eye on tender return times, and avoid lingering on rocky beaches as the tide rises quickly.
- Card payments everywhere. The UK is nearly cashless — contactless cards or Apple/Google Pay work in cafes, taxis, and even Tunnels Beaches. A few £1 coins are handy for pier crabbing bait.
- Devon cream tea rule: clotted cream first, jam on top. Doing it the Cornish way (jam first) will earn you a playful telling-off from locals.
- Guard your fish and chips. Ilfracombe's seagulls are bold, organised thieves. Eat indoors or keep your food covered on the harbourside.
- Limited mobility? The harbour area is flat and accessible with benches and cafes. Avoid the High Street hill. Taxis to Hele Bay and other flat spots are easy to arrange at the harbour.

Ilfracombe, Devon, England — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1 Watermouth Castle** Victorian castle with rides, gardens, and family attractions.
- 3 Nelson's Distillery & School** Learn to make and taste gin at this distillery.
- 5 Holdstone Down** High moorland offering panoramic views and walking trails.
- P Cruise port / terminal**

- 2 Chapel of St Nicholas** Historic chapel and lighthouse on Ilfracombe pier.
- 4 National Trust - Morte Point** Dramatic coastal headland offering stunning walks and wildlife.
- 6 Branton & District Museum** Local museum showcasing Branton's history and heritage.