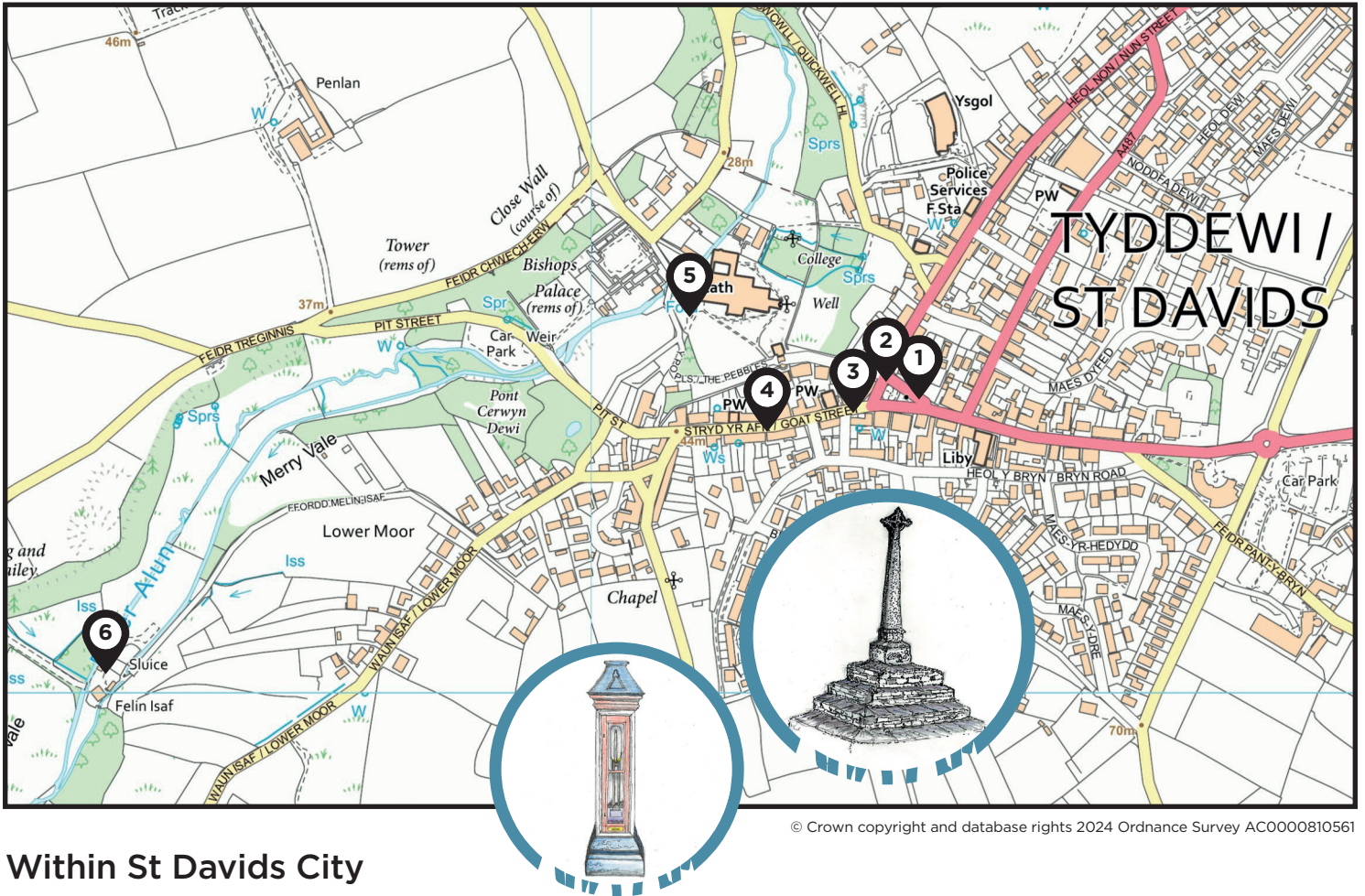


# ST DAVIDS PENINSULA RNLI TRAIL



## Within St Davids City

- 1. Cross Square** ///unopposed.carbonate.flap. The RNLI sent St Davids its first lifeboat in 1869. The Augusta was kept at Cross Square to begin with. To launch she had to be pulled about a mile, to Porthclais.
- 2. Memorial Gardens** ///refills.drifter.again. Created after the Gem disaster of 1910 when three lifeboat crew were lost during the rescue of the crew of the Democrat in Ramsey Sound. A memorial plaque to Ieuan Bateman, lost during the Notre Dame de Fatima rescue in 1956, is also here.
- 3. RNLI Barometer** ///blotting.pronouns.continued. In the 1860s the RNLI gave Fitzroy barometers to coastal towns. They helped fishermen predict bad weather and raised funds for the RNLI. Former St Davids lifeboat Coxswain Malcolm Gray records the readings to this day. See <https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/800663/> & 3D model <https://skfb.ly/oWuZQ>
- 4. The Farmers Arms** ///impeached.sprains.intrigues. Traditionally where lifeboat crew would gather to socialise.

- 5. St Davids Cathedral** ///glee.bombshell.discussed. Inside there is a plaque in memory of cathedral organist Dr Joseph Soar, who was RNLI Honorary Secretary between 1926 and 1963. In February 1943, Dr Soar took part in the rescue of a man trapped on cliffs in pitch darkness. Lifeboatman Gwilym Davies scaled the cliffs whilst Dr Soar clung to a wave swept rock below, using the lifeboat's signal lamp to illuminate the scene. Gwilym Davies and Dr Joseph Soar received RNLI Bronze medals and Dai Lewis the RNLI's Thanks on Vellum for their parts in the rescue.
- 6. Felin Isaf** ///wells.polygraph.suffer. The Bishop's Mill was restored by Dai Lewis, who was lifeboat Coxswain, miller, fisherman and musician. He was awarded an RNLI Bronze medal in 1956 for rescuing the crew of eight from the French trawler Notre Dame de Fatima. Sadly Ieuan Bateman, one of the lifeboat crew, was washed overboard and lost after a wave completely submerged the lifeboat.



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# ST DAVIDS PENINSULA RNLI TRAIL



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## Around the peninsula (Solva to St Justinian approximately 10.8 miles / 17.4km)

### 7. Solva lifeboat station SM 80150 24101, [///soonest.monument.risen](https://soonest.monument.risen).

Solva's lifeboat station (1869-1887) on Trinity Quay closed because it was too difficult launching at low tide. See <https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/544165/> & <https://skfb.ly/oWLyZ>

### 8. Cashier wreck SM 79888 23648, [///clef.triangle.entitle](https://clef.triangle.entitle).

In 1900 Little Haven lifeboat rescued the passengers and some of the crew of the Cashier after it was caught in a hurricane in St Brides Bay. The Cashier was wrecked the following day on St Elvis Rock at the mouth of Solva Harbour. See <https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/273084/>

### 9. Aber Llong SM 78876 24109, [///headless.mincing.awakening](https://headless.mincing.awakening).

Three tugboats were wrecked here in 1981 on their way between Liverpool and Greece. St Davids lifeboat rescued three crew off the tugboat Vernicos Georgis. See: <https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/273259/> & 3D Model: <https://skfb.ly/oUuuM>

### 10. Porthclais SM 74292 23938, [///shadowed.pure.estimates](https://shadowed.pure.estimates) (east side), [///establish.treetop.brands](https://establish.treetop.brands) (west side).

In 1910 Sydney Mortimer and two Coastguards rowed out from here to rescue the survivors of St Davids Lifeboat Gem, taking three hours to reach Ramsey Sound. See <https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/34342/> & <https://skfb.ly/oFGH9>

### 11. Porthlysgi SM 73071 23772, [///louder.hands.update](https://louder.hands.update).

David Hicks, the first Coxswain of St Davids Lifeboat farmed at Porthlysgi. Before the lifeboat station was built at St Justinian, the lifeboat Augusta was kept here, and dragged across the beach to launch. After the Augusta was retired, she became a chicken coop on the farm. See: <https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/34344>

### 12. Penmaenmelyn SM 71521 23591, [///budget.quantity.dried](https://budget.quantity.dried).

This spot was once a copper mine and has an excellent view of the Bitches, a reef of rocks where the pulling and sailing lifeboat Gem was wrecked in 1910. Gem had gone to the aid of a trading vessel in a storm in middle of the night. Three of the lifeboat crew were lost. The survivors spent the night clinging to the rocks. They were rescued after setting fire to their oilskins to attract attention. See: <https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/272612>

### 13. St Justinian SM 72414 25228, [///tent.paper.purchaser](https://tent.paper.purchaser).

The first lifeboat house at St Justinian was built of locally quarried stone. It housed the Augusta and then Gem. After Gem was wrecked the second boathouse (with the red roof) was built to house a motor lifeboat. The third boathouse was completed in 2016 to house the Tamar class lifeboat RNLB Norah Wortley and a D class lifeboat. Near the top of the steps leading down to the second boathouse is part of a WWII airplane. This commemorates the role lifeboat crews played in rescuing servicemen. See: <https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/34348/> & 3D Model: <https://skfb.ly/oWCMK>

### 14. Rhosson SM 72911 25279, [///postings.rare.headers](https://postings.rare.headers).

The Griffiths family of Rhosson have volunteered for the lifeboat without break for more than a century.

Please keep to public rights of way, follow the Countryside Code, take care on the Coast Path and respect private property. Thanks to St Davids Lifeboat volunteers and crew and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.