



General Information

St Mary's – Isles of Scilly

St Mary's is the largest of the archipelago and home to the majority of the 2,200 residents.

Visiting cruise ships are too large to berth alongside and will be anchored either at St Mary's Roads which is between Samson Island and St Mary's harbour, or Crow Sound which is further out on the North Eastern side of St Mary's. Passengers visiting St Mary's will be transferred from the cruise ship to St Mary's onboard the local launches arranged by SMC Port Agents. The transfer time (boat voyage not including embarking and disembarking) is around 5 minutes from St Mary's Roads or 15 to 20 minutes from Crow Sound. Transfer from ship to launch and then launch to steps on the quay will require a degree of physical fitness as there is a small gap to negotiate when stepping off the launch to the quay steps.

The quay is generally occupied with the freight ship or passenger ferry and is particularly busy between 09:45 and 10:15 while the local launches are taking passengers to the off-islands. Also between 1200 to 1245 when the passenger ferry arrives from Penzance the quay is busy so we avoid landing cruise ship passengers around these times.

The quay leads directly to Hugh Town where almost all of St Mary's food shops, restaurants and gift shops are located.

There are no banks but for cash withdrawals there is one cash machine located opposite the Atlantic Inn and there is a Post Office.

Various activities can be undertaken during a day trip to St Mary's such as:

- Walking tours
- Bus tours
- Wildlife boat trips to spot seals, puffins, and other seabirds
- Vineyard tours
- Museum visit
- Horseriding
- Watersports such as kayaking and paddleboarding
- Bike hire
- Golf buggy hire

There are four churches on St Mary's with three of the four being located in Hugh Town and one in Old Town next to the island's only cemetery. The grave of former Prime Minister Harold Wilson can be found there.

For Isles of Scilly branded clothing you can head to the IOS Store just after the Co-op and for locally made gifts there is a new honesty shop called Made in Scilly which is situated close to the Methodist church.

The Tourist Information Centre is located by Porthcressa beach and is just minutes from the quay.