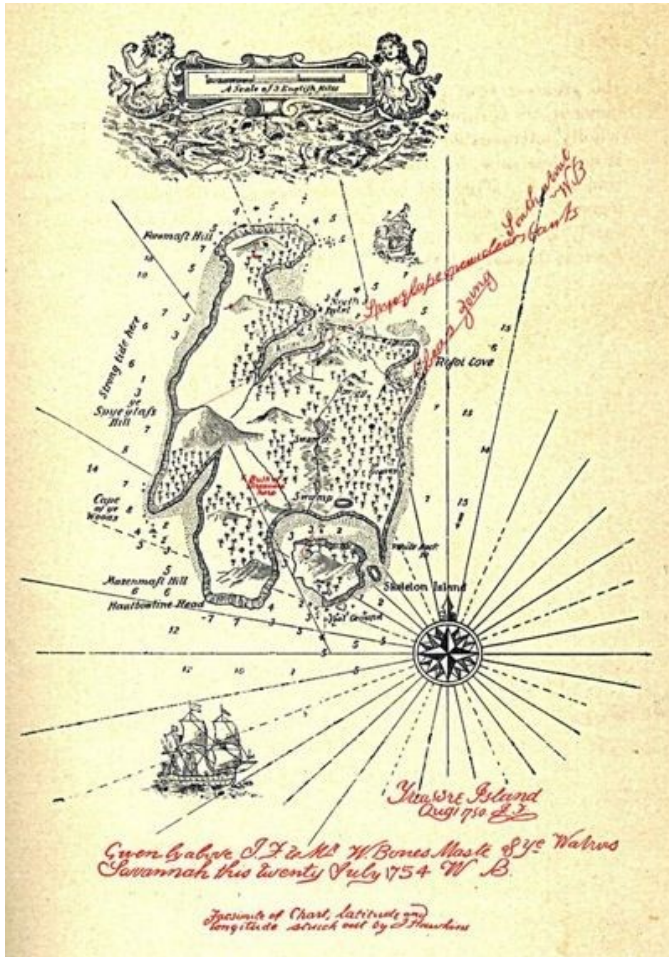


THE SEACLIFF TREASURE HUNT



Inspired by the Treasure Hunt from 'In The Footsteps of Robert Louis Stevenson' at Fontainebleau

Free download as a pdf from www.MrRLS.com

Seacliff is private property, but you are welcome to enter it on foot, by bicycle or by car through the barrier operated by payment with coins.

Please use the area responsibly.

No liability is accepted for accidents on the property, including any whilst doing this Treasure Hunt.

Do enjoy this beautiful place.

Stage No 1

The ENTRY sign for SEACLIFF

Robert Louis Stevenson was born in 1850.
He first visited the area in 1862. His
Cousins the Dales still farm the area.

Test No 1

Identify 'the blank'



Answer __

If arriving by car, go part way down the hill and stop at the top car park, then retrace your steps to the top of the hill (to just past the old quarry). At the top of the hill, on the seaward side of the track, spot the outline of some ruined buildings. Go towards them. Pass 'the door to nowhere' and go to the seaward side of the ruined castle.

Stage No 2

Auldhame Castle

Auldhame Castle is thought to have been built from an earlier building by the lawyer and diplomat Adam Otterburn of Reidhall (who died in 1548, and was the Lord Provost of Edinburgh several times between 1522 and 1547).

Stevenson used it in his unfinished short story *The Go-Between*. It also appears in his *Edinburgh Picturesque Notes* as the place where 'Wreckers cut the rings from ladies' fingers'. Ouch.

Test No 2

Subtract the number of windows in the remnants of the high corner tower from the number of windows in the gable nearest to the Bass Rock.

Answer __

Walk down or return to your car and drive down to the car park with the beach directly on your left and just past a big outcrop of rock on your right. Walk to the outcrop.

Stage No 3

St Baldred's Cave

The cave at the foot of the outcrop was discovered in 1830 when the owner of Seacliff House, George Sligo, removed drifts of sand which had filled the cave. Legend has it that St Baldred, an 8th century hermit and abbot, lived for a time in the cave, hence the name. It was used in early Iron Age times, including for human sacrifice.

Test No 3

How many BIG boulders are there at the mouth of the cave

- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3

Leave your car in this car-park or go further to the one before the road turns to go up a hill. Go down the wooden steps to the beach and start to walk to the west. Head towards the grassy knoll over red coloured rock that protrudes well into the sea at the west end of the beach.

Stage No 4

The Harbour

Seacliff Harbour is accessible through a narrow channel, blasted out of the red sandstone cliffs. This was constructed in 1890 by Andrew Laidlay, the then laird, who used a steam engine and compressed air to cut the stone. The entrance measures just three metres across and it is the smallest man made harbour in the UK.

You may even see a small fishing boat in it that belongs to one of the Dales.

Test No 4

What is that sticking out from the horizon on the left shoulder of the grassy knoll?

Is it

1. A human figure
2. A device that would put a barrier in place
3. Something else

Now walk from the harbour over to the grassy knoll and up its rocky side. Make your way to its top. It is called 'The Gegan'.

Stage No 5

The Gegan

On the Gegan were found the foundations of an ancient building, and an accompanying kitchen-midden. Gegan means “Churchman’s Haven”, another reference to St Baldred. The views across to Tantallon Castle are spectacular, and gave a perfect backdrop for the films ‘Outlaw King’ about Robert the Bruce, and ‘Mary Queen of Scots’.

Test No 5

When you stand upon the top of the grassy mound turn yourself to face straight towards the Bass Rock. Turn yourself through 180 degrees. What do you see on the horizon?

1. A bungalow
2. A castle
3. A caravan

Now carefully return past the harbour. Walk back along the rocky part of the beach until you perfectly line up the badly broken lobster claw rock with the remaining more prominent lobster claw rock.

Stage No 6

The Claws

The South Carr Beacon sits on St Baldred's Rock. It was built around 1842. The Tale about the Wreckers of Scoughall luring ships onto the rock appears in the original manuscript for *Catriona*, the sequel to *Kidnapped* by Stevenson.

Out to sea you should be able to see a North Cardinal Buoy [yellow on its body with two black arrows on top of it pointing upwards] that was put there in 2017 by the Northern Lighthouse Board.

Test No 6

What do you see just to the left of the claw?

1. An island
2. A cardinal buoy
3. A cross

Now go much further along the beach. Go right past the rocks at the east end of the beach and on to the small bay beyond. Climb onto the prominent slabs at the end of the bay until you reach a shear drop that bars your way ahead. Look back towards the South Carr Beacon with its cross on top. It should be just to the right of the Bass Rock.

Stage No 7

The Bass

The Bass Rock is uninhabited. Long ago it was settled by an early Christian hermit, and later had an important castle, that became a prison. It was Scotland's 'Alcatraz'. The island belongs to the Hamilton-Dalrymple family, who acquired it in 1706, and before that the Lauder family for almost six centuries. The Bass Rock Lighthouse was constructed on the rock in 1902 to a design by David Stevenson, a cousin of Robert Louis Stevenson.

The Bass is in many works of fiction, including *Catriona* by Stevenson. The story includes 'Black' Andie and Tam Dale, relations of the Dales that still farm hereabouts.

Test No 7

Can you still see the top of the North Cardinal Buoy?

1. Yes
2. No

Return to your car, and take the road up the side of the hill. Admire the ruins of Seacliff House as you pass.

Stage No 8

Seacliff House

Seacliff House was originally built in 1750, was then rebuilt in 1841 and finally extended in the 1850s. It burned down in 1907 and has remained a ruin ever since.

Test No 8

What do you pass through before you turn right and on towards the main road?

1. The hollowed out trunk of a tree
2. A cutting through rocks
3. An arch

You have finished. Now for the final stage; to work out what the treasure is!

Stage No 9

THE TREASURE

Now do some simple maths

Where the answer was taken from a list of up to 3 possible answers, use the list number for your chosen answer

$$A = [\text{answer 1} + \text{answer 2} + \text{answer 3}]$$

$$B = [\text{answer 4} - \text{answer 5}]$$

$$C = [\text{answer 6} + \text{answer 7} - \text{answer 8}]$$

$$\text{Final Answer} = A * B * C \quad \underline{\quad}$$

If you need to check your answer you can find it at the **DRIFT** coffee house, by Canty Bay EH39 5PL.
Just ask. It is in a folder marked **TREASURE!**



COLLECTION HETZEL