



There is a presumption in favour of public access to the Defence Training Estate, on Public Rights of Way, balanced against the over-riding national requirement for safe and sustainable military training and conservation. The Pembrokeshire Coastal Path is 288 kilometres (180 miles) long, and enters the Castlemartin training area from the east at Trevalen Gates, and leaves at Castlemartin Pond in the west. There are a number of ancient fortified sites along the walk's route, and on the coastal section in Range East the public must at all times stay on the seaward side of the white stakes. Public access to the range impact areas is, however, prohibited at all times, and when on a public footpath that crosses a Training Area:

Follow the Country Code

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work
- Guard against all risk of fire
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
- Take your litter home
- Take special care on country roads
- Make no unnecessary noise
- Keep to the public paths across farmland
- Fasten all gates
- Keep dogs under close control
- Protect wild life, plants and trees
- Help to keep all water clean

Great care is taken to ensure the safety of these walks, although areas used by the armed forces for training can obviously be dangerous – and this applies throughout the Pembrokeshire training areas. Anyone walking on MoD land must obey all signs and byelaws relevant to the area being visited.

Remember! Unexploded Ordnance: Do not touch any unidentified object.

Always comply with the following:

Safety

- Do not approach, touch, or pick up any metal objects lying on the ground
- Keep to the footpaths and do not deviate from them
- The use of metal detectors is prohibited
- Keep away from all buildings, bunkers and military installations except where it is clearly shown that public access is permitted
- No camping or fires are permitted
- All cliffs are dangerous

DEFENCE TRAINING ESTATE (Pembrokeshire)



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In addition to this Public Information Leaflet for Pembrokeshire, the Defence Training Estate, and its sister land-agency organisation, Defence Estates (DE – address below), both produces more literature. The *DTE Annual Report* summarises yearly progress by the DTE organisation; DE's *Walks on MoD Land* details a number of walks on 10 DTE areas including Salisbury Plain, Castlemartin itself, Catterick, Dartmoor and Otterburn. DTE also produces *In the Field* magazine, published each autumn, which contains news from some of the smaller training areas around the country, as well as updates on developments in management techniques. Finally, DE's annual publication *Sanctuary* contains articles about the Defence Estate across the whole country. All these publications are free and can be obtained from the respective addresses below.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Headquarters DTE P

Castlemartin Range, Merrion, Pembrokeshire SA71 5EB
Telephone: 01646 662324

Headquarters Defence Training Estate

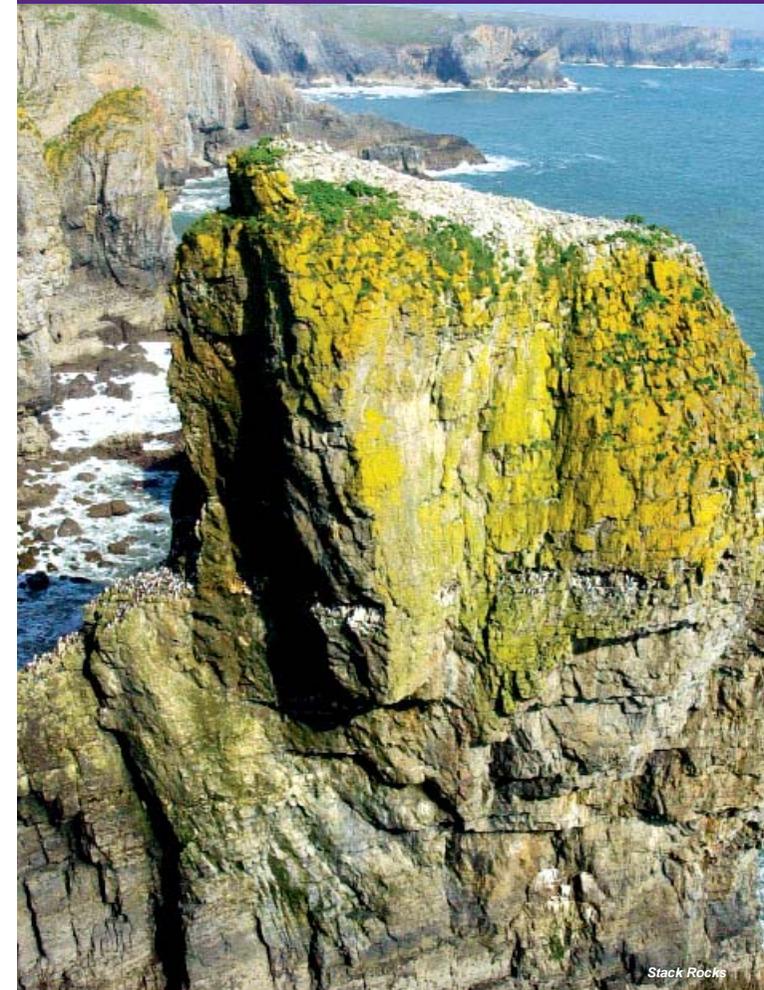
Land Warfare Centre, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 0DJ
Telephone: 01985 222856

Defence Estates

Blakemore Drive, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B75 7RL
Telephone: 0121 311 2000

www.defence-estates.mod.uk

PUBLIC INFORMATION LEAFLET



DE
DEFENCE ESTATES
Delivering Estate Solutions to Defence Needs



DTE Pembrokeshire

WHY THE ARMED FORCES NEED TO TRAIN

The Armed Forces is held in the highest regard around the world. This respect has been hard-won over recent years in Northern Ireland, the Falkland Islands, the Gulf, Bosnia, Kosovo – and countless peacekeeping operations throughout the world. But such professionalism does not just happen by chance. It is attained by constant, thorough and tough training, in realistic conditions. The Defence Training Estate (DTE) provides the principal facilities to achieve this.

ORGANISATION

The Defence Training Estate in the UK is controlled by Headquarters DTE, based at Headquarters Land Command in Warminster, Wiltshire (see address at end of this leaflet). The Estate is sub-divided into 12 regionally-based areas, each with its own Headquarters and staff. DTE Pembrokeshire (DTE P) consists of Castlemartin training area and ranges, Manorbier training facility, Penally training camp, and the training area at Templeton. Together, these four sites cover about 6,630 acres (2,685 hectares).

TRAINING IN PEMBROKESHIRE

DTE P was formed in 1999, and hosts units from many other parts of the UK, who come to take advantage of the particular facilities we can offer them. At Castlemartin, we provide one of the UK's major live-fire training and manoeuvre facilities for armoured fighting vehicles, and at Manorbier we have the Army's principal training assets on close air-defence systems. Penally Training Camp provides accommodation and range facilities both to complement Manorbier, and in its own right, and also controls the dry training area at Templeton disused airfield. Each of these facilities is described below.



CASTLEMARTIN TRAINING AREAS AND RANGES

The War Office requisitioned the area in 1938 from the Cawdor Estate, and many ruins of the former settlements that belonged to the 53 farming communities, which had to be relocated, can still be seen. The land was returned to farming after the Second World War, but in 1951 the Korean War saw its reactivation for range use, which has

remained in being ever since. Nevertheless, farming has also continued alongside the range's primary use, with flocks of sheep and, in the winter, cattle as well.

Castlemartin is the largest single part of DTE P, covering about 5,900 acres (2,390 hectares) of freehold land on the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. The range is open to all regular and territorial Army, Cadet forces, other services and some overseas forces. But in particular Castlemartin is the only UK Army range normally available for armoured units for direct-fire live gunnery exercises and associated manoeuvres, with both on-land impact areas and a large offshore safety area. The facility is therefore mainly used for so-called 'mounted' and 'dismounted' (i.e. in-vehicle and on foot) field firing up to company level; but when such exercises are not under way it is also used for dismounted 'dry' training (i.e. without live firing) across most of the area. It is also used by civilian organisations and research establishments.

During non-firing periods the public have access to a section of the Pembrokeshire Coast Path – from Trevallen, via Stack Rocks, to the lower Warren Road.



MANORBIER RANGE

Air Defence Range (ADR) Manorbier was established in 1972 following the amalgamation of the field and anti-aircraft Schools of Artillery at Larkhill. Activity has increased considerably since the Range was formed and Manorbier is now the main UK Close Air Defence (CAD) range for the British Army. ADR Manorbier is used to fire various CAD missiles, area-defence machine gun systems up to 35mm calibre, and provides firing and training facilities for all CAD units of the Field Army and Commando Forces. The Range is also used by the Defence Air Warfare Centre.

Set on its 102-acre (41-hectare) cliff-top site, there is a large danger area around Manorbier – approximately 220 square miles (570 square kilometres), out to a maximum of 13 miles (21 kilometres) at sea, and up to 50,000 feet overhead. The sea danger area is protected by byelaws, and surveillance of the danger areas is achieved using both radar and visual observation.



PENALLY TRAINING CAMP

Penally Training Camp (PTC) is located adjacent to the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park and near Tenby to the east and the town of Pembroke to the west. The camp, and associated firing range, was established in 1860 to cater for an identified need for musketry training following the Crimean War. Extensive use of the accommodation and training facilities was also made during the First and Second World Wars, providing facilities for many British and Allied troops. Some of the original buildings are still in use. PTC's classrooms and training facilities complement activities at both Manorbier and Templeton, and it administers the latter. But the camp is also used as a centre for many types of training, including adventurous training, and is the principal accommodation for units using ADR Manorbier.



TEMPLETON

Templeton Dry Training Area is a disused airfield, and used for a variety of training tasks, including helicopter and air defence exercises, low-level infantry tactics, and driver training. An additional facility is a permanent orienteering course.

PEMBREY SANDS

Pembrey Sands Air Weapons Range (AWR) was established in 1964. Situated on the Pembrey coast between Llanelli and Carmarthen, the land surface area comprises some 1112 hectares (2748 acres) and the sea danger area extends some 5km out to sea. There are 4 AWR targets; 3 bombing targets used for both level and dive-bombing and one strafe target consisting of 3 separate strafe panels. Hawk ac of 19(R) Sqn are the main users of the range teaching the basic techniques for air-to-ground firing; every fast jet pilot in the RAF has been trained at Pembrey Sands. A long flat beach provides an ideal landing surface for C130 aircrew to practice natural surface landing in preparation for deployment on operations. Additionally, Pembrey provides realistic training for both Forward Air Control



and Close Air Defence units; when not required by aircraft the range is available for joint service dry training.

A UNIQUE HERITAGE

The use of Castlemartin, in particular, as a training area has preserved a spectacular coastal landscape, designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). It is also home to a range of flora and fauna already lost in other parts of Great Britain. These factors, along with its guardianship of significant archaeological and geological interest, including fossil records of international significance, mean that the DTE and its sister organisation, Defence Estates, manages this special heritage to preserve it for future generations.



There are many rare or uncommon species of birds, insects and plants; and Castlemartin has the highest concentration of seabirds on the Pembrokeshire mainland, including guillemots, razorbills and kittiwakes. It also accommodates the chough, now extinct in England. These shy birds do not settle in areas to which people

have regular access, and Castlemartin supports about a dozen pairs. The grazing regime on the coastal heath and unimproved grassland encourages many birds such as wheatears, skylarks, meadow pipits, stonechats, and various species of warblers. There is a breeding population of barn owls, and other predators such as ravens, buzzards, peregrines and kestrels occur frequently.

Some of the pre-war farm buildings still survive, others are now in ruins. Some are used for military training, and Flimston Chapel, maintained in good condition, may be visited, and regular services are held there. The ancient St Govan's Chapel, a tiny, much-visited building on the foreshore near St Govan's Head on the Pembrokeshire Coast Path, is leased to the National Park.

ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

Along with the rest of the Training Estate, DTE P strives continually to accommodate the interests of both the military and other stakeholders in the guardianship of our open spaces, and has made excellent progress in maintaining the development of sophisticated planning and management systems to ensure that training on our Estate is appropriate in terms of the area, nature of ground, and seasonal factors – for example, by taking into account farming practices and conservation considerations such as the breeding seasons of rare species.

There are nearly 200 military conservation groups within the UK. The Army takes its role in conservation seriously and recognises the unique value of its Training Areas. Conservation interests are safeguarded in DTE P by management agreements with statutory bodies such as the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Department and the Countryside Council for Wales, as well as through help and advice from organisations such as the Castlemartin Range Recording and Advisory Group, and representatives from Manorbier and Penally.



Conservation groups are always open to new members. Membership is free and the groups are always pleased to recruit anyone prepared to help in monitoring and the compilation of records of the wildlife in the area.