

BOSCASTLE VILLAGE TRAIL



UNCOVER THE SECRETS OF BOSCASTLE

Join North Cornwall's Crime Inspector Evan Evans on a village-wide mystery to stop a treasure thief! Solve clues, eliminate suspects, and explore Boscastle's hidden corners in this fun and family-friendly adventure.

Boscastle Bakery

Award winning pasties
freshly baked
every day



Tel: 01840 250205

boscastle.bakery@yahoo.co.uk



THE NAPOLEON INN

01840 250 204

High St, Boscastle. PL35 0BD

A delightful 16th century pub full of character
Real ales served straight from the barrel

The Boscastle Buys every Tuesday Night
LIVE MUSIC Every Friday

Roast served until 7pm every Sunday
Large sunny beer garden - dogs on leads welcome

Something happening every day -
find out more at www.napoleoninn.co.uk



Boscastle Rocks

Crystals, Fossils and Unusual Gifts

Tel : 01840 250400

The Bridge, Boscastle PL35 0HE
boscastlerocks@outlook.com

SEA to SHORE Artisan Collective

LOCALLY HANDMADE ART,
CRAFTS, GIFTS AND
DECOR FOR YOUR HOME

seatoshareartisans.co.uk

5 Bridge Walk

BOSCASTLE FARM SHOP & CAFE



Discover Boscastle Farm Shop -
An award-winning Farm Shop & Café
perched on the stunning North Cornish Coast



01840 250827

enquiries@boscastlefarmshop.co.uk

www.boscastlefarmshop.co.uk

[@boscastle_farmshop](https://www.instagram.com/boscastle_farmshop)



Pop in and browse our fantastic 'Things'.
Find us by the river on your way to the
harbour. We are open everyday, almost
all year round.

Dry dogs are very welcome.

07812 781897

thingsboscastle@gmail.com

Quality gifts, homeware, cards & jewellery

Proprietors: Naomi & Andy Templar

BosCars Taxi

Tel: 07790983911

*Private Hire covering all areas
Airport, Coach, Train and
Luggage transfers*

*Friendly & reliable
24 hrs Service*



TOBY JUG CAFE BOSCASTLE

6 Bridge Walk

Open Daily from 9.30am

Breakfast, lunch and more...

01840 250501



INFORMATION FROM
**INSPECTOR
EVAN EVANS**



Please take care, use common sense, and respect your surroundings. Stick to public rights of way and paths where access is clearly permitted. Always ensure that children are supervised and that all members of your group are aware of potential hazards such as roads, uneven ground, or weather conditions.

We ask that you do not trespass or disturb local residents or businesses.

Some clues may take you close to private property or sensitive areas — please observe and respect all signage.

We've made every effort to ensure that this trail is accurate at the time of printing. However, we cannot take responsibility for any changes to the area that affect the solving of clues. Participants take part at their own risk. We are not liable for any loss, damage, or injury to persons or property incurred while following this trail.

This trail is offered in good faith, and we hope it adds a fun and memorable experience to your visit!

For more information, see Boscastle CIC website at www.boscastlecic.co.uk

This trail has been created by Boscastle CIC for public enjoyment and community engagement. It is provided free of charge for personal use only. Please do not edit, reproduce, or distribute this material, or any part of its contents, including images and character illustrations, without written permission. The trail is intended solely as a walking experience around Boscastle and must not be adapted for other use. All rights reserved © Boscastle CIC.

How to take part



Use the “village trail”, signposted on the finger posts to assist you around this trail. As you make your way through the village, you’ll encounter a list of suspects and potential weapons used in the planned theft. Your job is to carefully follow the clues, each of which will help you eliminate suspects and weapons from the list. By the end of the trail, only one suspect and one weapon will remain – leading you to the mastermind behind the heist and the tool of choice to support the crime. Cross off each suspect and weapon along the way to reveal the answer!

To begin

Start your journey at the main exit of Boscastle car park. Upon exiting the car park, look for a stone plaque on a building that highlights the regeneration and flood defences of Boscastle after the famous 2004 flood that swept through the village. The plaque mentions that it was opened by a Member of Parliament.

Your mission

Your mission is to uncover the hidden treasures of Boscastle by solving a series of clues and mysteries around the village. Help North Cornwall Crime Inspector Evan Evans stop a treasure thief from stealing a priceless artefact hidden in the Castle Ruins!

CONFIDENTIAL

Make sure you have a good look at the suspects and weapons before you set off.

- 1. Find this name to eliminate your first suspect with the same name, and use the month to eliminate your first weapon from the numbered grid.**



Look for a tall stone building next to the car park, one of the oldest buildings in Boscastle. This awesome building has been around since the 1700s when the small village of Boscastle boasted at least 18 pubs. Using the building's name will help you eliminate a suspect.

2. Using the first word, can you match four letters to one of the suspects?



Information just in! Don't move off just yet. Local chatter has been picked up, and intelligence suggests a building next door may have manufactured weapons used by the suspect.

3. What is made in this building, and which weapon does it eliminate?



As you head down through the heart of the village, you'll pass Boscastle's main shopping area. While today it's a vibrant cluster of cafés, galleries, and gift shops, this part of the village once hosted a NatWest bank and several large stone warehouses tied to the harbour trade. Though the suspect may have passed through here without drawing attention, they might have stopped to eye up more than just the souvenirs! Move towards the harbour, where you'll find a flood plaque on the side of a clothing shop commemorating the 2004 disaster and its recovery. The plaque mentions that it was originally built in the 1800s as what type of building? Find that 7 letter word...

4. Hidden within that word is the name of a three-letter animal. Use this to eliminate the suspect associated with that animal.



Approaching the harbour, look for the Museum of Witchcraft and Magic. It is set back beside the river.

You could feel as though something ancient is watching – outside stands a striking figure—Cernunnos, the Celtic god of animals, wealth, and the underworld, sculpted from twisted willow by a local artist. With his ram-horned serpent and torch in hand, he silently guards. A series of sticks have been cast to form the initials of the Museum.

5. Count the number of sticks used, then subtract how many letters are represented. Use that number to eliminate a weapon from your list.



Boscastle Harbour, with its natural inlet and historic stone walls, has long been a centre of village life. Once bustling with trading vessels and lined with warehouses, it now welcomes kayakers, artists, and crabbers alike. But it's also the perfect place for someone hoping to slip by unnoticed.



Important information has just been received

Suspicious characters have been spotted at the top of the village. Don't panic; there is a shortcut via the footpath near the boat moorings. Make sure you've had a drink, as it's time to move on from here.

Head towards Forrabury Church using the coastal footpath. A white building stands at the top of a hill. This building has the motto "eyes along the coast" so the suspect most likely would not have stayed around this area for long! Overlooking the picturesque hidden harbour of Boscastle, this lookout was

originally built in the early 1800's as a summer house by the local landowner. Later, it was leased to the Board of Trade as a lookout to help prevent smuggling and later used as a coastguard lookout up until the 1970's. Recently, under National Trust ownership, it has been maintained as a folly, until in 2002 it was leased by the National Trust to Boscastle National Coastwatch Institution (NCI).

As you pass the moorings to get onto the path – have a look at why the wooden mooring posts are round but the holes they go into are square! Something to ponder as you continue to make your way up and around.



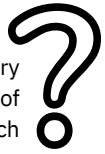
6. The name of the hill starts with "W." Take the first two letters of this hill and match them to the initials of another suspect.



Head towards Forrabury church that sits on top of a hill overlooking the sea. As you make your way, you will be walking beside the 42 strips of lands that stretch from the church to the coast and are part of an ancient field system that was very much in operation during the medieval period. The land is divided into long, curving strips, with 1-2 feet of grass planted on a raised bed in between the strips. The strips are most obvious in spring before crops come up, and in September after the harvest.



The Forrabury Stitches are a very rare survival of a strip-system of landholding and cultivation which has its origin certainly before the 17th century and probably considerably earlier. This is 1 of just 3 places in Britain where this method of farming is still practised.



Entering the church grounds from the path. Boscastle has two churches reflecting its importance in earlier times. St Symphorian at Forrabury stands proudly overlooking Boscastle.

7. Check the church noticeboard for historic records. Use the second digit of the earliest year listed to eliminate another weapon from the grid.



Exit the church grounds and take the righthand path to the road. Follow the road towards the playing area and football pitch, where the local teams play. Inspector Evans suspects the criminal may have been scouting the nearby playing area for their escape. While you're there, keep an eye out—locals say if you hear squeaking, it might be the swings... or something more suspicious! Head toward the children's play area beside the pitch.

8. Count how many individual swings are in the set, and use this number to eliminate the corresponding weapon from the numbered grid.



The suspect may have hunkered down in one of Boscastle's historic pubs, with ties to smugglers! Make your way to The Napoleon Inn, along the village trail marked by the fingerposts.



In this tranquil part of Boscastle, the trail takes you along Paradise Road, which has been known to host some suspicious characters. Look out for the name of a house, which is much more famous in the United States – but Boscastle has its own version too!

Amenities

	Parking
	Telephone
	Toilets
	Bus stop
	Post Box
	Doctor's Surgery
	Church
	Methodist Chapel
	Village Hall
	Community Hall
	School
	Cash Point Machine
	Post Office

Attractions

	Museum of Witchcraft
	Boscastle Harbour
	Blow Hole
	Willapark Iron Age Fort & Lookout Tower
	Stone Cross
	Bottreaux Castle Site

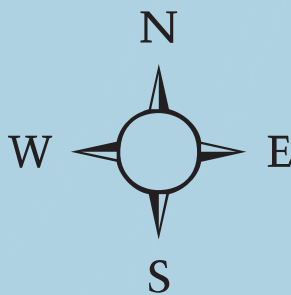
Pubs

	The Wellington
	Cobweb Inn
	Napoleon Inn

Cafés and Restaurants

	Bridge House
	The Riverside
	Toby Jug
	The Rocket Store
	National Trust
	The Harbour Light
	Boscastle Farm Shop

BOSCASTLE VILLAGE MAP



0 1/2 mile





B & Bs

- 1 Bridge House
- 2 The Riverside
- 3 Boscastle House
- 4 The Old Coach House

Self-Catering

- 1 2 Hollowell House
- 2 18 The Old Oil House
- 3 The Old Store House
- 4 Orchard Lodge
- 5 Polrunny Farm Holiday Cottages
- 6 Reddivalen Farm
- 7 Venndown Farmhouse Holidays
- 8 Hillsborough Holidays
- 9 Boscastle Holidays
- 10 Old Rectory St Juliot

Shops

- 1 Nisa & Post Office
- 2 Boscastle Pottery
- 3 Cornish Stores
- 4 Sea to Shore
- 5 Boscastle Bakery
- 6 Enchanted
- 7 Treasure Chest
- 8 The Picture Parlour
- 9 Leather shop
- 10 Boscastle Rocks
- 11 Weird Fish
- 12 Cornish Rambler
- 13 Things
- 14 Old Forge Gallery
- 15 National Trust Shop
- 16 Harbour Light Clothing
- 17 Boscastle Premier
- 18 Boscastle Farm Shop



The National Trust look after much of the land around Boscastle

- Footpaths
- Valley Trail
- Village trail

9. Use the colour in the name of this house to strike another suspect off your list!



Arriving at The Napoleon Inn, its name is said to be linked to Napoleon Bonaparte, reflecting the inn's history as a hub for smugglers during the Napoleonic Wars – hence the name. Some say that secret cellars and passages run beneath its thick stone walls, and if those walls could sing, they'd sing sea shanties and tales of contraband rum.

10. What animal is depicted on the sign? Use the first letter of the animal's name to eliminate another suspect and weapon.



Follow the village trail down the hill taking you down one of the oldest parts of Boscastle. Here stands Boscastle School, where generations of local minds have wrestled with sums, stories... and suspicious goings-on! Some say Inspector Evans once took shelter here during a sudden downpour, only to discover a chalkboard covered in coded symbols.



The suspect may have passed by here recently — check for anything historical. Find a plaque or sign detailing the school's founding year.

11. What year was the school founded? Use the second digit of the year to eliminate the next weapon.



Nearby are the ruins of a castle that is set back off the street. This motte and bailey castle was a medieval fortification of the Norman times.

12. What are the third and fourth letters of the castle's name? These letters correspond to another innocent person to cross off your list.



Walk up the path to visit the site of the castle. More intelligence will be found on the information board!

The principal residence of the family settling here during the reign of Henry II was one of the most important during medieval Cornwall. Look for a historical marker mentioning the construction or an event tied to the castle. Read the history board to uncover how the site once functioned.

13. What did the historian Richard Carew believe the castle had become? Find that word and eliminate the weapon most associated with it.



Continue your journey down the hill along the oldest roads in the village. As you pass through this area, the cottages will tell some stories to you. One of these cottages used to be an old prison where the holes from the bars in the lintel can still be seen! Keep walking but stop where the road splits and look at the wall on the left-hand side. Along the top few rows of the stone wall is a small object embedded in the stone.



14. What object is contained in the face of the wall? Eliminate this object from the weapons list.



If you're struggling to find it, look at your remaining weapons. What might be small, round, and easily lost in a wall? Use logic to now look and eliminate it.

Continue your journey down the hill using the one-way road. As you re-enter the harbour area, you will pass Boscastle's former coaching inn and hotel, connected to notable literary figures. Everyone in the village knows that North Cornwall Crime Inspector Evan Evans regularly enjoys a drink at The Wellington after work, so it is likely the suspect would have kept away but a clue is situated here.

The 19th-century poet Thomas Hardy stayed there while working as an architect in the region. Hardy, who fell in love with Emma Gifford, whom he later married, is believed to have been inspired by the landscape and atmosphere of the area, including The Wellington itself.



15. What item is Wellington sitting inside? Use this word to identify another innocent person.



As you stand on the main bridge and look upstream, take a moment to reflect on the incredible resilience of Boscastle. In 2004, this very spot was at the heart of a devastating flash flood that tore through the village, sweeping away buildings, cars, and livelihoods. Thanks to extraordinary community spirit and national support, Boscastle rebuilt—stronger and prouder. You can see one of the wooden bridges rebuilt after the flood that crosses into the gardens of a nearby building.

16. The first part of the telephone number for this building eliminates a suspect. Decode the telephone number: 1=A, 2=B, 3=C... to match the initials of a remaining suspect.



That's the end of the trail. You should be left with one suspect and one weapon. Ah ha! Can you close this case?



Suspect: _____

Weapon: _____

Report your suspect and weapon to North Cornwall
Crime Inspector, Evan Evans, to prevent the priceless
artefact from being stolen at

www.boscastlecic.co.uk/trail

Submit your answer and the Inspector will respond!



OUR SUSPECTS



Barry Boot

A local healer, often seen around the village practicing ancient healing rituals with crystals from his pouch.



Felicity "The Falcon" Fields

Regularly seen near the Wellington Hotel, looking for her elusive black cat.



Gerald Green

Lurking around the River Valency trying to catch the odd salmon swimming upriver.



Wilma "The Witch" Rogerson

A frequent visitor to the Museum of Witchcraft, obsessed with ancient spells.



Charles 'Webber' Cobb

A weaver and craftsman who spends much of his time near the harbour with his dog Rufus.



Wendy Ingham

Known for her involvement in the rebuilding efforts after the 2004 flood.



Arthur 'Harbour-master' Drake

Once responsible for overseeing Boscastle's docks, he is rumoured to have hidden treasure in the old smuggler's tunnels near Forrabury Church.



Toby "The Tower" Thompson

Regularly seen around Forrabury Church and the Stiches.



Harriet Hughes

A local researcher often found near historical plaques and markers.



William White

A well-known figure in Boscastle, often seen singing alongside the Boscastle Buoy on a Tuesday night.

CHOICE OF WEAPONS



The Smuggler's Rope

Used to haul contraband through smuggling tunnels and to aid daring escapes from makeshift prisons.



The Pottery Shard

A broken piece of pottery, potentially dangerous, linked to Boscastle Pottery.



The Penny Coin

A rare, ancient coin tied to Toby "The Tower" Thompson, possibly stolen from a historical site.



The Falcon's Feather

Fast and precise, linked to Felicity "The Falcon" Fields.



The Owl's Talon

A sharp talon tied to Wilma "The Witch" Rogerson symbolising stealth and sharpness.



Harbour Hook

A tool often used by the boatmen of Boscastle as it is perfect for securing boat at the harbourside.



The Valency Pebble

A small but deadly weapon taken from the River Valency.



The Bridge Spanner

A tool linked to Wendy "The Bridge" Ingham and the rebuilding of the village's infrastructure.



The Witch's Broomstick

A magical artefact from the Museum of Witchcraft.



The Plank's Hammer

A construction from William White's tool kit and had its handle replaced 6 times in the latest bridge repairs.

Weird Fish



FEEL GOOD CLOTHING SINCE 1993



MENSWEAR



WOMENSWEAR

THE BRIDGE, BOSCASTLE, PL35 0HE

The LEATHER SHOP

ORIGINAL GIFTS IN LEATHER

THE OLD MILL, BOSCASTLE,

CORNWALL PL35 0AA

PHONE (01840) 250515

THE RIVERSIDE GUEST ACCOMMODATION

*Open all year round. Spacious en-suite rooms
next to the River Valency.*

Central location.

COASTAL RESTAURANT

*Fresh fish a speciality, afternoon teas, evening restaurant,
Traditional Sunday carvery.*

01840 250216

www.riversideboscastle.co.uk

Games

Witchy Gifts

Incense
& Candles

Jewellery

Art
Supplies



Fairtrade Clothing, Hats & Bags

Tel 07557 211902

Cornish Stores

Locally sourced goods, fresh coffee,
sandwiches, pasties, ice cream, fudge,
sweets, chutneys, preserves,
alcohol, beers and souvenirs.

In store and online.

01840 250344

www.cornishstores.co.uk



THE OLD COACH HOUSE, BOSCASTLE

Tel: 07890099995

email: stay@old-coach.co.uk

www.old-coach.co.uk



Cobweb Inn

FREE HOUSE

TEL: 01840 250278

Well Tended Beers and Ales

Quality Food at Quality Prices plus
Sunday Carvery (Booking advisable)

LARGE PARTIES EASILY CATERED FOR

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

for more information visit our web site
www.cobwebinn.com

The Picture Parlour

Arts, Crafts and Gifts
Picture Framing
Open daily throughout the season
from 11am

Shop 07583554245

Framing 07793 939332

www.pictureparlour.co.uk

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There are no vertical margin lines or other markings on the page.