

Coastlines New stamps depict some of the



Technical details

Printer Walsall Security Print

Process Lithography

Stamp size 37 × 35mm

Sheets 100

Perforation 14.5

Phosphor Two bands

Gum PVA

Gutter pairs Horizontal
(between blocks of stamps)

Cylinders and colours

W1 phosphor ● W1 silver ●
W1 black ● W1 greenish yellow
● W1 bright magenta ● W1
new blue

British Postmark Bulletin

Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row,
London EC1Y 8HQ.

TEN 27p (1st class) stamps featuring the British coastline will go on sale at post offices, Royal Mail Tallents House and Post Office philatelic outlets on 19 March. The colourful designs are printed in a se-tenant block within sheets of 100. The stamps depict many different aspects of the coastline – sandy or pebbly beaches, rugged cliffs, sand dunes, harbours, roadways, and coastal fortifications. Collectors will have fun identifying the featured scenes and perhaps visiting some of the sites. The Queen's head and location, printed in silver, are positioned at top right and top left on each stamp.

FIRST DAY FACILITIES Unstamped Royal Mail FDC envelopes will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets about a week before 19 March, price 25p. Orders for FDCs with the 10 stamps cancelled by a pictorial first day postmark of Tallents House Edinburgh or Coast, Poolewe, Achnasheen must reach Tallents House (address below) by the day of issue. Price £3.59 UK (including VAT) or £3.06 overseas (no VAT). Collectors may send stamped covers on the day of issue to: Royal Mail Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB, or Special Handstamp Centre, Rutherglen DO, Duchess Place, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 1BT (Coast postmark), marking the outer envelope 'FDO207' (Tallents House), or 'FDO208' (Coast). Covers can be posted or handed in at main post offices for the Coast postmark. A non-pictorial Coast postmark is also available from the Special Handstamp Centre, request 'FDO208 NP'.

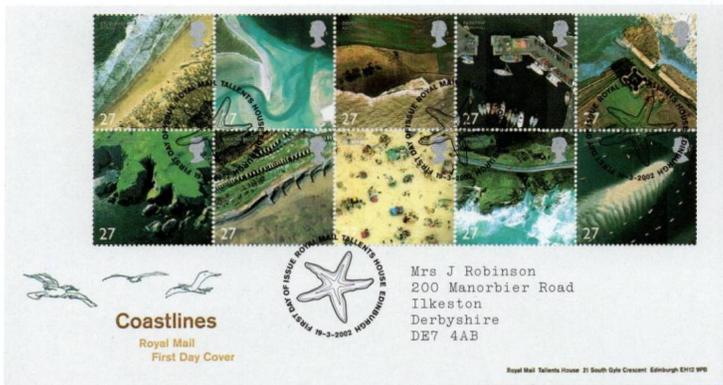
Details of sponsored handstamps for 19 March will be announced in the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from Tallents House (£10 UK/Europe; £21.75 elsewhere). For a sample copy, write to the Editor at the address opposite.

dramatic variety of Britain at the water's edge

The stamps were designed by Richard Cooke, whose previous work for Royal Mail can be seen on the 64p of the 1999 Farmers' Tale set and the current 1st class Northern Ireland stamp showing patchwork fields in Co Londonderry.

Top row (left to right): Studland Bay, Dorset; Luskentyre, South Harris; Dover, Kent; Padstow, Cornwall; and Broadstairs, Kent.

Lower row: St Abb's Head, Scottish Borders; Dunster Beach, Somerset; Newquay, Cornwall; Portrush, Co Antrim; and Conwy, north Wales.



A well-illustrated presentation pack (below) containing the 10 stamps (price £3.05), and stamp cards (25p each) will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets. The pack includes the poem 'Coastlines', by Matthew Francis.

