

Best of Anglesey Coast Path Guided Island Hopping Holiday

Tour Style: Guided walking

Destinations: Wales & United Kingdom

Trip code: XZLDW

Trip Walking Grade: 3



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Located just off the mainland's northwest coast, the Welsh island of Anglesey delights with wonderful walking trails, great beaches, ancient castles, and an impressive coastline. It's also one of the best places in Britain for birdwatching, with thousands of rare bird species flocking to its scenic shores every year. Holiday highlights include spending time on the picturesque Llanddwyn Island, and admiring the 19th century South Stack Lighthouse perched on its own tiny island off the far west coast.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Comfortable en-suite rooms in our partner accommodation(s)
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Guided walks with an experienced HF Holidays Leader
- All transport to and from walks where necessary

HOLIDAYS HIGHLIGHTS

- Discovering the beautiful landscapes of Anglesey on foot
- Visiting Llanddwyn Island (tides permitting)
- Walking miles of coastline and spotting all sorts of wildlife
- Relaxing on the beautiful sandy beaches
- Admiring South Stack Lighthouse
- Appreciating the peacefulness and slower pace of life

TRIP SUITABILITY

This Best of the Anglesey Coast Path Guided Walking /Island Hopping holiday is graded 3 which involves walks /hikes on good paths with some significant ascents, often quite a distance each day. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the relevant fitness required to join this holiday. A sustained effort is required to complete this walk and provision cannot be made for anyone who opts out. Please be sure you can manage the daily mileage and ascent as listed. The walking day is normally 6-7 hours. It is important for your own enjoyment, and that of your fellow guests that you can maintain the pace. It makes a lot of sense to spend time getting some additional exercise before your holiday. We suggest that you try to fit in a number of longer walks, including some on hilly terrain. Other exercises such as cycling, jogging and swimming are also excellent for developing increased stamina.

Your fitness

Having a solid base of fitness before your holiday will ensure you've the best chance of completing the holiday and enjoying it to boot. Here's a few simple tips to help you get fit and ready for your challenge:

- Get out walking - whether the weather, get out there, and start building your fitness months before your holiday
- Build your distance gradually and get a number of 6-8hr hill days in
- Ideally, try and do two consecutive days training if possible
- Take the stairs every time
- Train on different terrain
- Train with your day pack and your walking boots too, to ensure they're well worn in before your holiday
- Other sports help improve your walking fitness too. The best ones are jogging, cycling, swimming, which will build your stamina, and yoga which will help strengthen your core and improve balance
- Time training will help ensure you enjoy your holiday to the max.



ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

You're welcome to check in at the Bulkeley Hotel from 4pm. Our leader will meet the group in the hotel reception at 6:30pm and they'll provide a short introduction to the holiday before dinner. Days 2 to 7 are walking days. The walks are listed below in clockwise order around the coast of Anglesey, but won't necessarily happen on the days shown. Changes will be made depending on tide times and weather conditions.

Day 2: Newborough Beach And Llanddwyn Island

Distance: 10 miles (16km)

Ascent: 450 feet (140m)

A stunning walk exploring the south-east of Anglesey. Starting near Dwyran, we walk through Newborough Nature Reserve, past sand dunes and through the forest to the beach. This area is home to red squirrels, lizards and more, plus inspirational views across to Snowdonia and the Llyn peninsula. A visit to Llanddwyn Island (tides permitting) before we end the day in Malltraeth, having crossed the estuary on the cob.

Day 3: Holyhead Island

Distance: 10 miles (16km)

Ascent: 1,850 feet (560m)

Holyhead Island, including South Stack and Holyhead Mountain. One of the most dramatic sections of the coastline, wild and unspoilt landscapes, the spectacular setting of South Stack lighthouse, and the highest point on the island (Holyhead Mountain), plus superb wildlife watching opportunities from the RSPB's Twr Elin.

Day 4: Church Bay

Distance: 12 miles (19.5km)

Ascent: 1,300 feet (400m)

Starting in Church Bay beside the Swtan heritage museum, we explore the remotest section of the island's coastline around the north-west corner to Cemaes. This wildlife haven is home to seals, Artic Terns and much more. You will also have good views back to Holy Island and out to the Skerries.

Day 5: Most Northernly Point Of Wales

Distance: 10 miles (16km)

Ascent: 1,200 feet (360m)

Starting where we finished at Cemaes, we head to the most northerly point in Wales today, then watch out for seals, porpoise and dolphins playing in the shelter of Bull Bay. On to Amlwch before we hop on our coach for a visit to the Mars-like landscapes of the Parys Mountain old copper mines.

Day 6: Estuary, Lligwy Bay And Moelfre

Distance: 11 miles (18km)

Ascent: 1,400 feet (420m)

We start by going out to Llanelian lighthouse and then make our way along the cliffs, before turning inland around Traeth Dulas estuary and then via beautiful Lligwy Bay to Moelre with its lifeboat station and visitor centre.

Day 7: Above Red Wharf Bay And Back To Beaumaris

Distance: 10½ miles (16.5km)

Ascent: 900 ft (280m)

This leg takes us from above the wide expanse of Red Wharf Bay to Beaumaris Castle. One section of the path is inland around Penmon Priory. We have stunning views out over Snowdonia and also Puffin Island, together with a visit to Trwyn Du lighthouse.

Day 8: Departure Day

ACCOMMODATION

Bulkeley Hotel - Anglesey

The 3* historic Bulkeley Hotel is located in the heart of the picturesque castle town of Beaumaris. Just a short walk from the beach, the Bulkeley gives us the perfect, on the island, base for our holiday. Comfortable ensuite rooms, beautiful gardens and outdoor terrace, where we can relax after our days walks. This hotel is dog-friendly so you may meet four legged friends in some of the communal areas.

Accommodation Info

Food & Drink

Your stay is full-board. This includes daily breakfasts, packed lunch options, and evening meals. Vegetarian choices and dietary requirements can be catered for (please give advance notice when booking).

Packed lunches

Our packed lunches will be too much food for some and not enough for others; if you feel you might need more food during the walk, please bring a supply of snacks to supplement this – it won't always be possible to buy these on the route. Your packed lunches will include: a bread sandwich or roll with a choice of filling; some fresh fruit; fruit cake/flapjack or similar, crisps and/or biscuits. For those of you tackling a level 4 or above holiday, we would highly recommend bringing some trail mix or something similar to ensure you've some fuel in reserve should you need it.

Dietary requirements

Our partner hotels can cater for most dietary requirements, but it is important you advise us of any allergies and dietary restrictions you have at the time of booking.

TRAVEL DETAILS

Address

Bulkeley Hotel
Castle Street
Beaumaris
Isle of Anglesey LL58 8AW

By Train

The nearest station is Bangor (Gwynedd). From Bangor you can take a taxi or bus to Beaumaris (see below).

For train times and to plan your route check the National Rail website www.nationalrail.co.uk or call [+44 \(0\)3457 484950](tel:+44(0)3457484950).

By Taxi

The 7-mile journey from Bangor railway station takes approximately 15 minutes by taxi.

PG Cars

You can pre-book a taxi from our recommended taxi company, PG Cars. The 2024 guide price for a 4-seat taxi is around £18. 8-seat taxis are also available at a higher rate. Please pre-book your taxi at least seven days in advance by contacting:

Tel: [+44 \(0\)1248 716503](tel:+44(0)1248716503)

Email: ceirpgcars@btconnect.com

*PG Cars is not owned or managed by HF Holidays.

By Bus

Walk out of Bangor railway station and at the junction turn left. There is a layby on the left-hand side of the road from where you can take the 53, 57 or 58 bus to Beaumaris. In Beaumaris alight at End's Newsagents, opposite the Bulkeley Hotel.

By Car

It takes approximately 90 minutes to drive from the M56 junction on the M6 to the Bulkeley Hotel.

From the M6 take the M56 exit (Junction 20) marked N Wales/Chester/Runcorn continue on the A494 to join the A55 North Wales Expressway. At junction 8A, take the A5 exit to Menai Bridge/Beaumaris and join the A545 for about five miles.

The Bulkeley Hotel is on the right-hand side of the High Street. Parking is behind the hotel, accessed from Alma Street.

By Air

The nearest airport is Manchester Airport. From here, you'll need to allow about five hours, firstly taking the train to Chester where you'll change for a train to Bangor (Gwynedd) before taking the no. 58 bus to Beaumaris.

USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

Essential Information

The UK has a famously unpredictable climate so it's best to be prepared for weather that's sunny one minute and raining the next. To make it easier, here's a list of items you should consider packing.

Essentials

- Suitable footwear such as waterproof walking boots that provide ankle support and good grip
- Waterproof and windproof jacket, preferably insulated
- Comfortable clothing (jeans & waterproof capes are not suitable)
- Waterproof overtrousers
- Gloves and a warm hat (or sunhat)
- Rucksack
- Water bottle (at least 1 litre capacity)
- A small torch
- Sunscreen
- Mobile phone and portable charger
- Watch
- UV sunglasses

Recommended

- Several base layers (long-sleeve or short-sleeve)
- Cushioned walking socks to avoid blisters
- First aid kit, including plasters and insect repellent
- Midge net
- Sit mat
- Spare pair of socks
- Energy snacks
- Waterproof pouch for valuables
- Rubbish bag (remember to always leave no trace)
- Wallet/purse

Optional extras

- Walking poles, useful for descents
- Flask for hot drinks
- Durable lunch box
- Gaiters

- Blister kit
- Waterproof rucksack liner
- Head torch
- GPS device
- Swimsuit

Useful Information

Our experienced and knowledgeable volunteer leaders undergo a thorough assessment to lead you on your Guided Walking/Hiking Trail and are delighted to share their knowledge and enthusiasm with you.

Please ensure you complete and hand in your registration form on arrival and let the leader know about any medical problems you may have. This may be useful in the event of a problem on the walk and will be treated confidentially by the leader.

In The Event Of A Problem

If you become separated from the party, please stay where you are. Your leader will retrace their steps to find you.

All our leaders carry a mobile phone, group shelter, spare maps and a compass. In the unlikely event your leader is incapacitated, please use any emergency kit in their rucksack. Call the emergency services (call 999 in the UK, or 112 overseas).

Please then try to call the hotel where you are staying to let them know there is a problem.

In The Event Of A Problem During Your Stay

In the hopefully rare event of any cause for complaints regarding accommodation, you should notify your leader who can then attempt to rectify the problem.

Ticks

Ticks are tiny creatures that live in vegetation and can attach themselves to passing animals or walkers and may carry a risk of Lyme Disease. Please refer to NHS advice and guidelines for information prior to your holiday.

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY

These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred.

In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary.

The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

Document produced: 05-03-2024

