

Northern Snowdonia Guided Walking

Trip style: Guided Walking Holidays

Destination: ☺ Snowdonia

Trip code: SNT05-BTB11

Trip Walking Grade: ul 2 & 5

Carbon Footprint: 🌳 104kg CO2



Holiday Overview

Embark on an unforgettable four-day guided walking adventure through the awe-inspiring landscapes of Snowdonia (Eryri) National Park – the oldest and largest national park in Wales. Based in the charming village of Betws-y-Coed, you'll journey through plunging valleys and, thick forests, follow fast-flowing rivers and passing by cascading waterfalls. It all culminates in the grand finale - the ascent of Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa), the highest mountain in England and Wales. With a choice of two walks each day to suit a variety of fitness levels, this trip promises an exhilarating opportunity to conquer the iconic peaks of Snowdonia.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- A choice of two walks each day
- Discovering the old mining industries of North Wales
- Exploring the varied landscape from wooded valleys to impressive rock amphitheatres
- Tackling Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa), England and Wales' highest mountain
- Staying in the beautiful village of Betws-y-Coed
- Soaking up dazzling views of the Welsh countryside

WHAT'S INCLUDED

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

ITINERARY VERSION 1

Day 1 Arrival Day

Check in at the hotel is available from 3pm. Your leaders will be at reception at 18:30 to meet the group and give you a quick introduction to the holiday before dinner.

Day 2 Conwy Valley & Moel Eilio

Option 1 - Moel Eilio

Distance: 8 miles (13km)

Ascent: 2,500 feet (760m)

The rounded summit of Moel Eilio stands proudly at the end of one of the massive ridges leading up to Snowdon. It's an impressive top to reach on this circular walk from Llanberis. The summit offers great views across the Menai Straits to the island of Anglesey.

Option 2 - Capel Garmon & Conwy Valley

Distance: 7 miles (11km)

Ascent: 1180 feet (360m)

We begin our walk with steep ascent to a viewpoint offering stunning views of the Conwy valley and Gwydyr forest. We then continue to the upland village of Capel Garmon, before following a bridleway which contours the hillside and takes us beside the Afon Conwy, with possible visits to Conwy Falls and the Fairy Glen.

Day 3 Llyn Padarn & Glyderau

Option 1 - Glyderau

Distance: 6 miles (9.5km)

Ascent: 2600 feet (780m)

Starting at Ogwen Cottage, we walk up through beautiful Cwm Idwal before ascending next to the Devils Kitchen to pass a small lake and on up to Glyder Fawr. We continue along a broad ridge with superb views of Tryfan, to Glyder Fach, then descend via the Miners Path to Pen y Gwryd Hotel, a pub iconic in mountaineering history.

Option 2 - Llyn Padarn & Llanberis

Distance: 6 miles (10km)

Ascent: 950 feet (280m)

Admire views of Snowdon on this circular walk around Llyn Padarn, a magnificent glacially formed lake nestled amidst some of Snowdonia's most spectacular scenery. Along the way, we'll also pass through Coed Dinorwig, a rare and ancient Sessile Oak woodland. Our walk ends in Llanberis giving you the chance to have some free time exploring the historic town.

Day 4 Llyn Idwal & Moel Siabod

Option 1 - Llyn Idwal & Capel Curig

Distance: 7½ miles (12km)

Ascent: 750 feet (220m)

Today we start our walk from Ogwen Cottage heading into the atmospheric natural amphitheatre of Cwm Idwal, you may be able to spot rock climbers on Idwal Slabs. We circle around the shores of the Llyn, before continuing along the Ogwen Valley on the old road to Capel Curig.

Option 2 - Moel Siabod

Distance: 6 miles (9.5km)

Ascent: 2,360 feet (720m)

Starting near Capel Curig we cross farmland then ascend steeply. We follow a good path beside the east ridge, to arrive at Moel Siabod summit. After enjoying the far-reaching views, we descend to the north east on a path that can be rather loose and later boggy. We'll then go down through the forest to finish in Capel Curig.

Day 5 Crafnant, Geirionydd & Snowdon

Option 1 - Snowdon

Distance: 7½ miles (12km)

Ascent: 2,900 feet (880m)

Today our challenge is to Climb England and Wales highest summit Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa). We ascend via the Pyg Track - a well-engineered (but still steep in places) path to the summit. We return to our start point via the Miners' track.

Option 2 - Llynau Crafnant & Geirionydd

Distance: 7½ miles (12km)

Ascent: 1250 feet (380m)

Starting from Capel Curig, we pass through a wild valley then descend to the beautiful Llyn Crafnant. We continue through woodland, walking beside Llyn Geirionydd and to the historic church at Llanrhychwyn, then descend via the Grey Mare's Tail waterfall to finish at Llanrwst.

Day 6 Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

Daily Walk Options



Easier Walks

Good paths but walks are a bit longer. Some walks, particularly in mountain areas, may have sections over rough or steeper terrain.



Harder Walks

Good fitness and stamina required. Expect rocky terrain with sustained ascents and descents. Walks may include high summits and ridges.

Accommodation

Gwydyr Hotel

Nestled in the heart of Betws y Coed, Gwydyr Hotel is a splendid Victorian-era gem dating back to the 1800s. In the town, you'll discover charming shops, a railway station with a captivating museum, and a tourist information centre. The hotel has a bar, restaurant, and drying room. Comfortable en-suite guest rooms all come with TV, tea & coffee making facilities, and free Wi-Fi. The hotel is dog-friendly, so you may perhaps make some four-legged friends in the communal areas.

Food & drink

Our holiday in Snowdonia is half-board. Breakfast and evening meals are provided at the hotel. Packed lunch provisions can be purchased locally.

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.

Useful Holiday 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
- Comfortable clothing (jeans & waterproof capes are not suitable)
- Mid-layer(s) to keep you warm. Fleeces make a good choice
- Waterproof overtrousers
- Gloves and a warm hat
- Rucksack with waterproof liner
- Flask for hot drinks
- Water bottle (at least 1 litre capacity)
- Sunscreen
- UV sunglasses

For holidays operating October through to the end of March, please also bring the following on your walks:

- spare warm clothing
- spare high energy food
- head torch and spare batteries
- please note for the October to March season your waterproof jacket needs to offer a high level of waterproofing and wind resistance, and a hood. Look for a waterproof jacket with sealed/taped seams and a minimum HH (hydrostatic head - this is the rating given on waterproof jackets) of 10,000mm+

Recommended

- Several base layers (long-sleeve or short-sleeve)
- Cushioned walking socks to avoid blisters
- First aid kit, including plasters and insect repellent and tick remover tool
- Sit mat
- Waterproof pouch for valuables
- Rubbish bag (remember to always leave no trace)
- Wallet/purse
- Camera
- Walking poles

Trip Information

Walks may be changed for safety reasons and are subject to a maximum and minimum number of guests.

Leaders always consider the safety of the group as a whole, and may need to alter or curtail the walk if the conditions dictate. Your leader may refuse to accept a guest where clothing, equipment or behaviour is unsuitable. In the event of a problem all leaders carry a mobile phone, first aid kit, group shelter, spare maps and a compass.

Please note: If you choose to leave the group your leader is no longer responsible for you.

If you have a particular health condition or disability please put this on your guest registration form. This information will be confidential to your leaders and the house manager, but leaders do need to take account of any issues when planning walks. Please carry a copy of these trip notes with you, or note down the contact phone number for your accommodation (details in the travel section) should you need them in case of emergency.

Tripnote validity

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.

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