

7-Night Brecon Beacons Self-Guided Walking Holiday

Destinations: Brecon Beacons & Wales

Trip code: BRPOA-7

1, 2, 3 & 4



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Enjoy a break in the Brecon Beacons with the walking experts; we have all the ingredients for your perfect Self-Guided Walking holiday. Our tranquil 4-star country house, in the quiet market town of Brecon, is geared to the needs of walkers and outdoor enthusiasts. Enjoy hearty local food, plan your walks with our detailed route notes and make the most of this fantastic location from which to explore the beautiful Brecon Beacons National Park.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- High quality en-suite accommodation in our country house
- Full board from dinner upon arrival to breakfast on departure day
- The use of our Discovery Point to plan your walks – maps and route notes available

HOLIDAYS HIGHLIGHTS

- Head out on one of the self-guided walks to discover the varied beauty of the Brecon Beacons on foot
- Admire panoramic views of rolling countryside and valleys, wide open hillsides and wildly beautiful forests in this spectacular corner of Wales
- Look out for wildlife, find secret corners and learn about Welsh history
- A relaxed pace of discovery in a sociable house
- Discover what makes the Brecon Beacons so special from the waterfalls and caves to its lakes.
- Evenings in our country house where you share a drink and re-live the day's adventures

TRIP SUITABILITY

Explore at your own pace and choose the best walk for your pace and ability.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

You're welcome to check in from 4pm onwards.

Enjoy a complimentary Afternoon Tea on arrival.

Day 2 - 7: Laid Back Walks

Our easiest routes, allowing plenty of time to savour the magnificent mountain landscapes. All our walk notes suggest the best places to stop, great pubs, and tea rooms.

- A stroll around Hay-on-Wye - 2 miles
- Brecon Town & Country - 3 miles
- Mynydd Illtud - 3 miles
- Taff Fechan Nature Reserve - 3 miles

Day 2 - 7: Leg Stretcher Walks

Some longer walks on valley and lakeside paths, plus a few of the easier hills.

- Sgwyd y Eira - 4 miles
- Mynydd Illtud and Twyn-y-Gaer - 4½ miles
- Exploring Brecon - 4 miles
- Pen-y-Crug - 4.5 miles

Day 2 - 7: Full On Walks

For those who love the high mountains, or simply striding out on longer walks. Expect some rough paths as you head to some of these famous summits, but there are plenty of rewards when you reach the top.

- Corn Du, Pen-y-Fan - 4 miles
- Corn Du, Pen-y-Fan & Cribyn - 6 miles
- Hay-on-Wye Circuit - 6.5 miles
- Northern Beacons Horseshoe - 7 miles
- Talybont on Usk to Brecon - 8 miles
- Talybont on Usk - 9.5 miles
- Beacons Horseshoe - 10 miles
- A tour of Waterfalls Country - 11 miles

Day 8: Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

ACCOMMODATION

Nythfa House

Pretty country pile Nythfa House stands above the traditional mid-Wales market town of Brecon and sits within easy reach of the Brecon Beacons National Park. Having spent its early life as a large private house, the building has been converted into a comfortable country hotel. The interiors look like they've evolved naturally over time, staying rooted in the local area and house architecture while being filled with contemporary furniture and colours. As well as 31 rooms and a range of public spaces and an inviting indoor pool to tempt you, there are pretty grounds and a short walk to the streets of Brecon itself. The contrasting countryside close by provides challenges including sweeping ridges, an ascent of the Black Mountains and scaling Pen-y-Fan as well as more subtle strolls through the river-carved landscapes of the Melte Valley, along the trail of a series of awesome waterfalls, or time spent dawdling through the second-hand bookshops in Hay-on-Wye.

Country House Accommodation

Accommodation Info

Need To Know

We appreciate that COVID-19 continues to impact the nations. The English, Scottish and Welsh governments are not always in sync, so measures in our country houses may vary between the nations. We thank all guests for adhering to the measures we have introduced to keep our guests, leaders and team members safe.

You can see our latest FAQs and guarantees at <https://www.hfholidays.co.uk/coronavirus-travel-advice>

Ventilation, Physical Distancing Measures and Group Sizes around the Houses

We will keep our public areas well ventilated; for your comfort you might want to pack an extra layer to keep you comfortable.

With the relaxation of physical distancing, we will be allowing larger groups to dine and relax in the bar together.

Hand sanitiser stations will be made available in frequently used public areas for guests and staff use. It is advisable to bring additional hand sanitiser for whilst you are out walking.

We always follow the latest regional government advice, but our one recommendation is don't forget your face mask! There is no requirement to wear a face covering in communal areas, but you may of course choose to. Some places throughout the UK may still require you to wear a mask even if the government legislation does not. With this in mind we suggest you bring a personal supply of face coverings for the duration of your stay.

Servicing Bedrooms:

At this stage we are not reintroducing our daily room servicing. Extra tea, coffee, milk, towels and toiletries will be available on request from our team. Bins can be left outside your door for emptying.

COVID-19 Symptoms or Cases

If a guest has symptoms of COVID-19 then they should inform the house team and immediately self-isolate to minimise any risk of transmission and make arrangements to request a COVID test. If a guest receives a positive test result, they should return home if they reasonably can. They should where possible use private transport but only drive themselves if they can do so safely. If a guest cannot reasonably return home, they should discuss their circumstances with the House Manager. Additional charges may be levied if a guest needs to self-isolate for longer than their planned holiday.

What can you do to help keep everyone safe?

- Wear a face mask/covering where required and please bring plenty of face coverings for the duration of your stay
- Carry/use hand sanitiser
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water when possible
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze
- Avoid passing round objects such as cameras & phones
- If you are displaying symptoms of Coronavirus, please do not travel to an HF Holidays House

Rooms

Tea & coffee-making facilities, TV, Hairdryer, Toiletries, Wi-Fi

Stay in the smartly presented rooms in the main house or in one of the eight garden rooms or three single bed pool rooms across the grounds. With 31 rooms - including four on the ground floor - Nythfa House has plenty of space and there's a range of Classic, Premium and Superior Rooms to choose from. Opt for Rooms 6 or 7 in the main house for delightfully decorated, spacious places to stay, each with sumptuous views over the garden and Brecon Beacons. Room 21 is a quirky 'Premium' room up in the eaves, with a separate sitting space and cosy bedroom - just mind your head on the low ceiling! Look out for the fresh floral designs in the pretty garden rooms too, which have their own small deck from which to enjoy views of the gardens.

All 'Classic' rooms are en-suite and furnished to a high standard. There are also several 'Premium' and 'Superior' Rooms that are either larger or have a desirable view, a more luxurious mattress and larger television. Upgrade your stay for just an extra £15-25 per person per night. You can choose a specific room for an extra £30 per room, subject to availability. Upgrade supplements still apply.

Check in:

Check in opens at **4pm** for all guests. Guests will be unable to access any of the Country House facilities, including leaving luggage before 4pm.

We are delighted to invite you to enjoy a complimentary Afternoon Tea on arrival. Relax and meet your fellow guests and leaders.

Check out:

Check out time: **10am**

Please note, you will need to settle your bill before departure and payment will only be possible by card. Gratuities and donations to the Pathway Fund can also be made by card.

Facilities

Free Wi-Fi, boot and drying room, indoor swimming pool, extensive garden, conservatory, lounge, library and board games to borrow

After a day exploring waterfall country or the Beacons, come back to the house and its specially tailored walkers' facilities. At the front of the house there's a pretty garden to pause in, with a putting green and croquet lawn attached. Duck into the conservatory to enjoy views out over the gardens from under the twisting branches of an old vine. Whether you relax in the lounge, or get together with other guests for a board game or great conversation, make sure to make time for the cosy bar, and try a dram of award-winning

whisky from the local Penderyn distillery, which uses water from the Brecon Beacons National Park. There's also a Brecon Botanicals gin that's wonderfully well regarded.

Welcome Information

A Welcome Information Pack providing details about the Country House and your holiday will be available in each bedroom. This personal pack of information will detail what to expect during your stay in the house, the menu for the duration of your stay, dinner & picnic lunch order forms and the guest registration form for completion.

Our houses are locked at night-time and accessible with a door code which is available in the Welcome Pack. However, we also recommend making a note of the Duty Manager number on arrival, in case of an emergency or getting locked out.

Evenings

Join our team after dinner on Wednesday evenings to see if you've got the knowledge to triumph in the HF Big Pub Quiz! There will also be another evening of entertainment at the beginning of the week which will vary depending on the house you are visiting.

If there are leaders resident, they will be available to chat to guests about self-guided walks. You can borrow walking route notes and maps from our Discovery Point.

Walks Talks – Guided Walking Information Briefings

Self-Guided guests are always welcome to join our Guided Walking briefings to hear about the local conditions.

Our leaders will deliver a Guided Walking Information Briefing on each arrival day before and after dinner followed by a group Walks Talk to let guests know about the following day's walks. Walks Talks are usually before and after dinner prior to each walking day. The information is repeated so you can join whichever time suits you.

If you are undecided which walk to do, our leaders will be available in the bar or lounge to answer any questions you might have. Our website contains up-to-date information about the walks for each holiday.

Before you leave for your walk your leader will run through a short safety briefing for the day.

Each day, the latest weather forecast will be displayed for all guests to check to ensure appropriate clothing is worn for the walks.

Please note, if you decide to do your own walks, or you are on a self-guided walking holiday, you must complete an Independent Walker Card each day. These can be found near the Discovery Point in the house.

Food & Drink

As at all our country houses, holidays are full board, from afternoon tea served as a welcome treat through that evening's meal to a hearty breakfast on the day of departure. Food at Nythfa House is varied with a strong emphasis on the use of seasonal British produce. Our experienced chefs create each dish using only the freshest ingredients and, when in season, use home grown herbs and vegetables taken from our own gardens to give a true taste of the local area.

Along with many hospitality business across the UK we are presently experiencing disruption to our food and drink supply chain. COVID continues to limit the ability of suppliers to deliver and the war in Ukraine (along with several other global challenges) is impacting availability of many basic products. We are working hard to ensure that these challenges do not negatively impact your holiday but ask for your understanding should we need to make last minute changes to dishes or menus.

Accessibility

For accessibility and assistance information, please contact our expert team on [020 3974 8865](tel:02039748865) or view the accessibility information online for [Nythfa House](#)

TRAVEL DETAILS

Our address is: Nythfa House, Brecon, Powys, LD3 7NN
Tel: [01874 624287](tel:01874624287)

By Train:

The most convenient railway station for Nythfa House is at Abergavenny. For train times and route planning by train visit www.nationalrail.co.uk or phone [03457 48 49 50](tel:03457484950).

By Taxi:

The 21-mile journey from Abergavenny railway station takes approximately 40 minutes to one hour. You can pre-book a taxi from our recommended taxi company, A&A Cabs. As a guide price, it cost £36 per 4-seat taxi in 2022. 8-seat taxis are also available at a higher rate. A&A Cabs will arrange shared taxis wherever possible. Please pre-book your taxi at least 7 days in advance by contacting:

A&A Cabs*
Tel: [+44 \(0\) 1874 622288](tel:+4401874622288)
Email: aandabrecon@yahoo.ie

The return taxi journey can be arranged on your behalf by the Nythfa House Manager.

*A&A Cabs is not owned or managed by HF Holidays

By Bus:

The X43 bus operates from Abergavenny station to Brecon and takes approximately one hour. Alight at the bus interchange in Brecon. Facing the road, head left along Heol Gouesnou to the traffic lights. Turn right heading uphill along Cerrigcochion Road for around 70 yards, and then turn left into Belle Vue Gardens. Head along the road and turn right at the T-junction (still Belle Vue Gardens). Head up the road to another T-junction and turn left into Cerrigcochion Lane. Walk for about 15 yards and you will see the Nythfa House sign on your right. For bus times see www.traveline.info

By Car:

Most guests approach Brecon via the A40 from Abergavenny or the A470 from the northwest. These two roads converge at a roundabout on the Brecon bypass. At the roundabout follow the B4601 for a mile into Brecon. Turn right at the second mini roundabout, then go straight on at the crossroads with traffic lights. After 500yds turn sharp right into Mount Street, then second left into Belle View Road. Stop at the top of the road at the T Junction then go straight ahead up the drive to Nythfa House.

Travelling From Overseas

For most guests, travelling to London Heathrow airport is the most convenient option.

From Heathrow first take the train to London Paddington station. From here there are trains to Abergavenny (1 change at Newport) - allow 3 to 3½ hours. See www.nationalrail.co.uk for train times.

From Abergavenny you can travel on to Brecon by bus or taxi (see above).

LOCAL AREA

During your stay at Nythfa House you may enjoy visiting the following places of interest, either in your free time, on your journey to and from Brecon or if you are travelling on a self-guided holiday:

Brecon is a quaint market town at the foot of the Brecon Beacons; an area of sweeping high moorland, and beautiful green valleys. The town has a good range of facilities including shops, supermarkets, post office, chemists, banks, pubs and cafés. During your stay you may enjoy visiting [Brecon Cathedral](#) or take a scenic cruise from Brecon along the [Monmouthshire and Brecon canal](#).

Big Pit National Coal Museum

Travel underground at the excellent [Big Pit National Coal Museum](#) in Blaenavon and discover the life of a South Wales coal miner. Blaenavon is around 45 minutes' drive from Brecon.

Hay-on-Wye

The quaint small town of [Hay-on-Wye](#) is about 30 minutes' drive from Brecon, and can also be reached by bus every 2 hours. The town is now famed for its annual literary festival, and extensive selection of second-hand book shops.

Hereford

Hereford is an attractive city, around an hour's drive from Brecon. [Hereford Cathedral](#) houses the famous Mappa Mundi, a 12th century map of the world.

National Showcaves Centre For Wales

The [National Showcaves Centre for Wales](#) is home to a series of impressive show-caves, some of the largest in Europe, which house some fine stalactites and stalagmites. The caves are around 30 minutes' drive from Brecon.

Tretower Court

Located near the village of Crickhowell, about 20 minutes' drive from Brecon, [Tretower Court](#) is a fine Medieval fortified manor house.

Cardiff

The vibrant Welsh capital of [Cardiff](#) is around 40 miles or 1 hour's drive from Brecon. A visit could include the St Fagan's National History Museum, Castell Coch, or the National Museum.

Brecon Mountain Railway

The [Brecon Mountain Railway](#) is a narrow-gauge heritage railway which follows part of the route of the original Brecon & Merthyr Railway which closed in 1964. The 90-minute journey heads north from near Merthyr Tydfil into the Brecon Beacons National Park, passing a large reservoir as it climbs up to Torpantau station. On the return journey from Torpantau to Pant, the train stops at Pontsticill station where there is a lakeside café which is a nice spot from which to admire the view. At Pant station there is a workshop where the steam locomotives and carriages are maintained.

USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

Essential Information

Before you head out on your walk it's always sensible to make sure you're carrying the correct kit. Below is a list of recommended equipment:

Essential Equipment

- Rucksack with a waterproof liner,
- Thermos flask for hot drink,
- Water bottle (at least 1 litre)
- Spare high-energy food such as a chocolate bar.
- Small torch
- First aid kit

Optional Equipment

- Walking poles are useful, particularly for descents
- Insect repellent,
- Sun hat,
- Sunglasses
- Sun cream
- Camera

Safety On Your Holiday

Please follow the tips below to ensure your holiday is safe and enjoyable:

- Please complete and hand in your registration card to the House Manager on the first evening of your holiday
- Please note the number of the accommodation where you are staying (see Travel details section of your trip notes)
- Check the weather forecast - this is updated regularly and displayed on the Discovery Point. Be prepared for the weather to change during the day and wear appropriate footwear such as walking boots. We would recommend that you wear or carry a waterproof jacket and trousers, a spare warm jumper or fleece, hat and gloves. In addition we recommend a water bottle, spare food, map, compass, torch, whistle, small first aid kit and survival bag
- Take a copy of a map and a route card
- Be aware of ticks – more information can be found at the Discovery Point

HOW TO BOOK

When you're ready to book, you can choose to **book online** or book **over the phone**. Our website offers secure online booking for our holidays, is available 24/7, and offers more in-depth information about all our holidays. If you prefer to call us, our experienced and knowledgeable team are available to answer any specific questions you have and can offer guidance as to which holiday is best suited to your needs.

Our office is open: Monday to Friday: 9am – 5.30pm, Saturday: 9am – 1pm, Sunday & Bank Holiday Monday: closed

PAYING YOUR DEPOSIT

To secure the holiday of your choice, you will need to pay a deposit: UK & European Holidays: £150 per person and Worldwide Holidays: £250 per person. You can pay your deposit by debit or credit card with no additional card fees charged or make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account, please see details under

BACS payments. You can also pay your deposit by cheque within seven days of booking. Cheques should be made payable to 'HF Holidays Ltd' with your booking reference / Order ID on the back.

NON-MEMBER FEE

Non-members can join our holidays by paying a Non-Member's fee of £30 per person per holiday. Alternatively, full membership is available from £100 – visit hfholidays.co.uk/membership for details.

BACS PAYMENTS

Please quote your booking reference / Order ID when you make your payment online: Bank Name: National Westminster Bank, Account Name: HF Holidays Limited, Account Number: 48904805, Sort Code: 60-00-01, IBAN: GB90NWBK60000148904805

Once we have received your booking and deposit, we will send a confirmation invoice to the lead name. Please check this carefully. For bookings 'with flights' it is essential that the names on your booking confirmation invoice match those on your passport for bookings overseas. Please advise us immediately of any errors. Any name changes after the balance of your holiday has been paid will be subject to a fee levied by the airline.

MANAGE MY BOOKINGS

Payments can also be made through the [Manage My Booking](#) function on our website. Click on the link at the top of our homepage. This is available to all customers who provide an email address at the time of booking.

YOUR FINAL BALANCE

Your final balance payment is due 6 weeks before departure if you are staying in an HF Holidays UK country house, 8 weeks before departure if you are travelling on one of our holidays in Europe and 10 weeks before departure if you are on a Guided Trail staying in one of our partner hotels or are travelling on a Worldwide holiday. As with paying your deposit, you can pay your final balance by debit or credit card, make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account or pay by cheque.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is an important part of any booking and essential for one of our holidays. HF Holidays works with specialist. Insurance Brokers Campbell Irvine Direct. For more information or to obtain a quote call them on [01702 427 236](tel:01702427236) or visit hfholidays.co.uk/insurance

PEACE OF MIND

ATOL:

The air holidays and flights in this brochure are ATOL-protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 710. In the unlikely event of our insolvency, the CAA will ensure that you are not stranded abroad and will arrange to refund any money you have paid us for advance bookings. For further information visit the ATOL website atol.org.uk

MEMBER OF ABTOT:

HF Holidays is a member of ABTOT (The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited) which provides financial protection under the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 for HF Holidays Ltd and in the event of their insolvency, protection is provided for the following: 1. non-flight packages commencing in and returning to the UK; 2. non-flight packages commencing and returning to a country other than the UK; 3. flight inclusive packages that commence outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland, which are sold to customers outside of the UK and Republic of Ireland. 1, 2 and 3 provides for a refund in the event you have not yet travelled. 1 and 3 provides for repatriation. Please note that bookings made outside the UK and Republic of Ireland are only protected by ABTOT when purchased directly with HF Holidays Ltd.

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.

PRICE GUARANTEE

We promise that our earliest published prices will always be the best and if we reduce our holiday price after your booking has been confirmed, we will pass this reduction on to you. Our price promise applies if any subsequent offer price is for an identical holiday, duration, location and date and does not cover any optional extras, flights or additional services.

Document produced: 03-07-2022

