

Snowdonia Way Guided Trail Holiday

Tour Style: Guided Trails

Destination: Wales

Trip code: ZSLDW

Trip Walking Grade: 5



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Experience the natural beauty of Snowdonia, journeying from the very north of the National Park, to its southern border. This superb route offers you the chance to walk amongst Snowdonia's magical mountains, and to tick off Wales' highest mountain, and it's second most popular peak too. From the charming world heritage town of Conwy in the north, to the Welsh heartland of Dolgellau in the south, with the summits of Snowdon and Cadair Idris on the way, our route follows valley trails, hillside paths, and Roman roads, leading you through the heart of Snowdonia, with outstanding scenery and a wealth of history throughout. Relax and enjoy the route, knowing all your accommodation, transport and meals are taken care of, you just need to put on your boots and enjoy the journey.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Full Board en-suite accommodation
- Experienced HF Holidays Walking Leader
- All transport to and from the walks
- Group transfer to Machynlleth train station at the end of your holiday

HOLIDAYS HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit Conwy with its world heritage castle and medieval town walls
- Tick off the two most popular Welsh mountains – Snowdon and Cadair Idris
- Visit spectacular Aber Falls
- Walk the fisherman's path along the Aberglaslyn Gorge
- Enjoy the unspoilt Alpine style village of Beddgelert, in the heart of the National Park
- Discover beaches, forests, mountains and moorland – the trail introduces them all
- Comfortable ensuite accommodation & all meals included
- Guided walks each day

TRIP SUITABILITY

This Snowdonia Way trail holiday is graded 5. This holiday is recommended for fit and experienced walkers only. You will require a good level of fitness as you will be walking every day. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the relevant fitness and equipment required to join this holiday. The Snowdonia Way is a strenuous walk through some challenging terrain. The route involves some pathless ground on occasion, which is rough underfoot. There are several long days which require a sustained effort. Provision cannot be made for anyone who opts out. Please be sure you can manage the daily mileage and ascent, detailed in the daily itineraries. The walking day is normally approx. 8 hours. It is important for your own and your fellow guests' enjoyment that you can maintain the pace.

It makes sense to spend time getting fit before your holiday. We suggest that you do a number of longer walks, including some on hilly terrain. Cycling, jogging and swimming are also excellent for increasing stamina.



ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

Meet your group 1830 at the hotel reception, to find out the plan of action before dinner.

Day 2: The Wales Coast Path

Follow the Wales Coast Path from charming Conwy castle, and enjoy views from Conwy Mountain, looking out over to Anglesey and across to the Irish Sea. Ice-cream's to end the day, in the seaside town of Llanfairfechan.

Distance: 9miles (14km)

Ascent: 1,800ft (560m)

Day 3: Aber Falls

From Llanfairfechan we head up to the stunning Aber Falls, one of the most majestic sites of the Welsh mountains, before following the flanks of the magnificent Carneddau Mountains, to the Welsh slate quarrying village of Bethesda.

Distance: 11.5miles (18.5km)

Ascent: 1,720ft (560m)

Day 4: To Pen-y-Pass

To Pen-y-Pass. Superb walking again today, looking up to the mountain giants of the Carneddau, the Glyders, and Tryfan, before ending the day at the iconic mountaineering pub - the Pen-y-Gwyrdd.

Distance: 8.5miles (13.5km)

Ascent: with 2,720ft (840m)

Day 5: Snowdon

That top of the world feeling today. We follow the Pyg track to the summit of Snowdon, before dropping down to the tranquility of the Nantgwynant valley and the pretty mountain lake of Llyn Dinas. Ice-creams and/or a well deserved celebratory pint to end the day, in the beautiful Alpine style village of Beddgelert.

Distance: 10.5miles (16.5km)

Ascent: 2,980ft (920m) of ascent

Day 6: Vale Of Ffestiniog

The spectacular gorge and waterfalls of the Aberglaslyn Pass to begin with today, and super views of Cnicht (known as the Welsh Matterhorn) as we descend into Croesor. It's then into Southern Snowdonia as we reach the Vale of Ffestiniog, and Llyn Trawsfyndd, where we end our walk and transfer to the comforts of Dolserau Hall, Dolgellau.

Distance: 14 miles (23km)

Ascent: 2,700ft (830m) of ascent

Day 7: Coed Y Brenin Forest Park

Woodland walks through Coed y Brenin Forest Park. Views of the Rhinog mountains today, walking from Trawsfyndd, direct to our accommodation at Dolserau Hall, Dolgellau.

Distance: 13 miles (21km)

Ascent: 1,980ft (610m) of ascent

Day 8: The Finale - Cadair Idris

As finales go, this has to rival the best. Walking from our door, we head for the wild beauty of Cadair Idris and the very southern end of Snowdonia National Park. We began on the northern coast looking out over Anglesey

and the Irish Sea, and after a crossing of Snowdonia, our views from Cadair look back over Snowdon, the Rhinogs and out to the Irish Sea once more.

Distance: 10.5 miles (17km)

Ascent: 3,350ft (1,040m) of ascent

Day 9: Departure Day

A group transfer leaves Dolserau Hall, for Machynlleth railway station (arriving 9:45am).

ACCOMMODATION

The Imperial Hotel, Llandudno

The 4* Imperial Hotel has the perfect location for our first nights stay. Right on the promenade, take the time to stretch your legs with a seaside stroll before dinner, or relax and take a dip in their indoor pool or spa pool, or relax in the sauna or steam room. All rooms are ensuite, with TVs, WIFI, Radio, Direct Dial telephone, Hairdryer, Iron and Board, Complimentary Beverage Tray, Bathrobe and Slippers. The hotel is a 5min walk from the train station.

Tyn-y-Coed, Capel Curig

Family owned and run, the Tyn-y-Coed is the perfect place to rest any weary legs. If the weather hasn't been kind to us, there's drying rooms for our clothes, roaring log fires and freshly cooked food to get us warm. On a sunny day, we can eat in the dining room, or enjoy dinner alfresco in the garden. After dinner, be brave and take a dip in the River Llugwy, there's the perfect deep river pool, ideal for wild swimming, just in the meadow. All rooms are comfy ensuites and include Wifi, TV, tea/coffee making facilities, toiletries, hair-dryer.

The Royal Goat, Beddgelert

The Royal Goat Hotel is family-run and located in the beautiful Alpine like village of Beddgelert. All rooms are comfortable ensuites, which have been refurbished ready for us in 2021. Each room has Wifi, TV, tea/coffee making facilities, toiletries, hair-dryer. The hotel is a short stroll from the village centre where you can wander along in the evening and learn about the famous Gelert, of Beddgelert.

Our Country House: Dolserau Hall

Stay at HF Holidays very own Dolserau Hall, Country House Hotel in Southern Snowdonia. Offering everything a walker could want, we've drying rooms for your boots and clothes, self-guided routes if you've the time to fit in an extra stroll, and comfortable ensuite rooms. Each room is equipped with WiFi, TV, hair dryer, tea/coffee making facilities, and toiletries.

USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

Food & Transport

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.

Joining Instructions

We'd advise you to travel by bus or by train to your holiday, as your holiday begins and ends in different locations.

Train:

Our first night's accommodation is in Llandudno, a short walk from the train station. On your final day of the holiday, we've arranged a group transfer to take you to Machynlleth train station (arriving 09:45)

Essential Information

Essential Equipment

To enjoy walking/hiking comfortably and safely, footwear, clothing and equipment needs to be suitable for the conditions. Safety and comfort are our priorities, so our advice is to come prepared for all eventualities.

- Footwear with a good grip on the sole (e.g. Vibram sole) is the key to avoiding accidents
- Waterproof walking/hiking boots providing ankle support and good grip are recommended (ideally worn in), and specialist walking socks to avoid blisters.
- Several layers of clothing, which can be added or removed, are better than a single layer (include spares)
- Fabrics (lightweight and fast drying) designed for the outdoors are recommended
- Waterproof jacket and waterproof over trousers
- Warm hat and gloves. Gaiters are an optional but useful extra
- Denim jeans and capes are not suitable on any walks
- Rucksack with a waterproof liner
- Thermos flask for hot drink
- Water bottle (at least 1 litres)
- Spare high-energy food such as a chocolate bar
- Small torch
- First aid kit – your leader's first aid kit doesn't contain any medication or blister kits (such as Compeed)

Optional Equipment

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

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.

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.

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 – 7pm 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: Svenska Handelsbanken AB (publ) Account Name: HF Holidays Ltd Account Number: 35923304 Sort Code: 40-51-62 IBAN: GB92HAND40516235923304 Swift / Bic Code: HANDGB22

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

The balance is due 10 weeks before departure. 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 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.

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