

Hosteli Unigeddau'r Elenydd : Elenydd Wilderness Hostels

Walks from Ty'n Cornel Hostel

No.2 - Bryn Ambor and Doethie Valley - 10 miles (16km)

NB. The forest has been cleared since these directions were prepared (November 2008). With care, it should still be possible to follow directions 3 to 7 - alternatively follow the forest road (see NB in direction 6).

Summary

A climb through cleared forest over into the Pysgotwr valley, then on a good track over high open moorland, followed by a spectacular descent to Troed-Rhiw-Cymmer at the end of the Pysgotwr Gorge and a return up the Doethie valley.

Safety

You are strongly recommended to read the safety and navigational advice on the website or in the Guest Information File 'Walking' in the hostel. For this walk this can be summarised as:

River Crossings - None.

Underfoot - Mostly good but about 0.75 miles of open moor is largely trackless and a bit boggy.

Exposure - Very exposed for 2 miles at about 1400ft (430m).

Navigation - Fairly straightforward - paths mostly obvious except, maybe, in cleared forest. 0.75 miles across moor is trackless but forest edge provides clear alternative. Be vigilant in poor visibility. OS map recommended and compass if visibility poor.

Directions

NB. ref.nos. are shown on map overleaf.

- 1 Left (L) from the hostel eastwards along the track for 0.2 mile.
- 2 Right (R) at BW finger post to go through gate, down to river, and over footbridge.
- 3 Follow ride/BW diagonally R up through wood - nearly to edge then cut back up.
- 4 At point where ride seems to end ahead go L diagonally (waymarked) up through trees to forest road.
- 5 Go R along forest road for about 150m going up, along and then down.
- 6 Lookout for BW way mark on L; follow it into a narrow forest ride - dark but light at end of tunnel. One or two boggy spots. NB. if turning missed, continue on forest road to public road and go L - this becomes the track referred to at point 8 below.
- 7 Through gate to bear diagonally R (200° compass bearing) and pass on the L edge of the low mound adjoining the wood. Veer slightly L and continue downhill. Head to the L of the amphitheatre of low ground opening before you and formed by a small side stream. Keep this on your R and follow the divide between it and the bigger side valley to your L, bearing R to follow track over small stream, through gate and down to big track.
NB. Alternatively follow forest fence (R) to break of slope and go L on sheep track across hillside above 'amphitheatre'. Go R to follow 'divide' and descend as above.
- 8 L at track, which is well made and designed for vehicles. Follow it up onto open moors, across them and down to house at Troed-Rhiw-Cymmer.
- 9 Continue on track over Doethie and soon after take second path cutting acutely back, waymarked by sign post to hostel.
- 10 Follow the path up the Doethie valley, ignoring all turnings to the right. After 3 miles, at top of climb look to branch L down through bracken to continue above river.
- 11 At gate onto stony track go L down to footbridge and continue to hostel (0.25 miles).

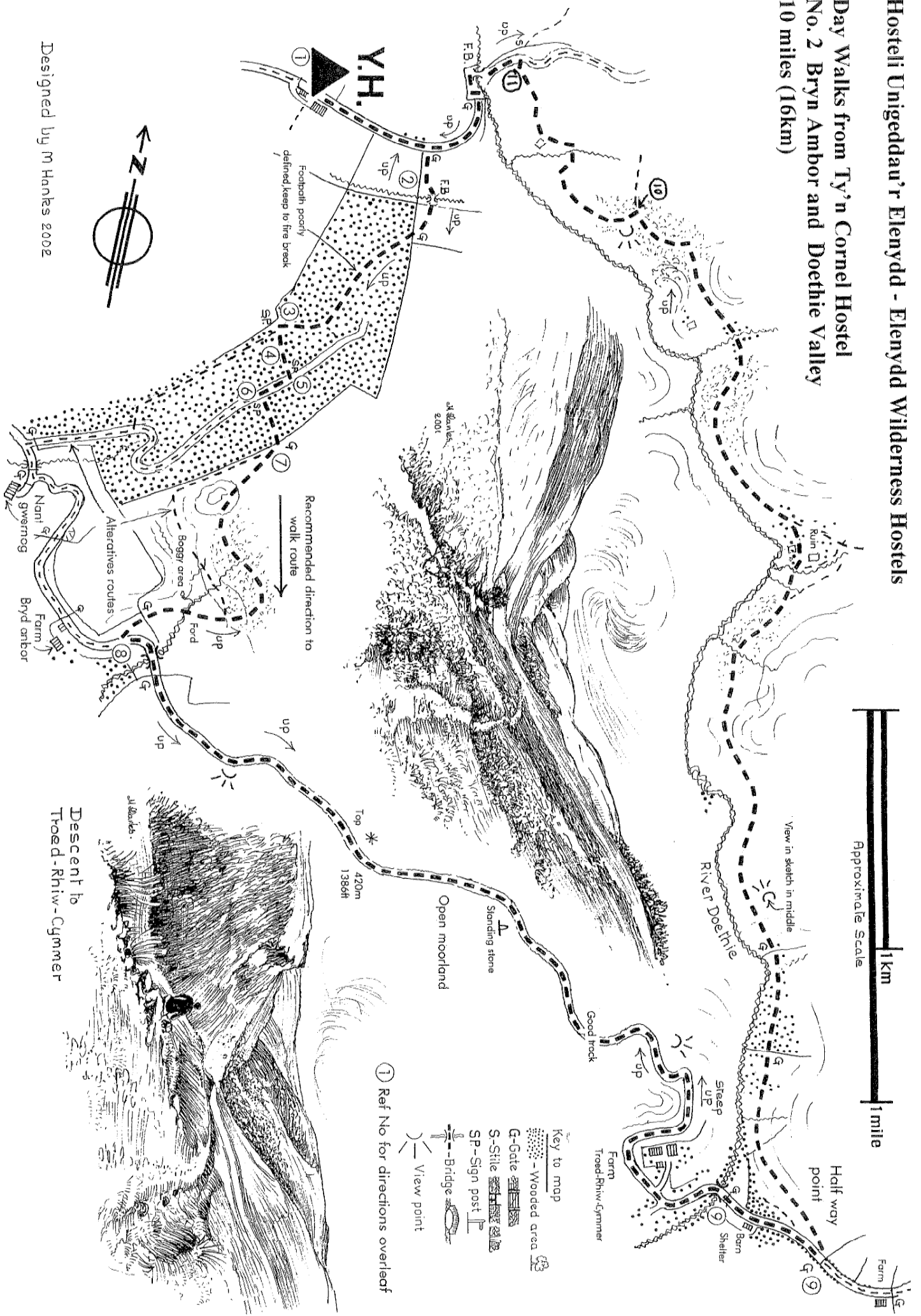
Points of Interest

NB. for more information see Guest Information Files at hostel.

- 1 Pysgotwr Gorge - steep and rough and not recommended. Keep away from the river, which rises quickly in flood. Upstream from gorge the bottom is alarmingly soft.
- 2 Views - these are spectacular as you come down from the moorland
- 3 Old settlements in Doethie Valley - see Note 3 Walk 1.

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Day Walks from Ty'n Cornel Hostel No. 2 Bryn Ambor and Doethie Valley 10 miles (16km)



Designed by M Hanks 2002