

Hosteli Unigeddau'r Elenydd : Elenydd Wilderness Hostels

Walks from Ty'n Cornel Hostel No.7 - Telephone Box - 10 miles (16km)

Summary

This is the most difficult of our day walks. It goes north over the moors to the phone box on the mountain road (no coins). It returns by road to a remote chapel and then back to the hostel on a good track. An alternative return is outlined.

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 - One.

Underfoot - from end of track about 2.5 miles across open moor. Some tussock and grass can be long in summer. Largely trackless. Higher ground generally firm and largely avoids boggy sections in valleys.

Exposure - significant and prolonged.

Navigation - must be able to navigate in bad conditions with OS map and compass - these are essential.

Directions

NB. ref.nos are shown on map overleaf.

- 1 Right (R) from the hostel and up the approach track.
- 2 Turn R, about 50m before bridge over Doethie, onto a side track.
- 3 Follow track to where it bears R and climbs up into a low col. Turn L and follow top of whale-back.
- 4 From top take stock. Route continues parallel to forest edge on L (bearing of about 30°) keeping to the high ground and going over the next top (Esgair Cerrig).
- 5 Drop down at end of whale-back and pick your way carefully across the boggy low ground to gain the start of the next whale-back (Esgair Cerrig).
- 6 Again climb whale-back sticking to high ground. Bearing is closer to 40° now. Do not swing off to R and maintain awareness of forest edge.
- 7 Continue over top. Aim for Nant-y-Maen farm as it comes into view (bearing of 20°).
- 8 At stream, select a suitable fording place and cross to join road. If nowhere suitable, choices are to try upstream, go downstream to join road or retreat. Do not take risks.
- 9 Follow road to Soar y Mynydd Chapel, turning R off the road to cross the Camddwr just above the chapel.
- 10 Go over the valley track and up the steep rough track. 2.5 miles to hostel.

NB. A possible alternative is shown on the map overleaf. We have walked only part of this route. Walkers experienced in these conditions may wish to try it to avoid the road but they are solely responsible for their decision to do so. Our route was from the Doethie Fach footbridge, up to and along the forest edge and then across to the trig-point at GR756561. In summer the grass was in places very long with a fair bit of tussock and some boggy patches - difficult and slow! The way shown on the map leaves the road to climb up, above and around the head of Nant Gruffydd and to go south above the head of Nant y Gronwen to pick up the forest edge and continue to the track back to the hostel from the chapel. There are obvious variations on this.

Points of Interest

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

- 1 Capture of Doethie Fach headwaters by Doethie Fawr - see Guest Information Files.
- 2 Soar Mynydd Chapel - the most remote in Wales; good information inside.

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