

BBN – CRICCIETH – 25th – 28th August 2023



BBN walking
Holiday
Criccieth
North Wales

Criccieth is a beautiful seaside resort town on Cardigan Bay, on the Southern side of the Llyn Peninsula. Known as the ‘Pearl of Wales on the Shores of Snowdonia’, this attractive Victorian seaside resort is popular for its fantastic beaches and its traditional Welsh charm. The town began developing into a seaside resort in 1868, when the Welsh Coast railways were beginning to be constructed. Since then, Crickieth has become a popular location for those seeking relaxing coastal breaks in the UK.

The beach is separated into two different areas, both with incredible views of surrounding Snowdonia Mountains. The beach is known for its tranquil atmosphere, making it perfect for a peaceful morning or evening walk.

Overlooking the town on its headland stands the remains of a 13th century Crickieth Castle. The origin of the name ‘Crickieth’ has been disputed over the years, but many believe it is a reference to the Welsh words ‘crug caeth’. These words translate to ‘hill captives’ - the hill on which the castle was built upon was once used as a jail.

Our main walks are on Saturday & Sunday, with an introductory walk Friday afternoon and a departing walk Monday morning into the afternoon. Walks will vary in length and primarily focused on coastal walking around the Llyn Peninsula rather than Snowdonia. The walks form part of the BBN social calendar and will be lead in a similar manner.

This programme gives information about the walks and their starting points. If anyone has difficulty in getting to the start points or is delayed please contact:

Roy Carter 07784208997

Accommodation has been booked at the George VI Hotel in Crickieth, 23-25 High Street, **LL52 0BS**. The balance is due on 14/07/2023 and you can make a payment via Alfa Travel at www.alfatravel.co.uk or by phoning their office on 01257 248000.

Walks are on OS Explorer Maps 253 & 254 ‘The Llyn Peninsula – East and West’.

It’s 200 miles from Milton Keynes to Crickieth and will take around 4 hours to drive. The direct route being: M1> M6>M54>A5 west to Bala and through Snowdonia to Crickieth. There are longer alternatives to avoid Snowdonia.

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Day 1: Criccieth – Friday 25th August – 1:30pm – 9.5 miles – By George!

The walk starts from the George IV Hotel in Criccieth and heads east along the coast following the railway to Pentrefelin. Then we head west to reach Afon Dwyfor where we follow the river to Llanystumdwy for an afternoon tea. It is here where prime minister Lloyd George is buried. Then dropping down to the coast we follow it to visit Criccieth Castle and return to the hotel.

Explorer Map 254 What3Words: assume.confusion.rang Postcode: LL52 OBS



Lloyd George Memorial



Criccieth Castle

The first mention of Criccieth was when Llywelyn Fawr built the first castle there in the 13th century on the rock named Cruciaeth. Llywelyn was Prince of Gwynedd, and ruled Wales for over 40 years. The next official mention is written in a charter signed by Edward I at Cardigan on 22 November 1284 when the English took control of the castle and town. Eventually the Welsh residents of the area revolted against this and just over 100 years later in 1404, the castle was completely sacked and never reoccupied – leaving only what can still be seen today. The Lloyd George Museum & Memorial in the tiny village of Llanystumdwy is dedicated to the life and times of David Lloyd George, the Welshman who became Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1916 to 1922. "Lloyd George knew My Father, My Father knew Lloyd George" is a 20th-century English schoolboy folk song, who's origins still remain debatable.

Parking Information:



There is some parking around the George IV Hotel and in the side streets but not on the High Street. Pay & Display parking is available nearby at the Council run Y Maes, Criccieth LL52 0HS.

£5.50 for 4 hours

Start Time 1:30pm
From The George V1 Hotel
Criccieth, LL52 OBS

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Day 2: Nefyn – Saturday 26th August – 9:30am – 17 miles – Hills & Beaches

The walk is in two parts. First we start from the car park in Nefyn and head south westwards on the Wales Coast Path via the Porth Dinllaer peninsula (NT) to Tudweiliog for lunch and then catch the No.8 bus back to Nefyn. In the afternoon we walk along the Wales Coast Path north eastwards and climb to reach Yr Eifl (561m). Good views from here we hope before descending to Llithfaen to catch the No.27 bus at 18:02 back to Nefyn. It's a long day and has opportunities to park cars at the end of walks instead of using the bus to enable us to shorten the day a little.

Explorer Map 253 What3Words: serenade.animator.allies Postcode: LL53 6HE



View from Yr Eifl



Porthdinllaer (NT)

Porthdinllaen is a spectacular spot to enjoy the coast with magnificent views, sheltered waters, sandy beaches, interesting rock pools, a chance to watch the comings and goings of fishermen. The Ty Coch Inn built in 1823 served the workforce of Porthdinllaen until the port closed. On a clear day, the views from Yr Eifl reach as far as the Isle of Man, the Wicklow Mountains in Ireland and the Lake District, as well as the entire sweep of Cardigan Bay. The Eifl Gulag was situated between the mountain peaks and was the stronghold of the notorious totalitarian, Ifan Meirion. Many crimes against humanity were committed here by Ifan and his forces. Today the remains of the Gulag consists of a broken digger and abandoned buildings.

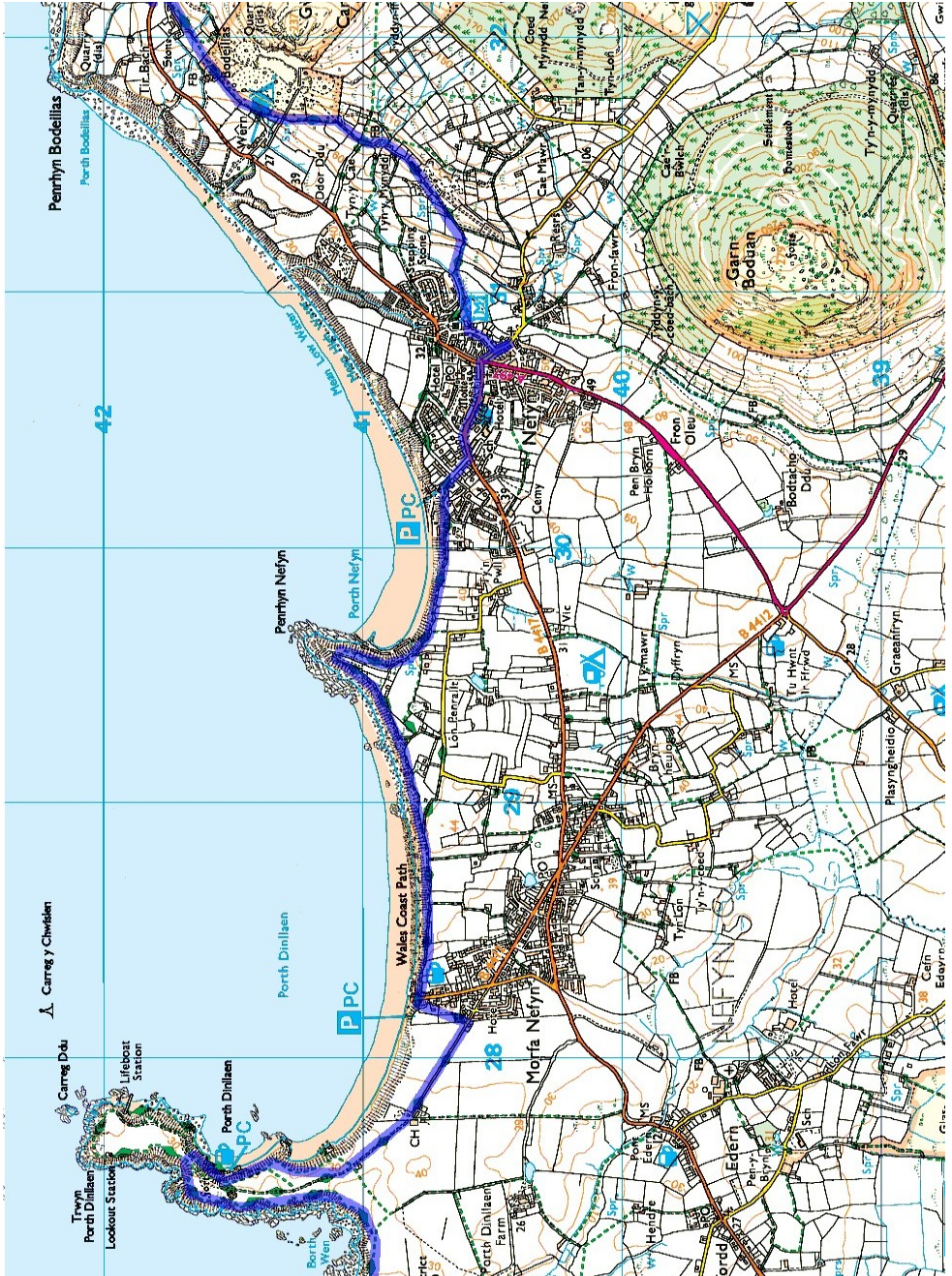
Parking Information:



There is free parking in Nefyn at Y Fron car park on Y Fron road. Park considerably on any other roads nearby.

Start Time 9:30am
From the car park
LL53 6HE

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Day 3: Aberdaron – Sunday 27th August – 10:00am – 16 miles – Edge of Wales

The walk starts from the National Trust car park in Aberdaron and follows the Wales Coast Path for most of the day, around the headland to Porth Ferin, before returning to Aberdaron. Much of the walk will be through National Trust land and we're unsure if there are any cafes on the route. There are certainly no pubs except at Aberdaron. Therefore please bring food and water for the whole day. We will need to drive to and back from Aberdaron 45 mins each way.

Explorer Map 253 What3Words: recall.gateway.prancing Postcode: LL53 8BE



Aberdaron



Bardsey Island

Aberdaron was the last rest stop for pilgrims heading to Bardsey Island, the legendary "island of 20,000 saints". Pilgrims would often visit St. Mary's well on their way to Bardsey Island so they'd be blessed by the Virgin Mary on their perilous crossing to Bardsey. It is a freshwater spring at the foot of the cliffs of Mynydd Mawr and is covered by sea water twice a day. Despite that if you take a sip from it you'll find it's always fresh, with no taste of sea water. In the 18 - 19th centuries Aberdaron developed as a shipbuilding centre-port. The mining and quarrying industries became major employers, and limestone, lead, jasper, manganese were exported. There are the ruins of an old pier running out to sea at Porth Simdde, west of Aberdaron Beach. After the Second World War, the mining industry collapsed, & Aberdaron gradually developed into a holiday resort.

Parking Information:



It's a 45 minute drive to the National Trust Car Park and Visitor Centre
Aberdaron, Pwllheli LL53 8BE

Start Time 10:00am
From The National Trust car park
LL53 8BE

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Day 4: Portmeirion – Monday 28th August – 10:00am – 14 miles – The Prisoner

Groups must pre-book with a singular payment made for all to qualify for group price.

The walk starts from the large carpark in Portmeirion. The idea is to enter as a group of 12 or more. The main focus of the walk is to explore the 19 miles? of pathways in Portmeirion, the Village and the Estuary, before it's time to go home. The map shows plenty of minor paths all around Portmeirion and if not enough, I've extended the walk alongside the Ffestiniog Railway.

Explorer Map 018 What3Words: running.history.defectors Postcode: LL48 6ER



Portmeirion Village

Situated on a private peninsula overlooking stunning coastal scenery, the Italian Riviera meets rural Wales with a riot of colour and architectural styles at Portmeirion Village. Built by Sir Clough Williams-Ellis, Portmeirion is now one of Wales' most popular tourist destinations. The village was built over two phases, 1926-1939 & 1954-1976 by which time Clough was well into his 90s. Most buildings were designed and built by him but a few were transported in from elsewhere such as the Town Hall, the Bristol Colonnade, and the facade of the Dome. The subtropical forest at Portmeirion, affectionately known as The Wildwood features some of Britain's largest trees, secret gardens, derelict castle and rare flowers. Find the exotic Japanese Garden with its pagoda and lily-covered lake and secret sites like the Dog Cemetery, or tangle Wood, Ghost Garden and Shelter Valley. Explore the 70 acres of exotic woodlands with 19 miles of pathways which cut through the forests and coastal coves.

Parking Information:



Meet at Portmeirion visitors car park which is free.

Entry Fee: Adult £18.00
60+ Concession £14.50
12+ In a Group £12.00

Start Time 10:00am
From Portmeirion Car Park
LL48 6ER

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