

Your Adventure Your Way

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Hazards

This is a high-level mountain route so proper preparation and equipment is necessary. The higher parts of the route regularly have low visibility, make sure you know where you are at all times and have a map and compass for navigation. In winter conditions the route will become slippery and dangerous, especially when covered in snow and ice – mountaineering skills and equipment may be required. Corn Du and Pen y Fan are very exposed to winds and storms with limited shelter. Steep drop along the ridge near Corn Du.

Accessibility

A physical route with steep ascents and descents. Small amount of steep rocky descent off Corn Du. There are stiles on the route. Much of the route is on well walked and obvious paths. Some uneven fields and less obvious paths between the hostel and Taff Trail.

Facilities

Toilets in the second car park near Storey Arms. Refreshment van often available at Storey Arms.

Before you go:

- Check the local weather forecast and whether there is enough daylight to complete the walk (metoffice.gov.uk).
- Ensure you are wearing suitable clothing and footwear for the route and weather, and that you take the right kit – learn more at yha.org.uk/walk-skills.
- Download the OS Maps and what3words apps to your phone.
- To be able to contact emergency services by text visit relayuk.bt.com/emercencysms or text 'register' to 999.
- For more information on staying safe in the outdoors visit adventuresmart.uk.
- Complete a route notification card (yha.org.uk/route-card) to provide essential information for the Emergency Services if you do not return when expected.
- Check all members of the group have the fitness and skills to complete the route.

In case of emergency:

- Contact 999 and use OS Maps or what3words to help pinpoint your location.
- To attract attention shout or give six blasts on a whistle at regular intervals. In low light flash a torch six times at regular intervals.
- If you can send someone for help, they need to know your location, number of people in the group and the nature of the emergency.

For more walks or information on route grading and timings go to yha.org.uk/map-guidance

If you encounter problems with this route contact walking@yha.org.uk

Walking has been at the heart of YHA since 1930, helping people access the great outdoors. Today, YHA continues to make adventures possible with mapped routes and affordable hostel stays across England and Wales. Our hostels are ideal for walkers, with drying rooms, self-catering kitchens, and great trails from the doorstep. We're committed to making adventure accessible to everyone, with walks for all abilities and guided walking events that connect people to nature, heritage, and each other.

Supported by

Share your walks



Produced by Matt Overd (<https://walkingpace.uk>). Contributions from YHA Brecon Beacons, John Watkins, Simon Ainley & Huw Rogers. Designed by HeylinSmith.com. Cover image: Paul Maguire/AdobeStock



Pen y Fan and Corn Du walk



187

YHA Brecon Beacons

Book your stay now yha.org.uk/stay-187

Mountain walk

A great walk up the highest British peak south of Snowdonia with stunning views throughout, especially from the summits of Pen y Fan and Corn Du.

Distance: 8.2 miles (13.2km)

Ascent: 737m (2,418ft)

Time: Allow 4h 30m to 7h



Partnered with



Route directions

Map: OS Explorer (OL12) Brecon Beacons National Park / Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog

Start/Finish: Grid ref SN 973 225

what3words ///mild.intrigued.simulates

- 1 From the hostel turn left and pass through the large gate on the right marked Pen y Fan.
- 2 Turn right, cross a couple of small footbridges and through fields to join the Taff Trail.
- 3 Turn right and follow the broad track slightly uphill.
- 4 Pass the Storey Arms Centre and continue to the far end of the second car park.
- 5 Take the well prepared track on the left towards Pen Y Fan.
- 6 At Bwlch Duwynt bear right to reach the summit cairn of Pen y Fan.
- 7 Retrace your steps for 250m. Do not take the path you came up on, instead go ahead to continue along the ridge to Corn Du.
- 8 Pass the summit of Corn Du and head down a few rocks.
- 9 Take the well trodden path on the left and continue downhill.
- 10 At the Storey Arms turn right onto the Taff Trail and retrace the route to the hostel.

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