



# YHA Brecon Beacons Danywenallt Tor y Foel

Scan or click to view this route on the OS Maps App – also a route profile and GPX

## Hilltop and canal walk

**Distance:** 6.3 miles (10.2km) **Ascent:** 557m (1,827ft) **Time:** Allow 3h 30m to 5h 30m

**Map:** OS Explorer (OL13) Brecon Beacons National Park / Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog

**Start/Finish:** OS Locate SO 107 205 **what3words** ///forge.earth.vast



From the hostel driveway take the first pedestrian gate on the left, cross over the track, head uphill, through a metal five bar gate, to a steel pedestrian gate which leads into the wood. The path through the wood may be impassable, so instead take the steep stony path to the left of the gate to reach a track. Turn left and take the path on the right, uphill and across fields to join the narrow minor road. Turn right and follow the road uphill until the junction of paths and tracks to the south-west of Tor y Foel, and then turn left to ascend to the summit. Descend to the east along a steep stony path – walking poles may help the descent here – to meet a minor road at Pen-y-bailey. Turn left and follow the road, turn left to reach the towing path of the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal. Cross the canal at the third bridge (including the one you've already crossed) to join the Usk Valley Walk. Follow this path to the minor road and head back through the woods to the hostel.

## Hazards

Caution required on the road sections. Steep and uneven descent of Tor y Foel. In winter the route may become hazardous, especially if covered in snow and ice, and will require winter clothing and footwear.

## Accessibility

There are gates and paths less than one metre wide. Steep paths with ruts or stones exceeding 10cm in places.

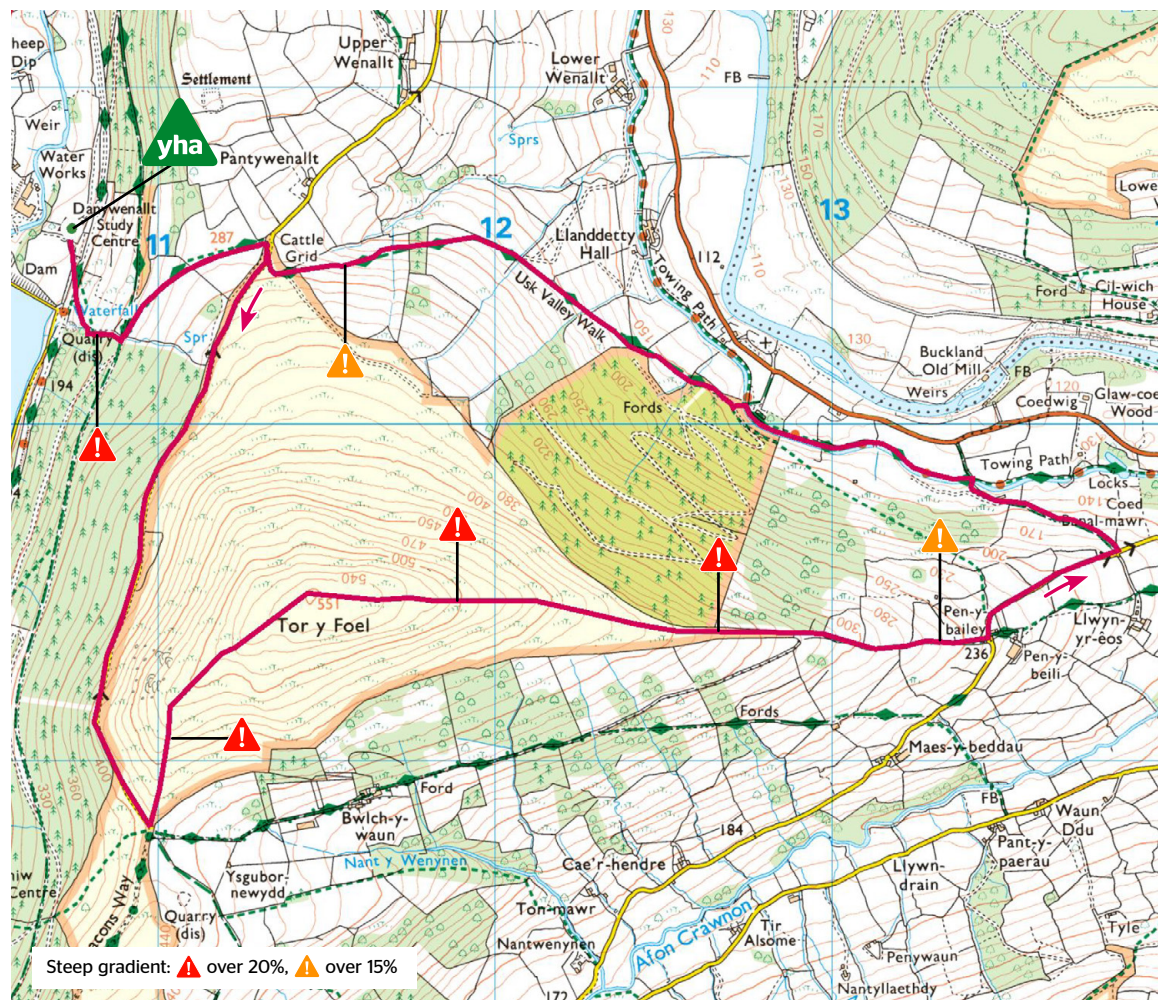
## Points of interest

Great views from summit of Tor y Foel. Charming stone bridges over the picturesque canal.

## Facilities

No facilities on the route. Food, drink and toilets available at the YHA.

This route has been created by YHA to provide inspiration and to aid planning and preparation of your walk. It doesn't replace the need for an OS Map or the OS Maps App to navigate your walk safely. Digital maps are a guide and do not always reflect the conditions on the ground, ensure you are aware of your immediate surroundings.



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Route: Matt Overd, Brian Heathcote & Alan Platt



Thank you for choosing to walk from our hostel.  
We hope you have a great time.

Walking in the national landscapes of England and Wales is part of YHA's heritage. With hostels on National Trails, in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, YHA plays a unique role in the nation's walking community.

To make it easy for everyone to enjoy walking from YHA hostels, we have curated three walks – an easy, moderate, and more challenging option. They have all been graded – the higher the grade, the more challenging the route.

### Before you go:

- Check the local weather forecast ([mwis.org.uk](http://mwis.org.uk)).
- Check the tide times for coastal routes ([tidetimes.org.uk](http://tidetimes.org.uk)).
- Get the right clothing, footwear and kit for the route and weather.
- Ensure you have enough time to complete the route before dark.
- Download the OS Locate and what3words apps to your phone.
- Contact 999 by SMS text (must pre register by texting 'register' to 999) ([relayuk.bt.com/emergencysms](http://relayuk.bt.com/emergencysms)).
- Plan your walk by completing the YHA route notification card it helps Emergency Services if you get into difficulties or fail to return from your walk when anticipated ([yha.org.uk/route-card](http://yha.org.uk/route-card)).
- Ensure your entire group have the fitness and skills to complete the route.
- For further information on how to stay safe visit [adventuresmart.uk](http://adventuresmart.uk)

For more walks or information on route grading and timings go to [yha.org.uk/walks](http://yha.org.uk/walks)

If you encounter problems with this route contact [walking@yha.org.uk](mailto:walking@yha.org.uk)



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[osmaps.com/yha](http://osmaps.com/yha)

Share your walks



## What to wear

- Base layer and mid layer.
- Walking trousers.
- Warm jacket(s).
- Take extra layer(s).
- Hat, gloves and neck gaiter.
- Sun hat, sun cream and sunglasses.
- Waterproof jacket and trousers.
- Cushioning walking socks.
- Walking shoes or boots.

## Kit

- Map, compass and GPS device or OS Map app on your phone.
- Water, lunch and high energy snacks.
- Charged mobile phone and portable charger.
- First aid kit.
- Head torch, spare batteries.
- Watch.
- Whistle and survival bag.
- Rucksack, with waterproof cover or a dry bag or plastic bag inside.
- Medicines or toiletries you would usually use.

## You might also want to take

- Spare socks, hat, gloves.
- Balaclava.
- Leg gaiters.
- Waterproof baseball cap (handy if you wear glasses).
- Walking poles.

- Bivi bag or group shelter.
- Spare food and hot drink.
- Duct tape (handy for fixing things).
- Penknife or multitool.
- Tissues and hand sanitiser.
- Plastic bags to take away your rubbish or dog poo.

## In case of emergency

- Call 999 (or text 999 if pre-registered) and ask for the Police.
- Use OS Locate or what3words to provide a detailed description of your location.
- If you need to attract attention shout or give six blasts on a whistle at regular intervals. In low light flash your torch six times at regular intervals.
- If you can send someone for help, they need to know your location (grid reference), number of people in the group and the nature of the emergency.
- Help could be some time coming so whilst waiting make the casualty comfortable.
- Keep the casualty warm and dry using spare clothing. Use coats or rucksacks to insulate them from the ground.
- Remember the rest of the group could be getting cold whilst waiting. Use an emergency shelter or find a sheltered location.