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

Mountain and woodland walk

Distance: 13.3 miles (21.3km) Ascent: 882m (2,894ft) Time: Allow 7h 15m to 11h 30m

Map: OS Explorer (OL12) Brecon Beacons National Park (Western area) / Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog (Ardal gorllewinol) OS Explorer (OL13) Brecon Beacons National Park (Eastern area) / Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog (Ardal ddwyreiniol)

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

An epic high edge route on the hills around Talybont Reservoir. From the hostel driveway turn right and cross the dam. Cross the road to the track ahead which leads uphill and to the right, then follow signs to Twyn Du. Continue to the cairn of Carn Pica and turn left to follow a path across rough grass. Pass Craig v Fan. turn right at the top of the escarpment and along Gwalciau'r Cwm, Cwar y Gigfran onto Graig Fan Las. Join the Beacons Way, head downhill and alongside the woods. Bear right to cross a stream and join the Cambrian Way. Cross the road and follow the path to the trig point on Pant v Creigiau. Continue on the path downhill and leave the Cambrian Way to head up and over Bryniau Gleision. Follow the path along Pen Bwlch Glasgwm and enter the forest at Pen Rhiw-calch. Navigate through the forest and take the steep stony path on the left down to a track. Cross over the track and to the hostel.

Hazards

This is a long high level route which is exposed to the elements. Caution crossing the road at end of dam wall. Steep drops alongside the escarpment path. Take care on uneven paths heading down to the woods. Stream crossing on the Beacons Way which may be difficult to cross after prolonged rain. In winter the route may become hazardous, especially if covered in snow and ice, and will require winter clothing and footwear.

Accessibility

There are stiles on the route, steep sections and paths less than one metre wide with deeps ruts and large stones. The route can be reduced to 11.9 miles, with 683m of ascent and graded 64, by missing the hills to the south of the route and instead taking the Beacon Way and Taff Trail back to the hostel. This provides a great route with a gentle finish or a good escape option if the weather turns or the daylight is fading.

Points of interest

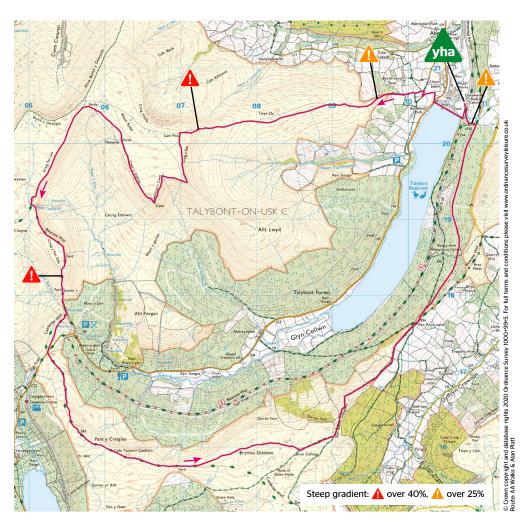
Great views and lovely mountain scenery. WW2 memorial to a crashed Wellington bomber a short detour from the path.

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.







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).
- Check the tide times for coastal routes (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).
- 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).
- Ensure your entire group have the fitness and skills to complete the route.
- For further information on how to stay safe visit adventuresmart.uk

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

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



Scan or click to shop for OS maps online osmaps.com/yha



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.