



YHA Snowdon Ranger

# Snowdon and Clogwyn Du

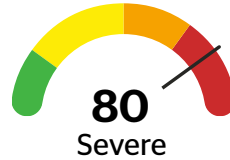
## Mountain walk

**Distance:** 11.4 miles (18.4km) **Ascent:** 1,222m (4,009ft)

**Time:** Allow 7h 45m to 11h 45m

**Map:** OS Explorer 1:25k (OL17) Snowdon / Yr Wyddfa

**Start/Finish:** OS Locate SH 565 550 **what3words** ///calibrate.suits.decoder



A scenic and challenging route over popular Snowdon. From the hostel turn right along the road, take the track on the right to the railway and turn left. Cross the railway at the crossing and follow the well prepared path up the zig zags. Stay on the Snowdon Ranger Path and continue along Clogwyn Du'r Arddu to a standing stone next to the Snowdon Mountain Railway. Cross the track, and continue to another standing stone where the route meets the Llanberis path, turn right and follow the path to Snowdon's summit. Pass the entrance of the summit building, follow the Rhyd Ddu Path, pass the Watkin Path junction and head along the Bwlch Main to the South Ridge. The Rhyd Ddu path leaves to the right which is a suitable shortcut to the hostel and avoids the extended ridge walk. Otherwise, continue on the Cambrian Way along the ridge of Clogwyn Du. After a while the path opens out and descends with a mix of rocky ground and steps towards an old quarry. Turn right to leave the Cambrian Way at Bwlch Cwm Llan, pass through old workings towards slate mounds and take the slate path past old buildings and a waterfall. Continue on the path through numerous gates to Rhyd Ddu. Turn right at the road to head through the village and take the path opposite the Cwellyn Arms pub. Cross the railway and follow the

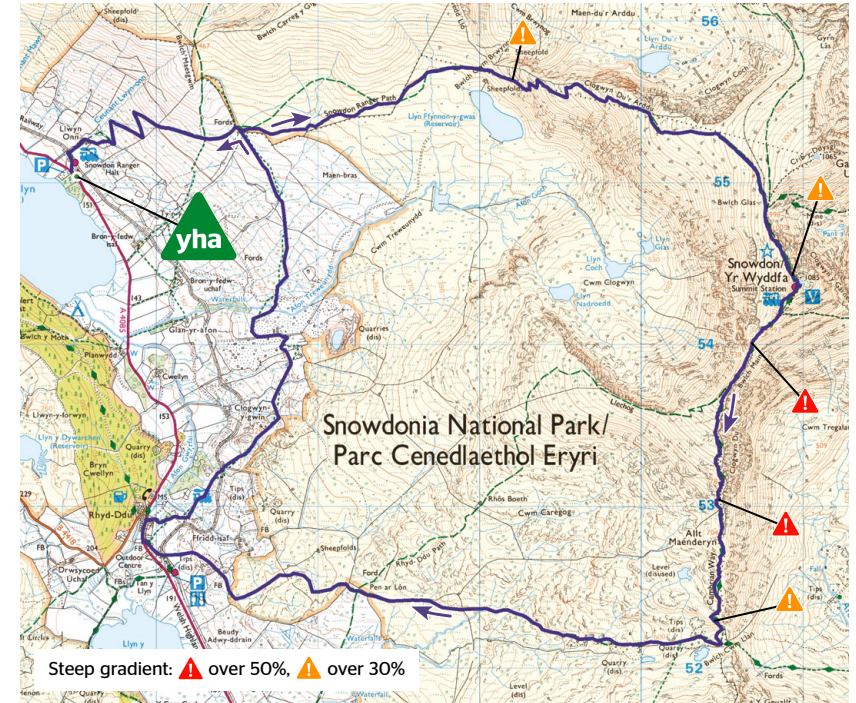
well signed path through fields to an old quarry. Pass beside mounds to cross a footbridge. Follow posts with yellow arrows uphill to rejoin the Snowdon Ranger Path and retrace the route to the hostel.

## Hazards

Always prepare for the weather at the top as it may be very different to that at the hostel. 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 or app for navigation. In winter conditions the route will become dangerous, especially if low visibility or covered in snow and ice, and will require mountaineering skills and equipment. Steep drops alongside the ridge from Snowdon along Clogwyn Du and a short scramble on the descent towards the quarry. Take care near old quarry and mine workings. Path across fields from Rhyd Ddu are boggy in places.

## Accessibility

Experienced and physically fit walkers only. This is a physical route with steep and rocky paths – hands may be required in places. There are stiles but they should not trouble anyone who is able to complete this route. The Rhyd-Ddu path shortcut avoids the



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

tricky ridge section. Up Snowdon and back down the Snowdon Ranger Track reduces the route to 7.7 miles and the grade to 63 (challenging). It may be possible to take the Welsh Highland Railway from Rhyd-Ddu to Snowdon Ranger to avoid the final uphill section, check times before leaving. Snowdon can be very busy, especially at the weekends and in the holidays! Consider walking it at quieter times, or perhaps another peak if you have the navigational skills to do so.

## Points of interest

Snowdon is the tallest mountain in England and Wales and provides spectacular views across Snowdonia (if not covered in cloud). On a good day it is possible to see as far as Ireland. The route contains remnants of mining works above Rhyd-Ddu.

## Facilities

Hafod Eryri, the summit café, toilets and visitor centre open seasonally (weather permitting). Cafe and pub in Rhyd Ddu.

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](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)



Scan or click to shop  
for OS maps online  
[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.