

# 171

YHA Snowdon Ranger

# Foel Goch and Moel Eilio

## Mountain walk

**Distance:** 9.3 miles (14.9km) **Ascent:** 933m (3,061ft)

**Time:** Allow 5h 45m to 8h 30m

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

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



A fantastic alternative route to Snowdon, away from the crowds, with stunning views. 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. Turn left onto the good path signposted to Llanberis and head uphill. After the boundary gate on Bwlch Maesgwm bear left onto a steep path and ascend Foel Goch. Cross a stile and follow the path to Foel Gron and to the summit cairn on Moel Eilio. From the summit descend on the path heading north alongside the fence. After about 1.25 miles (2km) the path splits, take the more distinct path on the right across the slope and follow it down to a paved road. Turn right onto the road, then right onto the bridleway and continue along a well prepared path for about 2.7 miles (4.3km) to meet the outward route at Bwlch Maesgwm. Continue down to the Snowdon Ranger Path, turn right, head back down the zig zags and to the hostel.

## 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. The ridge to Moel Eilio is very exposed to winds and storms with limited shelter. Steep drop near the path on Foel Gron.

## Accessibility

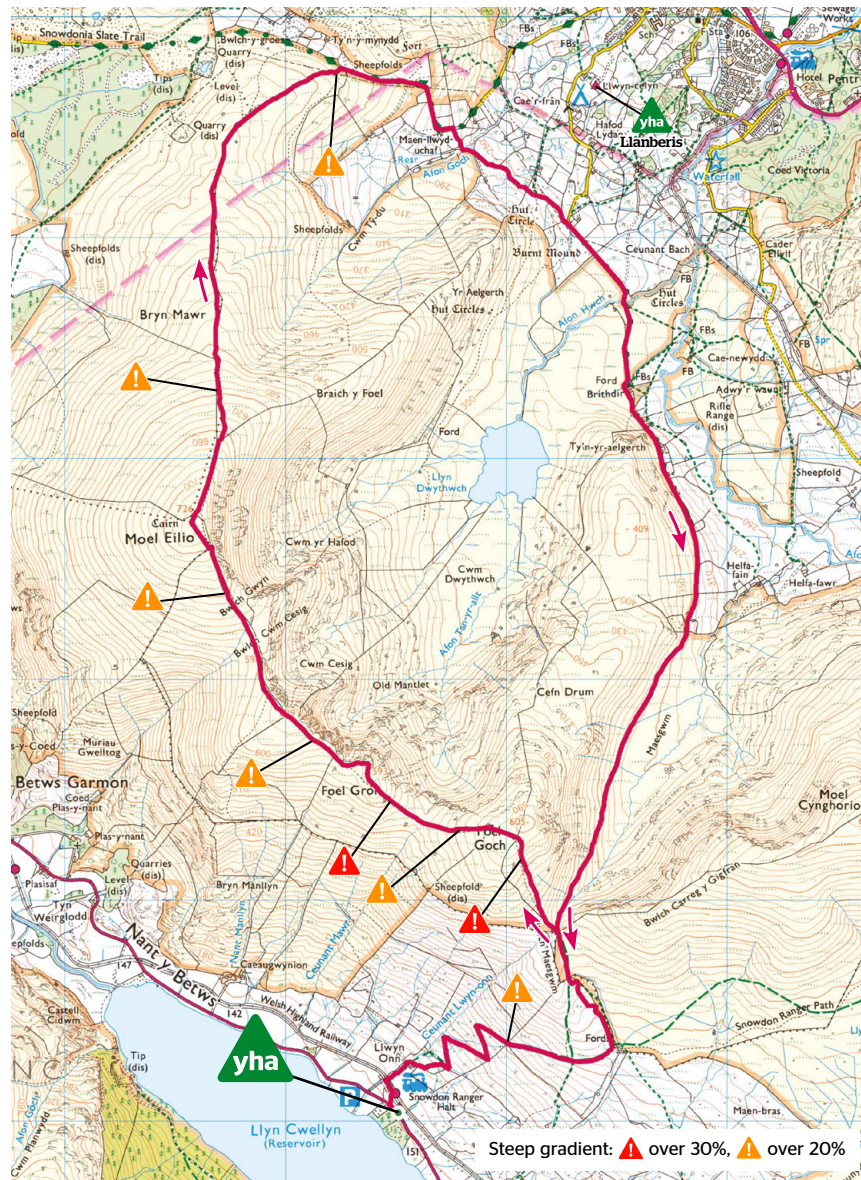
This is a physical route with steep ascents and descents, but no scrambling is involved. There are stiles but they should not trouble anyone who is able to complete this route. Much of the route is on well made paths, roads and bridleways with obvious paths across the summits with many fences to aid navigation.

## Points of interest

Excellent views from the ridge to Moel Eilio of Anglesey, the Llanberis Llyns, extensive former slate quarries and Dinorwig Hydro Power station.

## Facilities

There are no facilities on this route. Llanberis High Street is less than a mile (1.4km) away from Maen-llwyd-uchaf for toilets, cafés, pubs and shops.



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 & Robert Priday



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.