Llwybrau Afordir Lacharn

TAITH GERDDED DYLAN

1 Y Castell a'r Grist
Sefydlwyd Castell Lacharn gyntaf yn 1116 ond mae'r muriau tyrog yn perthyn i'r tŷ gwledig caerog o'r 15fed a'r 16eg ganrif. Mae'n debyg mai talfyriad o Grist Mill sef Melin Rawn yw'r 'Grist'. Mae'r morfeydd heli wedi datblygu dros y 100 mlynedd diwethaf-gallai cychod gyrraedd at waelod muriau'r castell yn y Canol Oesoedd.

2 Cartref Dylan Thomas
Hwn oedd cartref Dylan Thomas rhwng 1944 a 1953, ond mae'r adeilad yn perthyn i ddechrau'r 19eg ganrif. Bu'n dafarn yn yr 1880'au – The Ferry House Inn – ac yn iard adeiladu ac atgyweirio cychod yn ddiweddarach. Ceir golygfeydd gwych tuag at Fryn Syr John a'r aber.

3 Cliffside
Llwybr poblogaidd at lan yr afon gydag olion hen fythynnod a chwareli bach. Hyd y 1950'au, roedd gwasanaeth cwch agored yn rhedeg ar y llanw rhwng Ferry Point a Lacharn. Uwch ben y clogwyni coediog ceir olion amddiffynfa o'r Oes Haearn, a gafodd ei ailddefndio fel batri gynnau yn ystod y Rhyfel Cartref pan oedd Castell Lacharn dan warchae yn 1644. Mae Tŷ Cychod hynod islaw'r llwybr yn atgof o weithgareddau hamdden y 19eg ganrif.

4 Cychod Fferi a Chroesi'r Afon
Pwynt lle roedd yr afon yn cael ei chroesi gan gychod fferi gerllaw fferm Cwm Celyn, ar ochr arall yr Aber. I fyny'r afon roedd cychod yn croesi o fan ger Eglwys Llandeilo Abercywyn. Roedd teithwyr yn defnyddio'r llwybrau hyn yn y Canol Oesoedd ac yn ddiweddarach – brenhinoedd, esgobion, pererinion, masnachwyr ac eraill.
Mae olion sarnau i'w gweld ar lanw isel.

5 Fferm Delacorse
Tŷ a thai allan o'r 17eg /18fed ganrif sy'n adlewyrchu Ffrangeg Normanaidd arglwyddi canoloesol Lacharn – de la cors, o'r gors. Mae Mary Curtis yn adrodd hanes hen sarn a ddefnyddid gan gerti calch o Chwarel Coygan a hanes Betty Fordside a oedd yn defnyddio ceffyl i gludo teithwyr ar draws yr afon i Black Scar ar lanw isel.

6 Llwybr Arfordir ac Aberoedd Bae Caerfyrddin
Mae llwybr yn cael ei greu ar hyd yr aber i Sanclêr.

7 Eglwys Martin Sant
(mae arweinlyfr ar wahân ar gael yn lleol)
Mae'r Eglwys sy'n deillio o'r 13eg ganrif wedi ei lleoli cryn bellter o'r dref ar safle eglwys Gymreig frodorol, cyn i Lacharn (Abercoran) gael ei sefydlu. Gallai'r teulu de Brian fod wedi ei chysegru i Martin Sant o Tours. Claddwyd Dylan Thomas yn y fynwent newydd, ac mae croes wen blaen yn dynodi ei fedd.

8 Golygfeydd at yr Hugdon
Caeau agored Corfforaeth Lacharn a rannwyd ymysg y Bwrdeisiaid. Mae'r darnau tir wedi eu gwahanu gan grynnau gwair sydd heb eu haredig a adweinir fel 'landsgers'.

BRYN SYR JOHN

9 Ffin y Gorfforaeth
Wrth y gamfa edrychwch ar yr arysgrif ar y graig. Ceir golygfeydd gwych o'r aber ac o'r môr tuag at Wharley Point yr Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol, Cover Cliff a Black Scar Ferry.

10 'Cockshilly'
Cewch ddewis llwybr uchel dros Fryn Syr John neu i lawr ar hyd 'Cockshilly' tuag at olygfan drawiadol sy'n edrych dros yr hen gei a'r dramffordd, at Benrhyn Gŵyr a Sir Benfro.

11 Cors Lacharn
Tir a gafodd ei adennill o'r môr ers y Canol Oesoedd, gyda chymorth datblygiad y twyni tywod. Lleolwyd rhai ffermydd ar fryncynnau isel Cors y Dwyrain. I gyfeiriad Ginst Point gallwch weld morgloddiau 'The Freething' a 'The Saltings'. Gellir gweld yn glir hyd heddiw y cwysi rheolaidd sy'n deillio o'r gwaith aredig a wnaed yn rhan olaf y 18fed ganrif.

12 Railsgate Pill
Tramffordd o'r 19eg ganrif a oedd yn cysylltu chwarel Coygan, glanfa fechan ar geg y Pill lle roedd calchfaen yn cael ei lwytho ar longau bach. Mae'r rheiliau wedi mynd ond mae'r dramffordd, y sarn ac olion y cei bychan yn dal i'w gweld.

13 Y Lees
Tir comin isel (40 llain) sy'n eiddo i Gorfforaeth Lacharn, a roddwyd gan Syr Guy de Brian yn 1291 – mae pileri o haearn bwrw yn dynodi'r ffiniau.

14 Chwarel Coygan
O bellter mae'n ymddangos fel cerrig brig o galchfaen carbonifferaidd gyda rhwydwaith eang o ogofeydd. Tua 38,000 o flynyddoedd yn ôl roedd yr ogof yn ffau hienas. Darganfuwyd offer llaw o garreg a ddefnyddiwyd gan ddynion Neanderthalaidd yn yr ogof hefyd. Adeiladwyd bryn gaer Oes Haearn fawr yn yr 2ail ganrif CC. Rhwng y 5ed–7fed ganrif OC roedd y fryngaer yn ganolbwynt grym pennaeth o'r Oesoedd Tywyll.

15 Back Lane
Yn ol Mary Curtis cafodd llawer eu lladd ar y llwybr hwn pan ymosododd milwyr Cromwell ar y Castell.

Hawlfraint y Goron © Crown Copyright LA09007L/97/01

Milltir / Miles — 1 M
Km — 1 Km

Laugharne Coastal Walks

DYLAN'S WALK

1 The Castle & Grist
Laugharne Castle was first established in 1116 but the towering walls date to the 15th and 16th centuries as a fortified country house. 'The Grist' is probably a shortened form of Grist Mill or Corn Mill. The salt marshes have developed in area over the last 100 years or so – in the Middle Ages, boats could come right up to the castle walls.

2 The Boathouse and Dylan Thomas
A separate visit is essential to Dylan Thomas' home from 1949 to 1953, but the building dates from at least the early 19th century. It was a pub in the 1880s – The Ferry House Inn – and later a boat building and repair yard. Fine viewpoint towards Sir John's Hill and over the Taf Estuary.

3 Cliffside
A much-used route to the foreshore with the remains of older cottages and small quarries. Until the 1950s, an open-boat from Ferry Point to Laugharne was operated on the tide by a single boatman. Above the wooded cliffs are the remains of an Iron Age defended enclosure, reused as a gun battery during the Civil War siege of Laugharne Castle in 1644. A very fine Victorian Boathouse below the path is a reminder of 19th century leisure.

4 Ferries and River Crossings
A ferry crossing point close to Cwm Celyn farm, on the other side of the Taf Estuary. Upstream there were ferries from below Llandeilo Abercowin Church. These were routes used through the Middle Ages and later by travellers – kings, bishops, pilgrims, merchants and many others. Traces of causeways are revealed at low tide.

5 Delacorse Farm
A 17th/18th century house and outbuildings, reflecting the Norman-French of the medieval lords of Laugharne – delacors, of the marsh. Mary Curtis tells of an old causeway used by limecarts from the Coygan Quarries and of Betty Fordside, who had a horse to carry travellers across the river to Black Scar at low tide.

6 Carmarthen Bay Coastal and Estuaries Trail
A footpath is being created along the estuary up to St Clears.

7 St Martin's Church
(separate guide available locally)
The 13th century Church lies some distance from the town on the earlier site of a native Welsh church, predating the foundation of Laugharne (Abercorran). The de Brians may have changed the dedication to St Martin of Tours. Dylan Thomas is buried in the new graveyard, marked with a simple white crucifix.

8 Views to The Hugdon
Unenclosed open fields held by Laugharne Corporation and shared amongst the Burgesses. The shares or strips of land are separated from each other by unploughed grassy baulks known as 'landskers'.

SIR JOHN'S HILL

9 Corporation Boundary
At the stile, look for the inscription on the rock. Excellent views back along the Taf estuary and seaward to the National Trust's Wharley Point, Cover Cliff and Black Scar Ferry.

10 'Cockshilly'
A choice of a higher route over Sir John's Hill or down along 'Cockshilly' to a spectacular viewpoint overlooking the former quay and tramway, extending to the Gower and Pembrokeshire.

11 Laugharne Marsh
Land reclaimed from the sea since the Middle Ages, helped by the development of sand dunes. On the East Marsh some farms were sited on low hillocks. Out towards Ginst Point you can see 'The Freething' and 'The Saltings' sea walls. Late 18th century ploughing in regular ridges can still be very clearly seen today.

12 Railsgate Pill
A 19th century tramway used to run from Coygan Quarry down to a small wharf at the mouth of the Pill where limestone was loaded onto small coasting vessels. The rails are gone but the tramway, causeway and remains of the small quay can be seen.

13 The Lees
Low-lying common land (40 small strips or shares) belonging to the Corporation of Laugharne, first granted by Sir Guy de Brian in 1291 and with cast-iron pillars marking the bounds.

14 Coygan Quarry
Seen at a distance, an outcrop of carboniferous limestone with an extensive cave system. Some 38,000 years ago the cave was a hyena den. Crude stone hand tools used by Neanderthal men were also found in the cave. In the 2nd century BC a large Iron Age hillfort was constructed. In the 5th–7th centuries AD the hillfort was the centre of power of a Dark Age chieftain.

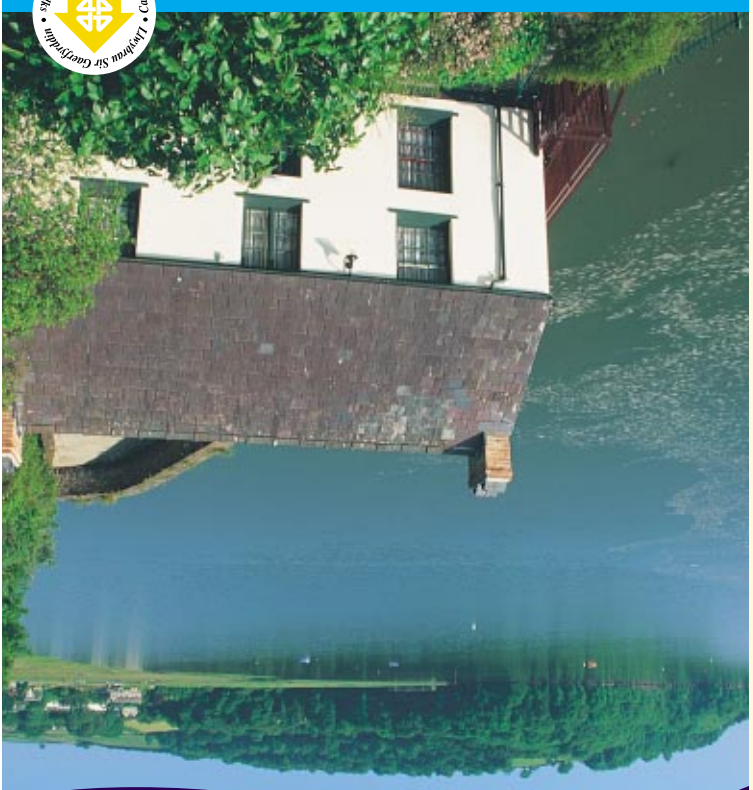
15 Back Lane
According to Mary Curtis, there was much slaughter along this part of the route when the Castle was stormed by Cromwell's soldiers.

Llwybrau a Argymhellir	Recommended Routes
Hawliau Tramwy Eraill	Other Rights of Way
Llwybrau Eraill â Chaniatâd	Bridleways

Amser Hamdden Leisure Time

Llwybrau Arfordir Sir Gaerfyddin
Carmarthenshire Coastal Walks

Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin
Carmarthenshire County Council



Lacharn

Laugharne

Lacharn

Sefydlodd y Normaniaid lawer o gestyll pridd a choed ar ddiwedd yr 11eg ganrif, gan ennill troedle ar diroedd newydd. Nid oedd Lacharn – neu Abercoran bryd hynny – yn eithriad. Sefydlwyd tref fechan wedi'i hamddiffyn a chafodd ei gwladychu yn bennaf gan bobl o Dde-orllewin Lloegr, a oedd yn dilyn cyfreithiau ac arferion gwahanol – 'Arglwyddiaeth y Gororau' nodweddiadol. Roedd y Cymry yn dal i wladychu'r ardal, ond gwladychwyr Seisnig oedd craidd yr Arglwyddiaeth.

Yn 1247 derbyniodd y teulu de Brian, a oedd yn dal llawer o dir yn Nyfnaint, arglwyddiaeth 'Talachar' gan y brenin a bu'r teulu hwn yn rheoli'r dref trwy gydol y Canol Oesoedd. Dyfarnwyd breintiau arbennig ganddynt i'r trigolion yn eu Siartr enwog, er mwyn ennyn eu teyrngarwch pan fyddai'r Cymry yn ymosod ar y dref. Yr ymraniad a'r ddeuoliaeth hon sy'n gyfrifol am gymeriad a thraddodiadau arbennig Lacharn. Cynhelir taith gerdded enwog Lacharn bob tair blynedd ar y Llungwyn. Yn rhan o'r daith hon sydd dros 20 milltir o hyd, mae'r seremoni 'curo'r terfynau' ac arweinir y daith gan Borthfaer a Henaduriaid y Gorfforaeth. Caiff amryw o'r mannau a enwir yn Siartr 1291 Syr Guy de Brian eu holrhain.

Yn ystod yr 16eg ganrif a'r 17eg ganrif ymsefydlodd per-chnogion llongau a masnachwyr cyfoethog yn Lacharn, a dyna pam fod cymaint o adeiladau ysblennydd yn y dref a gerllaw. Roedd yn lle poblogaidd gan gapteiniaid llong i ymddeol. Roedd cludo nwyddau trwm ar y môr yn haws ac yn rhatach na defnyddio ffyrdd tyrpeg a rheilffyrdd – roedd llongau bychan yn dal i ddefnyddio'r porthladd hyd ddechrau'r 20fed ganrif. Wrth i'r aber lenwi â llaid trosglwyddwyd llwythi ar gychod i'w cludo i fyny'r afon i Sanclêr.

Mae Lacharn wedi ysbrydoli beirdd ac artistiaid ers amser maith – gan gynnwys William Turner a dynnodd ddyfrlliw o Gastell Lacharn sy'n dangos tonnau gwyllt yn torri dros y Grist a phobl yn casglu malurion. Felly rhan yn unig o draddodiad maith yw Dylan Thomas. Ceir rhagor o lwybrau yno.

Dylan Thomas a'i Boathouse yn Lacharn
Dylan Thomas and the Boathouse

Laugharne

In the late 11th century, the Normans established many earth and timber castles in South Wales, thus gaining a toe-hold on new lands. Laugharne – then Abercorran – was no exception. A small defended town was established and settlers brought in, mostly men from the west country, who followed different laws and customs and ways of farming – a typical 'Marcher Lordship'. The area, or 'Welshry', remained settled by the Welsh, but the core of the Lordship were English settlers.

In 1247 the de Brian family, who had large holdings in Devon, were granted the Lordship of 'Talachar' by the King and dominated the town throughout the Middle Ages. They granted the townsfolk special privileges in their famous Charter, in order to keep their loyalty during attacks from the Welsh. It is this division and duality which gives Laugharne its very special character and traditions. Laugharne's famous 'Common Walk' is held every three years on Whit Monday. This 'beating the bounds' ceremony is over 20 miles long, led by the Portreeve and Aldermen of the Corporation. Many of the places mentioned in the Charter of 1291 granted by Sir Guy de Brian are retraced.

In the 16th and 17th centuries wealthy ship owners and merchants settled in Laugharne, hence the many fine buildings in and around the town. It was a favourite place for sea captains to retire. Until turnpike roads and railways, transporting bulky goods by sea was easier and cheaper – small coasting vessels continued to use the port into the early 1900s. Silting led to cargoes being off-loaded onto barges for transhipment up river to St Clears.

Laugharne has been a source of inspiration to poets and artists for a long time – not least William Turner, whose watercolour of Laugharne Castle shows a rough sea over the Grist with people salvaging wreckage. So Dylan Thomas is but part of a long tradition ...

"Stand on this hill. This is Llareggub Hill, old as the hills, high, cool and green ..."

'Under Milk Wood', Dylan Thomas.

The Walks

DYLAN'S WALK & SIR JOHN'S HILL

A choice of walks starting from the Castle car park, near the Grist, with rich flora and fauna along the routes. There are information panels at certain points to enhance this spectacular section of the Coastal and Estuaries Trail.

The walks to the north pass the Boathouse and Dylan Thomas' grave in the new churchyard of St Martin's Church.

To the south, Sir John's Hill or the 'New Walk' as referred to by local writer Mary Curtis in 1880, provides breathtaking views which have been drawn, painted, engraved and photographed many times. All routes are worthy of consideration, either alongside the former quay and tramway towards The Lees open fields or the wooded routes over Sir John's Hill to Broadway and beyond. Sir John's Hill probably refers to Sir John Perrot, a favourite of Queen Elizabeth I, victim to court intrigues and who was convicted of high treason in 1592. He escaped beheading but died in the Tower of London.

A new public footpath to St Clears is being created for walkers and will form part of the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries Trail, eventually linking the Pembrokeshire Coastal Path to the Gower.

The Country Code

Whilst using paths please remember to follow the country code.

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.
- Fasten all gates.
- Keep dogs under close control.
- Keep to public paths across farmland.
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.
- Leave livestock, crops, and machinery alone.
- Take your litter home.
- Help to keep all water clean.
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees.
- Take special care on country roads.
- Make no unnecessary noise.

Noddwyd gan Gyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru, Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd ac Awdur Cwm Taf Fywi. Supported by the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency and Awdur Cwm Taf Fywi

Photographs: © Carmarthenshire C.C. and Wales Tourist Board

Y Teithiau Cerdded

TAITH GERDDED DYLAN A BRYNSYR JOHN

Cyfres o deithiau cerdded sy'n dechrau ym maes parcio'r castell, ger y Grist, gyda chyfeth o anfeiliaid a phlanhigion ar hyd y llwybrau. Lleolir panel gwybodaeth mewn thai mannau i gyfeithgar'r dam trawiadol hwn o Lwybr yr Arfordir a'r Aberoedd.

Mae'r teithiau cerdded i'r gogledd yn mynd heibio i Gartref Dylan Thomas a'i fedd ym mynwent newydd Eglwys Martin Sant.

I'r de, mae Bryn Syr John neu'r 'Daith Gerdded Newydd' fel y'i gelwid gan yr awdur lleol Mary Curtis yn 1880, yn cynnig golygfeydd syfrdanol sydd wedi bod yn destun llunlau, peintiadau, ysgrifiadau a ffotograffau lawer gwaith. Mae'n werth ystyried yr holl lwybrau, y rhai ar hyd yr hen gei a'r dramffordd tuag at gaeau agored Y Lees neu'r llwybrau cyfeiliog dros Fryn Syr John at Broadway a thu hwnt.

Mae'r llwybr hwn yn un o gyfres Llwybrau Sir Gaerfyrddin. I gael rhagor o wybodaeth am y llwybrau yn y gyfres cysylltwch a'r:
Uned Parciau a Cefn Gwlad,
Ty'r Nant, Parc Busnes Trostre, Llanelli, SA14 9UT.
Ffôn: (01554) 747500
www.sirgar.gov.uk

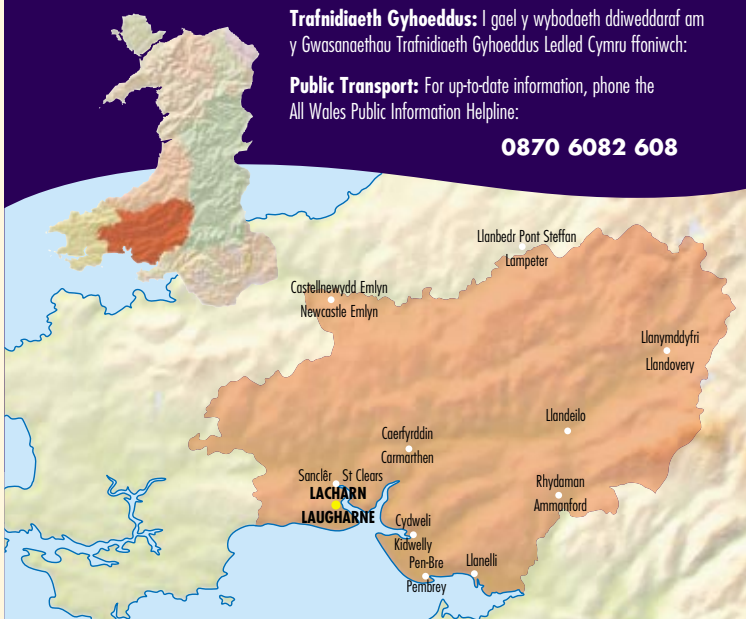
A chithau wedi cerdded un o'n llwybrau, efallai y carech wybod bod yna dri pharc gwledig yn Sir Gaerfyrddin –
Pen-bre, Gelli Aur ar bwys Llandeilo,
a Llyn Llech Owain ar bwys Gorslas. Mae pob un yn cynnig cyfleoedd rhagorol i bawb fwynhau cefn gwlad.

Want to know more?

This is one of a series of country walks in Carmarthenshire.
For further information of walks in this series contact:
Parks and Countryside Unit,
Ty'r Nant, Trostre Business Park, Llanelli, SA14 9UT.
Telephone: (01554) 747500
www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Now that you have enjoyed one of our walks you may like to know that there are three Country Parks in Carmarthenshire – Pembrey Country Park, Gelli Aur near Llandeilo and Llyn Llech Owain near Gorslas, all offering excellent opportunities for enjoying the countryside.

Trafnidiaeth Gyhoeddus: I gael y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y Gwasanaethau Trafnidiaeth Gyhoeddus Ledled Cymru ffoniwch:

Public Transport: For up-to-date information, phone the All Wales Public Information Helpline:

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