

# Cwmdu



Cwmdu Inn



Butterfly Orchid



## Why Walk?

At the centre of this picturesque village is the local pub and shop which have been run by the community since the year 2000. This walk is an absolute must for any professional or budding botanist staying in the county, as the paths pass through flower rich meadows with an abundance and diverse array of wild flowers which are Sites of Special Scientific Interest.



## How Long?

It is possible to enjoy a short walk lasting only an hour or so or extended walks lasting a whole day. Walks range from 2km – 7.3km



## How Hard?

**The short meadows walk** is just over 2km (1 & 1/4 mile) and mostly over reasonably level ground.  
**The medium walk**, immediately south of the village, is 3.7km, (2 & 1/3 miles).  
**The long walk** from Cwmdu village taking in the hillfort and Taliaris parkland is approx. 7.3km. (4 & 1/2 miles) and has lengthy hilly sections. (approx. 250m or 820ft of ascent).  
**NB** Some paths in the area may remain wet even in summer.



**Starting point / Car Park** - Cwmdu village



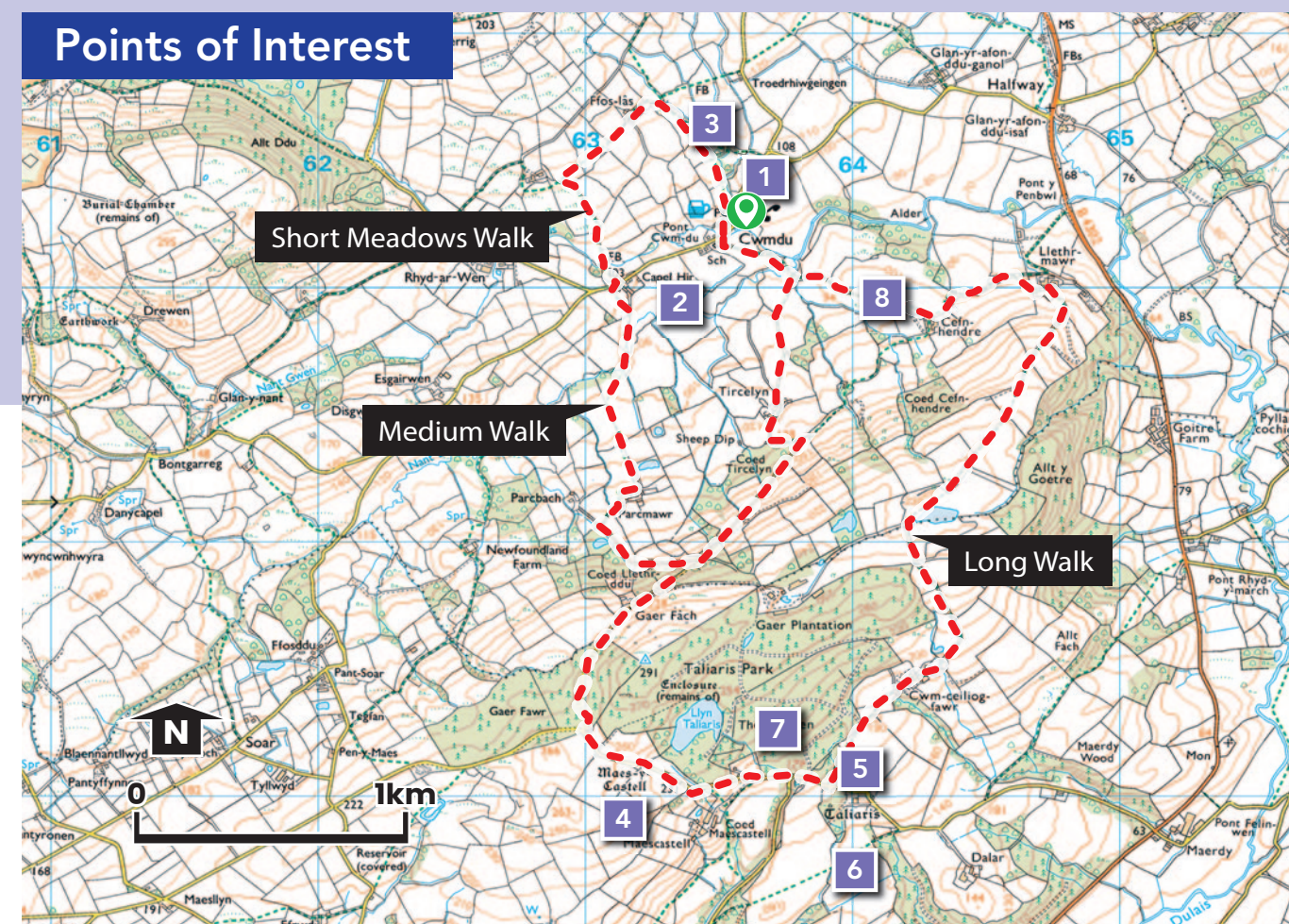
**Public Transport** - for up to date information visit [traveline.cymru](http://traveline.cymru)



**Refreshments** - ✓

- 1** **Providence Baptist Chapel** is a fine example of a 19th century nonconformist chapel. The terraced row alongside it, which includes the post office/shop and village inn, is owned by the National Trust.
- 2** The farm at **Capel Hir** was used as a meeting house by 17th and 18th century nonconformists.

## Points of Interest



- 3** **The short circular route** to the north of the village is an absolute must for any botanist. The paths pass through flower-rich meadows that are Sites of Special Scientific Interest. These meadows have escaped the modern agricultural "improvements" of deep ploughing, re-seeding and fertilising.  
  
**The meadows** are also a haven for a variety of butterflies including the chocolate brown Ringlet butterfly. **NB. it is illegal to pick the flowers.**
- 4** **The well-preserved Iron Age hillfort of Maescastell** is over 2,000 years old and a reminder of a time when warrior chieftains ruled Wales. The hillfort is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and has a permissive path leading up to it.
- 5** **The foundations of Taliaris mansion** are thought to be medieval its great oak staircase and the ornate plaster ceiling of the sitting room date from the early 17th century. Taliaris mansion is now a holiday complex, not open to the public.
- 6** **In front of Taliaris mansion** the footpath crosses part of the parkland designed in the 19th century to give the inhabitants of the house a pleasant view and a place to walk. The large trees in the middle of the fields were planted as ornamental features.
- 7** **Behind Taliaris mansion** are the working estate lands. The place-name of The Warren might be connected with the farming of rabbits in medieval or Tudor times. The woods here are the result of estate plantation and are enclosed by a large wall.
- 8** The wonderful variety of **ferns, flowers, shrubs and trees** growing in hedge-banks along each side of the track indicate that the hedges here are hundreds of years old. Lady Fern, Male Fern and Wild Hop thrive here along with Foxglove, Violet, and Meadowsweet flowers.