

Llangadog



Why Walk?

Both walks offer picturesque views of the Tywi Valley and the Brecon Beacons. The walks have both wildlife and historical interest.



How Long?

The short circular walk around the village is 3.3Km long (2.1 miles).

The longer walk into the wider countryside is 10.5Km (6.5 miles)



How Hard?

Both routes are valley routes and are both over reasonably level, or undulating, rather than steep ground, with a few steps and stiles to deal with along the way. The fields and woodland sections can be marshy in places after rain so stout footwear is recommended.



Starting point - A good starting point with adequate parking is by the roadside crossing the common land near to the bridge over the Sawdde river.



Parking - Llangadog village



Public Transport - ✓

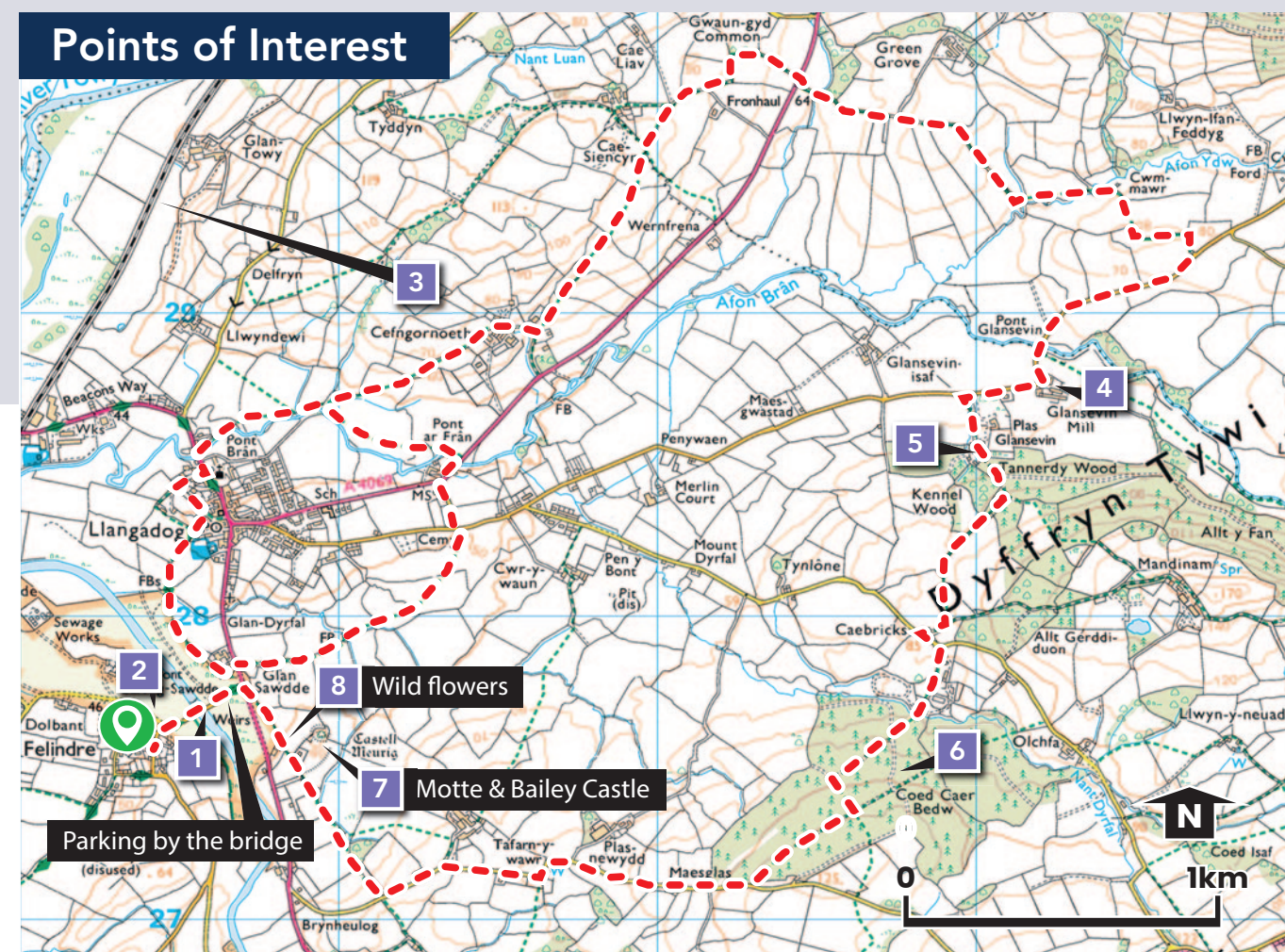


Refreshments - ✓

1 It is worth spending a few moments by the bridge over the Sawdde river to take in the view. In summer you are likely to see Pied Wagtail searching for insects amongst the pebbles, while Swallows, Sand Martins and Swifts reel overhead displaying their astonishing aerial acrobatics. A patient or lucky passer-by may even see Sandpipers, Dipper or Kingfisher.

2 Carreg Sawdde common has been unenclosed grazing land since the 13th century when the Bishop of St David's gave the burgesses of Llangadog grazing rights here. In medieval times, Felindre, to the south of the common, was an estate of the Lordship of Llandovery, with its own court and annual fair. The field pattern to the west of the village may represent former medieval strip fields.

Points of Interest



3 In 1858 the Llanelly Railway and Dock Company opened the railway line from Llandeilo to Llandovery as the Vale of Towy Line. The line is now part of the Heart of Wales Line running from Swansea to Shrewsbury.

4 Glansevin corn mill was part of the Glansevin estate, where estate tenants were required to bring their corn for milling.

5 The footpath passes the former coach house of Glansevin Mansion, once the seat of the Lloyd family, now converted to holiday accommodation. In 1670 it was assessed for tax purposes as having eight hearths, making it one of the largest houses in the area. The family left the house at the beginning of the 20th century, returning temporarily to provide accommodation for evacuees during World War Two.

6 The pathway through Coed Cae'r Bedw was traditionally known to older inhabitants as Heol y Beddau or "the road of the graves". Low mounds

visible in the early 20th century were said to be the burial places of warriors who had died of plague.

7 Castell Meurig is a wonderful example of a medieval motte and bailey castle. A modern house stands within its bailey. The footpath gives walkers an unrivalled view of the bank of the bailey and the tree-covered motte beyond. Prince Maelgwyn ap Rhys captured the castle from the Normans using "catapults and sling" in 1203, after which it appears to have been disused. Local tradition says that there was once a stone tower on the motte.

8 In summer Wild Thyme grows beneath the hedgerow, attracting a variety of insect life. Its purple flowers prove particularly attractive to Burnet Moths. Honeysuckle flowers scent the summer air along with the delicate white flowers of the Field Rose.

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