

Open to Offas

Route Description



14 mile route only

Abbreviations used

R/L=Right/Left; TR/TL=Turn Right/Left; BR/BL=Bear Right/Left; RH/LH=Right/Left Hand
 OD=Offas Dyke; GR=grid reference (all have the prefix SJ)
 All bearings are magnetic and are shown: {305}

[Note: The checkpoints are numbered to maintain consistency with those on the longer routes. On this route you only visit Checkpoints 2 and 5 & the intermediate self-clips SC2 and SC4. At the self-clip, you should punch your own checkcard in the appropriate space].

TR past church and continue straight on up road. After 300 yards, at road junction, TL and continue to crossroads. TL up road. Ignore private road on R ('Llety') and continue past farm on L. Road becomes a track. Continue for a further 1.4 miles to main ridge ignoring narrow path to L shortly before ridge.

Go through gate/stile and TL on OD path along ridge. [You have now merged with the two longer routes]. Continue for 1.5 miles to reach Jubilee Tower on summit Leave tower on {150} and through kissing-gate [NOT the stile close to the trig point]. Self Clip 2 is attached to the kissing gate.

SC2	MOEL FAMAU – Kissing Gate	GR 161626	4.3 miles
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Follow solid dark blue arrows all the way to descend on main path for 1 mile ignoring all turns L and R. Continue straight ahead at crossing track and again at large black grouse. Ignore first path on R but at next junction BR down good path with stream on R leading directly to lower car park.

CP 2	PICNIC SITE	Food & Drink	GR 171610	5.6 miles
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[CP 2 is the split point. The 30mile route takes a different line from here. Make sure you check out before leaving].

Go through car park to emerge on road at far (east) end. Go down road and take first lane on R. Stay on lane for ¼ mile round bend, past cottage to second cottage. Immediately beyond cottage, turn R & go L over stile with footpath sign (NOT along bridleway through adjoining gate). Go up field on {118} and aim for R of farm when it comes into view ahead. Continue on level track past farm buildings on your L through a series of gates. Continue up slight rise. Ignore farm track curving up to R and, at next gate (trees on R), continue ahead with fence now on R. At next cross fence, use stile to get to other side of gate. Go slightly R uphill on sheep track. When it comes into view, follow waymark (on post under tree below on L) into shallow groove. At end of field, drop down L, over stile by gate and immediately R over stile. Go down LH field edge, over stile and diagonally R down next field {150}. Go

over stile, cross road (*care!*) and TR along grass verge for 350 yards to stile & gate on L just beyond large road sign ‘ Toilets: 6m’ (GR 187598).

Go away from road down track on RH side of field. Curve R after crossing stream & continue along RH side of field. Cross stile and continue on path over metal fence with spring on L, past old quarry on L and through two further fences to reach old metal gate on R. Continue on track for 100 yards to pass through another gateway. 10 yards beyond, opposite cottage, double back L on footpath. Self clip 4 is at this point. *You have now rejoined the 30 mile route.*

SC5	Bryn-yr-orsedd		GR 195594	7.9 miles
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The path is narrow at first, uphill through trees {340}. At top, the path widens to become a broad track. Continue, ignoring all turns, for nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ mile, following signs for Maeshafn, to reach stile by gate. Cross stile and BR on wide track to reach road. TL downhill. In 100 yards, BR on track signposted ‘Loggerheads, Aberdure’. In 200 yards, shortly after bungalow on R, BR on track (B&B sign). After $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, follow path L *between black metal fence on R and wooden fence on L* signposted Cadole 1 mile. Emerge through kissing gate into field. Stay close to fence on R to go through gate near corner of buildings. Ahead with fence on L & buildings on R to go through further kissing gate on to tarmac drive. Turn L.

BR at next two junctions (following waymarks). Go straight on past buildings and over stile into woodlands. Keep ahead to reach main road (GR 202626). Cross and go through gate opposite. In 100 yards, BL on track, signposted Tea Gardens, and go gently uphill and then steeply down wooden steps. At bottom TL over bridge to reach buildings.

CP 4	LOGGERHEADS	Food & Drink	GR 198626	10.3 miles
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Retrace steps over bridge and TL. The next 2.4 miles, until you reach a road, are well signposted. At all path junctions follow ‘Cilcain’, ‘Leete Path’ or ‘Devil’s Gorge’. [At one junction the sign is on a post on the L a few yards before the junction].

When you reach the road (GR 188652), TL downhill. Cross bridge and continue on road *steeply uphill*. At sharp RH bend go straight ahead on footpath (signposted Pentre Cilcain). Continue ahead over three stiles to reach steps/stile in corner. Go up steps and over another stile. TL along field edge to cross next stile. Continue ahead, ignoring waymarked gap in fence on L, and go through trees to reach lane at gate/stile. TR uphill past car-parking field to reach village. TL at cross roads to Village Hall.

FINISH	CILCAIN	Food & Drink	GR 176652	13.8 miles
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Well done! We hope you enjoyed it.