

WALK 7

NANT Y GEIFR AND SEVERN VALLEY

DESCRIPTION A walk of about 6.5 miles, just over half being along minor roads, that allows access to one of Llanidloes' jewels, the Nant y Geifr reservoir. There are no steep climbs although some of the going may be a little rough under foot.

START Old Market Hall, Llanidloes.

1 From the Old Market Hall, walk along Short Bridge Street and, crossing the Severn Bridge, turn LEFT along Penygreen Road. After about half a mile, turn LEFT down the minor road signposted to Llangurig and, ignoring the two right turns, follow the road as it bears sharp right and continue up the hill for about a mile. After passing Rhiwbrongelly and Lower Glynbrochan farms you will come to a house and barns with an old, red telephone box on your right.

2 At the end of the last building on your right, turn RIGHT through the gate and walk up the bank towards the old ruined chapel, passing between it and the hedge on your left. Continue AHEAD through the trees, keeping the hedge to your left until you emerge over a stile into an open field. Carry on walking straight AHEAD and, after passing through into a larger field, walk along the slope keeping just above the mid line between the hedges to your left and right. Go through the gate into the next field and keep close to the fence on your right. After a few yards you will come to a stile in the fence. Climb over the stile and down the steps onto the Nant y Geifr dam and spend a few minutes enjoying this very pretty spot. Although there is generally no public access to the reservoir, Severn Trent Water have kindly permitted installation of the stile and seats to allow walkers to visit and enjoy the view. In the spring the rhododendrons are spectacular. *(Severn Trent ask that you do **not** venture onto the causeway to the valve platform as it is not maintained for public safety and could prove dangerous)*

3 To leave the reservoir, climb back over the stile, turn RIGHT and resume walking along your original route, keeping the fence to your right, until the field broadens and you will see where the lower flat area ahead of you has been cultivated. This area can be very soft and muddy and you should, at this point, keep to its outside edge, along the bottom of the slope until you are able to come back in to meet the fence once more in the corner of the field. On meeting the fence you will come to a wicket gate. Go through the gate and cross the stream. After crossing the stream, bear diagonally LEFT up the field and go through the gate into the award winning Nant y Geifr farm. Bear RIGHT through the farm and exit along the drive AHEAD

of you until you come to the footpath sign on a field gate on your LEFT. Go through the gate and, keeping the fence to your left, follow the footpath to the tarmac road. *(At this point you may shorten your route by about a mile by turning RIGHT and following the road to the 'T' junction, where you bear LEFT and continue back to your starting point)*

4 Turn RIGHT along the road then, after about 75 yards, turn LEFT along the bridleway, keeping the fence to your right as you go down hill. This section offers pleasant vistas over the Severn Valley. The bridleway then passes through a gate into a lane taking you to Caenfedw where you turn LEFT along the unclassified road down to it's junction with the Severn Way. Turn RIGHT along the Severn Way and, enjoying the views over the upper Severn Valley, follow the road back to Llanidloes and your start point.