

WALK 9

DEILDRE FAWR, LLWYN DERW AND BRITHDIR

DESCRIPTION An interesting walk of about 6 miles (*Or 2.5 miles*), passing down through old mine workings in a deep, wooded valley, then over open fields and along part of the Severn Way before climbing gently back out past a local sculpture studio and an old sheep wash to the start.

START Picnic area, Clywedog, (GR 904872)

DIRECTIONS From Llanidloes drive along Long Bridge Street to the mini-roundabout and turn LEFT over the bridge and immediately LEFT again along the B4518 sign posted to Llyn Clywedog. Stay on this road for about 2 miles before turning LEFT again for Llyn Clywedog. You will reach the dam after about 1.5 miles. Drive past the viewing area and continue for almost half a mile to where the road bears left and you come to a picnic area on your right, close to 2 lay-bys. This is your start point.

1 Leave the picnic area and turn RIGHT along the road for about 150 yards, when you will come to the farm drive to Deildre Fawr on your left. Go over the cattle grid and down the drive and, where the track bears right into the farm, go through the field gate AHEAD of you and then bear LEFT across the field, aiming for Penwar hill on the other side of the valley. Go through the gate and follow the path down through the trees. As the path descends along a stream to your left, you might notice the old mine workings on the far side of the narrow valley. Continue, keeping the stream on your left, down through a gate until you reach the huts belonging to a shooting club. Turn RIGHT here, through a wicket gate, and cross the Nant Gwestyn over a footbridge just below the falls. Go up the track, through the gate for about 100 yards until you see an old quarry in front of you. At this point, turn RIGHT into the field and up the valley, picking up the track that will take you out onto the tarmac road. (*At this point, you may reduce the length of your walk to about 2.5 miles by turning right along the road and continuing as at 2* below*)

2 Turn LEFT along the road for about 250 yards, over a cattle grid, and then for about another 150 yards when you will come to 3 field gates, side by side on your RIGHT. Go through the LEFT hand gate and keep the fence to your right all the way as you go through 2 more gates over open fields and pick up the track taking you on down the hill to Llwyn Derw. Go straight AHEAD along the farm track to the tarmac road below.

3 Turn RIGHT along the Severn Way, bearing RIGHT where the road forks. Continue along the road for just over 1.5 miles. You may see the burgeoning River Severn below you, to your left as you walk along the road. After crossing a cattle grid, if you look up to your right, you should see the farm track joining you from behind, almost parallel with the road. At it's junction with the road, some 150 yards farther on, turn RIGHT, up along the track to Brithdir, a sculpture studio with several items on display to view as you pass by, and then continue AHEAD, keeping the buildings to your right, and follow the track out to the tarmac road beyond.

2* Turn LEFT along the road for just under a quarter of a mile until the road drops down to cross the Nant Gwestyn. Notice the old sheep wash to your right before going through the road gate and, ignoring the road that bears left up the hill, continuing AHEAD along the track back to Deildre Fawr. This road offers excellent views down the Nant Gwestyn valley and over to the wind farm above Llandinam in the distance. On reaching the farm, go straight through the buildings before following the track off to your LEFT, back out to the tarmac road along which you turn RIGHT and back to your start point.