

WALES

Colby Estate Streamside Walk (Orange Trail)

This scenic circular walk winds through estate woodland following the course of the stream on the valley floor. The path climbs up to stunning coastal views vibrant with wildflowers in spring and early summer, before a gentle descent through woodland above the riverside.

Wildlife to spot

Spring brings the chance to spot a Nuthatch or a Great Spotted Woodpecker, with Mayflies dancing over moving water. Early butterflies such as the Brimstone and Orange-tip emerge. The woodlands edges and understorey are filled with bluebells. Watch out for rabbits in farmland edges. In summer, listen for the melodic songs of Blackcaps and the distinctive call of the Chiffchaff. You might spot frogs and newts in damp woodland areas. Bats are hunting insects at dusk along the treeline and over the water. In autumn, spot Fungi, on the fallen trees and branches. Squirrels and small mammals are gathering food for winter. In winter, the woodlands come alive with feeding flocks of Great Tits, Blue Tits, and Long-tailed Tits, while Blackbirds, Robins, and Wrens fill the air with their calls. Farm hedgerows provide a winter food source and refuge for Fieldfares and Redwings.



Information

Address: Colby Woodland Garden, near Amroth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8PP

Activity: Walking

Moderate: Walking boots or sturdy shoes are recommended for this walk. The route includes uneven terrain, with a gradual climb up to more level farmland. Woodland paths may be muddy. Loose rocks and exposed tree roots are present. Unguarded streamside. Stream sides are a hazard for children who should be supervised. The walk features 6 gates. 120m ascent/120m descent. Highest Point 180m elevation.

Dog friendly: Dogs under close control welcome on Colby Estate. Dogs on leads welcome in Colby Woodland Garden. Dogs on leads only through farmland (see signs on gates on entering farmland).

Full trail: Miles: Miles: 3.2 (km: 5) (km: NaN)

Duration: 1 hour 30 mins

Total stages: 6

Start point: Colby Estate Upper car park, grid ref: SN 15990 08175

1. From the noticeboard at the top end of the carpark, head West down through the carpark and through a small woodland area until you reach the road. Turn right onto the road. Watch out for traffic.
2. Pass 'Rose Cottage' on your right, then immediately turn right at the orange waymarker, through the small gate onto the footpath. Continue along the path, following the stream.
3. Keep going straight ahead through 2 consecutive gates and following the orange waymarkers. Stay alongside the stream following the path as it branches off sharply uphill.
4. As the path joins the bridleway there is a short steep ascent continuing around a sharp U bend. At the brow of the hill look out for a gated path to the right. Go right through the gated path (follow Orange & Pink signs). Continue to the next pink waymarker at a Y junction with a gated path off to your left. Go left here through the smaller gate. The path leads to a field gate (1). This is a dog-on-lead area. Stay alongside the hedge on your right until you reach the far corner of the field. Go right through gate (2) then immediately left, following the hedge boundary to the far corner of the field. Go left through gate (3). Keep straight ahead with the hedge on your right until you go through 2 consecutive gates with pink/orange waymarkers leading onto a farm track.

Terrain

The terrain varies. While some paths on farmland are level, many areas in the woodland have uneven ground, are muddy, and include loose stone and exposed tree roots. The paths will become slippery in wet or wintry weather. Please take care with your footing and wear suitable footwear. The streamside is not guarded, and children should be supervised.

Elevation details: Total ascent/descent: 120m. Highest point: 180m

5. After passing through the gate, take the wide farm track on the right towards 'Craig y Borian Farm'. At the orange waymarker, before reaching the farm, double back onto the lower track. Continue descending by the river valley for approximately 25 minutes.
 6. Turn left onto the tarmac road. Pass 'Rose Cottage' on your left (National Trust holiday cottage) and Colby Lodge on your right. Just after Colby Lodge, you will see an entrance on your right leading to the Tea Room, WCs, Gallery, and Book Shop. You are now in Colby Woodland Gardens. To return to the upper car park, take the path opposite the lower car park entrance.
- End point: Colby Estate car park, grid ref: SN 15990 08175