

WALES

Glan Faenol wildlife and woodland walk

A moderate walk where you'll explore varied native woodland and ancient parkland. Enjoy views of the house and gardens at Plas Newydd and the hills of Snowdonia. If you're lucky, you might even catch a glimpse of a seal in the Menai Strait.



Information

Address: Glan Faenol, near Bangor, Gwynedd, Wales

OS map: Landranger 114 and 115

Activity: Walking

Moderate: Twisting woodland paths that can get muddy when wet. For further details, see section marked Terrain.

Dog friendly: Dogs welcome but must be kept on leads where livestock could be grazing.

Full trail: Miles: 1.5 (km: 2.4)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 1 hour - 1 hour 30 mins

Terrain

The walk takes you through twisting woodland paths, which can be muddy and are often wet. Some areas are covered in boardwalk, with some steps, making this walk unsuitable for pushchairs.

Total steps: 11

Start point: Picnic area at Glan Faenol, grid ref: SH532698

1. Head to the bottom of the picnic area and through the kissing gate, continue straight down the field (with dogs on leads) towards the Menai Strait.
2. As you approach the edge of the field you'll see the Faenol Wall. Take the gate into the woodland.
3. Follow the path through the trees and enjoy the woodland colours of Glan Faenol. Leave the woodland through another small gate.
4. Turn your back on the Strait and walk up the field for 50yd (45m) or so to a bridge and kissing gate on your right. Go through the gate and enter Boat House Wood.
5. Follow the path through the wood. Eventually you'll cross another bridge and then come to a track. You can cut the walk short here by turning left and following the track up until you reach some green gates. Go through the gates (which date back to when the estate had a menagerie of exotic animals and deer for hunting). Follow the tree-lined avenue to another gate, here you can turn left to return to the car park.
6. Cross over the track and continue into another different woodland area. After climbing some steps go through a kissing gate into a field.
7. Keeping dogs on leads, walk up the field, following the fence on your left.
8. At the top of the field enter Cefn Gwyn Woodland through another kissing gate. Follow the path past the mature oak, ash and sycamore trees until you reach another kissing gate.
9. Through this gate follow the fence across the top of the field to another kissing gate. Through this gate turn left and walk diagonally across the field to the gate under the trees.
10. You'll see a triangular gate: this is a Culrew gate and it's designed to allow sheep access but prevent cattle from entering the path. Go through this gate and follow the path

until you reach a large kissing gate.

11. Go through this last gate and turn left to take a well-deserved rest in the picnic area.
End point: Picnic area at Glan Faenol, grid ref: SH532698
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