

25

DYSYNNI DAWDLE

2 Miles

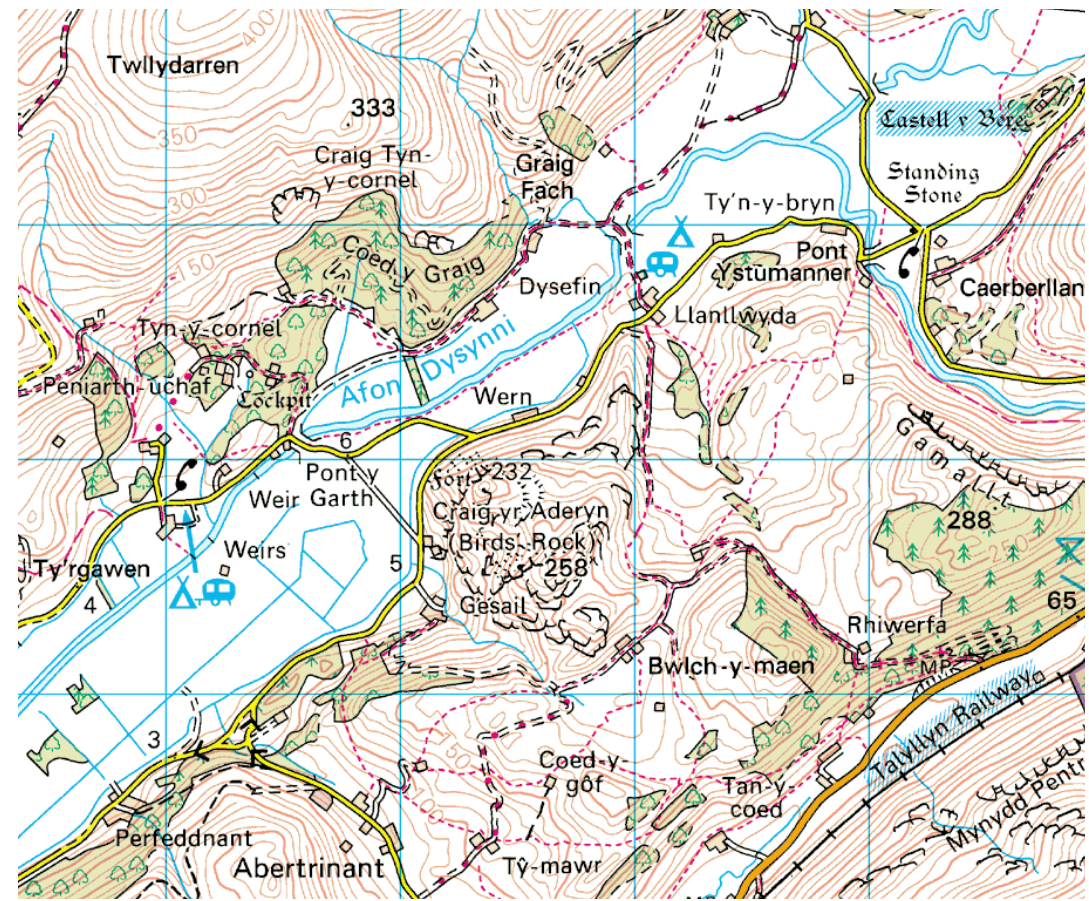
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From the hotel turn right towards Tywyn. Drive through Tywyn towards Brynchrug, on reaching Brynchrug drive into the village, turn right after the small bridge, then left signposted Craig Yr Aderyn. Drive straight along this road for about 3 miles. Park on the right in the lay-by at the bottom of Birdrock (by the start of the footpath), where you will see a picnic bench and cycle racks.

Cross the road, turn right and after a few yards turn left through a gate leading you through Llanllwyda caravan park, walk until you reach a tarmac road. Walk straight to the end of the caravan park. At the end of the caravan park you will see a gate which takes you over a bridge.

After crossing the bridge you will see a clear path which leads you over a small bridge to the next gate. Go through the gate and walk to the next gate which is straight ahead of you. Go through the gate, you will see some farm buildings ahead of you, follow the track underneath the woods.

Follow the track through to the next gate behind the old buildings, walk to the rear of the farm buildings onto the track in front of you and turn right.



Here you will see a farm in front of you. Walk through the farm yard, behind the farm house until the track reaches the road at the bottom.

Walk down this road, crossing over a cattle grid and follow this road straight ahead. At the end of this road you will see a house directly in front of you. Turn left here and cross the bridge over the river Dysynni. After the bridge turn immediately left again to walk along the Dyke beside the river with Birdrock on your right hand side. This path leads you back to Llanllwyda Caravan Park.

The path comes to an end taking you onto a short track, to a gate and on to the caravan park, turn right after you have been through the gate and return to your car. This walk can be done in either direction!



The Dysynni Valley

As it approaches the sea, the valley dramatically opens out into a broad, flat coastal haven and estuary which are barred by extensive sand dunes and shingle banks along the coast.

The south side of the haven is, in fact, geomorphologically part of the Bala Cleft, a major geological fault cutting across North Wales. The fault continues outside the area as a parallel valley to the south east, in which the Dysynni rises in Tal-y-llyn Lake. The Dysynni flows into the main part of the valley described here through a narrow ice-breached col that connects the two valleys at Ystumanner.

The haven and main valley floor lie at a height of less than 10m for a considerable distance inland, the slopes rising steeply on either side to hills and ridges that gradually rise from about 200m in the south west to almost 900m at the summit of Cader Idris in the north east.

This picturesque valley bears diverse evidence of human occupation and activity from the pre-historic period to the recent past and is particularly notable for the reclaimed landscape created by pioneering agricultural improvements on the post-medieval gentry estate of Ynysmaengwyn during the late 18th and early 19th centuries.