

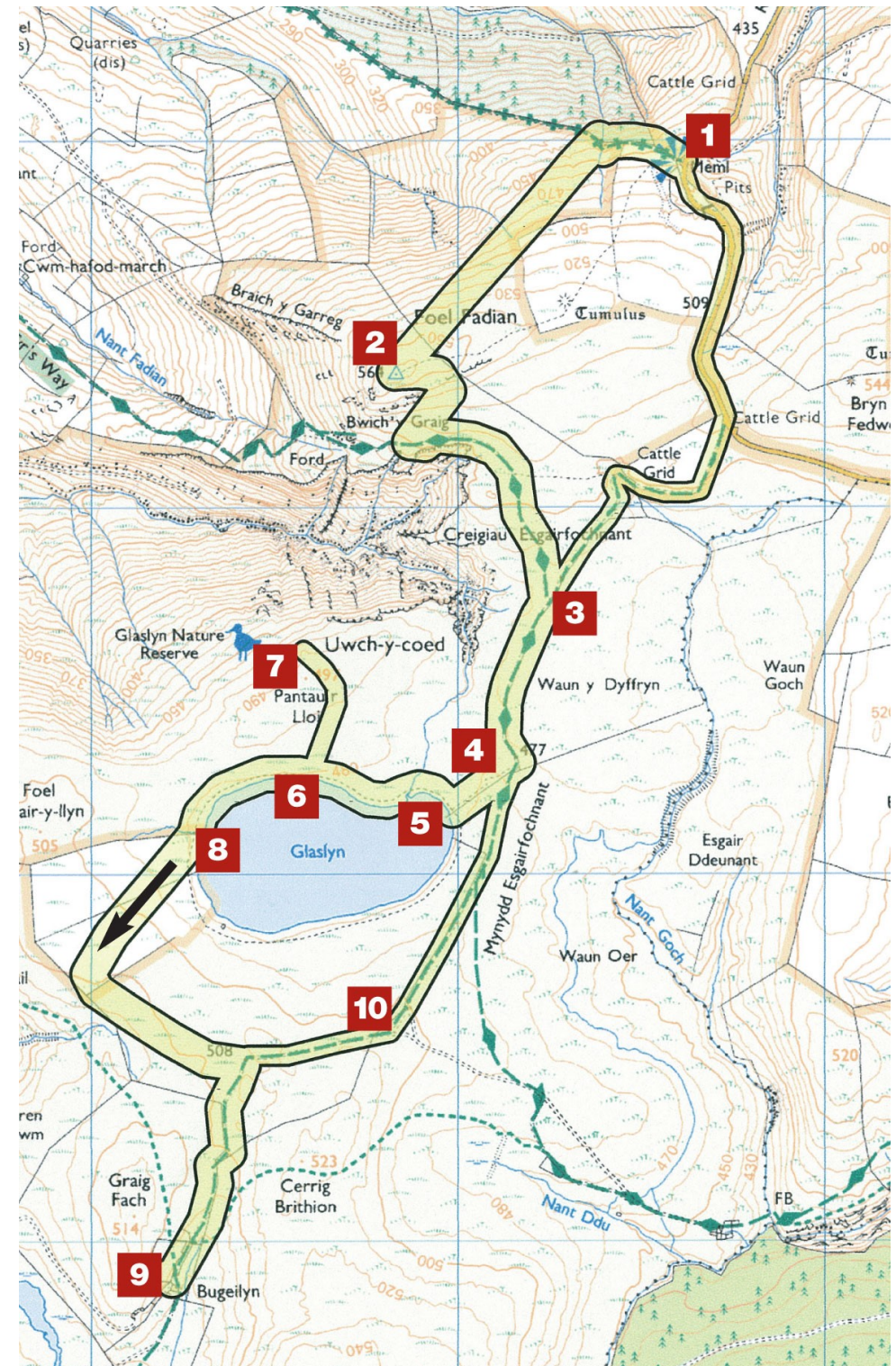
Turn left towards Aberdovey, drive through the village and on to Machynlleth. On reaching Machynlleth you will see the clock tower on the right, turn left here and drive through the town until you see a garage on your right, turn right immediately after the garage sign posted Llanidloes. Drive along this road for approximately 9 miles, through Dylife and turn right onto the B4518 signposted Glaslyn.

Glaslyn is the flagship of the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust's nature reserves. It is currently the largest - at 216.5ha (540 acres), the wildest and of very considerable scientific importance. The lake, though a very prominent scenic feature, is generally poor in wildlife because of the very low nutrient supply in its acid waters. This is now a scarce habitat. But one plant which relishes this environment is quillwort - an unusual aquatic relative of the club mosses and ferns. It is restricted to the so-called oligotrophic (literally meaning few foods) lakes of the northern half of Britain. In the winter the lake sometimes attracts diving ducks, notably goldeneye, and occasionally has wintering Greenland white-fronted geese.



Glaslyn and Bugeilyn Audio Trail: this is the first of a series of audio trails that will be produced as part of the Pumlumon Project. It allows you to download the audio trail files onto your MP3 player, i-pod or mobile phone - for free. Visit www.montwt.co.uk/audiotrail.html

This audio trail is an entertaining and informative tour of the landscape of the northern Cambrians around the lakes of Glaslyn and Bugeilyn. It tells you a bit about the natural and human history of the area together as well as the story of the Pumlumon Project and what the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust are doing now to change land management practices. These changes will help to enhance the wildlife interest of the area and to increase biodiversity, thus making the area more attractive for everyone.



Wynford Vaughan-Thomas Memorial – SN 836 959

Starting point for the trail is this memorial, recently restored by CPRW. You reach it by driving along the Mountain Road between Machynlleth and Llanidloes. Park safely on road verge, leaving the gate free. Go through the gate to reach the memorial and listen to the first recording.

Then head down the byway past the memorial and through two gates, keeping the conifer plantation on your right. After the byway crosses a little gully on a right hand bend, you will see the first of a line of yellow waymarks leading diagonally uphill on your left. There should also be a finger post directing you towards Foel Fadian. Follow the yellow waymarks uphill across the open moorland, climbing quite steeply at first, then flattening out before a final pull up to a stile. Cross the stile and continue ahead until you reach the concrete trig point on Foel Fadian.

Foel Fadian 564m – SN 828 953

Listen to track 2 here. Then about turn until you are almost heading back the way you climbed up, but not quite. You will see more yellow waymark posts heading off downhill and rightwards. Follow these down a steep slope then right, across boggy moorland until you reach an obvious track which is Glyndwr's Way. There should also be a finger post at this junction, pointing back to Foel Fadian. Turn left here along Glyndwr's Way and follow it until you come to a T junction with a broader vehicle track.

Glyndwr's Way intersection – SN 829 952

Listen to track 3 here. Then turn right and head down the track until you reach a wooden gate with a cattle grid to its left. Do not cross the grid or go through the gate (this is your return route), but instead follow the rutted track right; after a few yards you reach a small car park with interpretation boards. This is the Wildlife Trust's Glaslyn Reserve car park.

Glaslyn Nature Reserve car park – SN 831 942

Listen to track 4 in front of the Glaslyn Reserve interpretation panel. Then head through the metal field gate and down along the track towards the lake. Find a comfy spot on the gravel beach, have a coffee break or a sandwich, and listen to Track 5. Then turn right, along the northern edge of the lake and cross over a small wooden boardwalk bridge. Continue ahead, through a metal gate and past the MWT plaque on your right.

Trail junction – SN 825 942

Shortly after, listen to Track 6 besides the small sign directing walkers to the viewpoint. Then follow the path to the viewpoint and listen to Track 7 where the path terminates at the spectacular edge overlooking a deep ravine on your right. When you've listened to Track 7 you need to retrace your steps to the lakeside, turn right and follow the shoreline of the lake. Listen to Track 8 after crossing a small, wooden boardwalk bridge and passing through the wooden kissing gate.

Wicket gate onto pasture – SN 823 941

Then head diagonally uphill to the opposite corner of this pasture where you will find a stile next to the metal field gate, and possibly the white cattle that like to congregate there. Any route may be taken but take care to avoid any electric fencing that may be in place to control grazing. When you reach the stile (not visible from the start of this section), climb over and follow the rough access track ahead for approximately 400 metres. You will then reach a gravel vehicle track that leads down to Bugeilyn. Turn right when you reach this track and follow it down through a metal gate to reach some large metal sheds on your left. This, and the ruin ahead to your left, is what remains of Bugeilyn farmstead.

Bugeilyn – SN 822 928

Listen to track 9 when you are beside the metal sheds on the right hand side of the track. Then retrace your steps back uphill and continue to follow the track for vehicles round to the, beyond where you joined it when you came up from the cattle pasture. Soon Glaslyn Lake will come into view on your left. Listen to Track 10 after passing another metal field gate.

Continue along the track for vehicles bearing left at a fork and down to the cattle grid at the turn-off to Glaslyn car park. Head past the point where you came in on Glyndwr's Way and follow the (very pot-holed) track all the way back to the Mountain Road, crossing another cattle grid on the way and a final one when you reach the road. When you reach the road, take care crossing over, then turn left to follow it down to the memorial that will be on your left. Please take great care walking along this road, as it gets quite busy at times.