











OTHER LONG DISTANCE WALKS IN THE REGION

South Wales has a growing network of long distance paths. You can pick up relevant leaflets at Tourist Information Centres or Visitor Centres.

TEITHIAU CERDDED HIR ERAILL YN YR ARDAL

Mae gan Dde Cymru rwydwaith o lwybrau hir sy'n cynyddu yn eu nifer. Gallwch gael taflenni perthnasol mewn Canolfannau Gwybodaeth i Ymwelwyr neu Ganolfannau Croeso.

KEY/ALLWEDD

-  Ogwr Ridgeway Walk
Taith Ffordd Las Ogwr
-  Sky to Sea Walk
Taith o'r Nen i'r Lli
-  Coed Morgannwg Way
Ffordd Coed Morgannwg
-  Taff Ely Ridgeway Walk
Taith Ffordd Las Taf Elai
-  Heritage Coast Footpath
Llwybr yr Arfordir Treftadaeth
-  Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk
Taith Ffordd Las Cwm Rhymni
-  Taff Trail
Llwybr Taf
-  Bridgend Circular Walk
Taith Gylchu Pen-y-bont
-  Celtic Trail
Lôn Geltaidd
-  -
*Ogmore Valley Community Route
Llwybr Cymunedol Cwm Ogwr*

LONG DISTANCE WALKS IN THE REGION / TEITHIAU CERDDED HIR ERAILL YN YR ARDAL



OGWR RIDGEWAY WALK TAITH FFORDD LAS OGWR



MARGAM COUNTRY PARK VIA BRYNGARW COUNTRY PARK
TO THE TAFF ELY RIDGEWAY LONG DISTANCE WALK
PARC GWLEDIG MARGAM DRWY BARC GWLEDIG BRYNGARW
I DAITH GERDDED HIR FFORDD LAS TAF ELAI

24KM (15 MILES/MILLTIR) 7½ HOURS/AWR

INTRODUCTION

This leaflet describes a 15 mile long distance walk on public rights of way, forest tracks and minor roads. It extends from Margam Country Park near Port Talbot to the western end of the Taff Ely Ridgeway long distance walk, immediately to the south of the wind farm on Mynydd Maendy. It offers spectacular walking in a variety of upland and valley scenery. Panoramic views of rugged, narrow valleys can be obtained to the north, with the hills of Devon and Somerset usually visible to the south. It links to three other established long distance walks in this region. These are the Coed Morgannwg Way to the west, the Taff Ely Ridgeway to the east, and the Sky to Sea Walk which can be joined at Bryngarw Country Park.

INFORMATION AND ADVICE

WALKING THE ROUTE:

The walk can be started from Margam Country Park or from the western end of the Taff Ely Ridgeway Walk. It can also be conveniently joined at Bryngarw Country Park or the settlements of Coytrahen, Bettws, Llangeinor or Blackmill along its way. The walk is way-marked at regular intervals with a specially designed way-mark that is shown on the front of this leaflet. However, it is strongly recommended that you obtain Ordnance Survey maps to enable you to complete it safely. If you are starting the walk from Margam Country Park, follow the way-markers from the Visitor Centre.

BE PREPARED:

Wear appropriate footwear and clothing, as part of this walk is on high ground. Most of this walk is in remote countryside. Before leaving, tell someone where you are going and when you expect to arrive at your destination. Take some food and drink with you. There are shops and/or pubs at Coytrahen, Bettws, Llangeinor and Blackmill.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT:

There are a number of bus routes that link to the walk. For further information telephone Bridgend County Borough Council's Public Transport Section on 01656 642559 or Traveline on 0870 6082608.

CAR PARKING:

There is car parking adjacent to the eastern end of the route at Ty-Gwilym Farm and off the minor road to the west of the windfarm on Mynydd Maendy. There is also formal parking at Margam and Bryngarw Country Parks and informal street parking at Coytrahen, Llangeinor and Blackmill. There is a charge for parking at Margam and Bryngarw Country Parks. For details of charges please contact the relevant Visitor Centre.

ACCOMMODATION:

To make a reservation or to obtain information on accommodation contact one of the Heritage Coast Tourist Information Centres. These are located at the McArthur Glen Designer Outlet off junction 36 of the M4 (telephone 01656 654906) and at John Street, Porthcawl (telephone 01656 786639).

FURTHER INFORMATION:

For further information about this walk and to pass on your comments and suggestions please contact the Planning Department, Environmental and Planning Services Directorate, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4WB (telephone 01656 643182).

To report any practical problems with any of the paths on this walk please contact the Rights of Way Section, Environmental and Planning Services Directorate, Morien House, Bennett Street, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Bridgend CF31 1SH (telephone 01656 642537). To report any problems with any of the paths in Margam Park telephone 01639 881635.

For further general information about the Bridgend area you can contact us via e-mail at tourism@bridgend.gov.uk. Alternatively, you can visit our website which is at www.bridgend.gov.uk

CYFLWYNIAD

Mae'r daflen hon yn disgrifio taith gerdded hir 15 milltir o hyd ar lwybrau tramwy cyhoeddus, ffyrdd coedwig a ffyrdd bach. Mae'r daith yn ymestyn o Barc Gwledig Margam ger Port Talbot hyd at ben gorllewinol taith gerdded hir Ffordd Las Taf Elai, yn union i'r de o'r fferm wynt ar Fynydd Maendy. Mae yma gerdded trawiadol ar dir uchel a chymoedd gyda golygfeydd ysblennydd o gymoedd cul a garw i'r gogledd a bryniau Dyfnaint a Gwlad yr Haf yn aml i'w gweld tua'r de. Mae'r daith yma'n cysylltu gyda thair taith hir sefydledig arall yn yr ardal hon sef Ffordd Coed Morgannwg tua'r gorllewin, Ffordd Las Taf Elai i'r dwyrain a Thaith y Nen i'r Lli y gellir ymuno â hi ym Mharc Gwledig Bryngarw.

GWYBODAETH A CHYNGOR

CERDDED Y DAITH:

Mae hi'n bosibl cychwyn y daith ym Mharc Gwledig Margam neu o ben gorllewinol Taith Ffordd Las Taf Elai. Gellir ymuno â hi yn ddigon cyfleus hefyd ym Mharc Gwledig Bryngarw neu ym mhentrefi Coetrahen, Betws, Llangeinwyr neu Melin Ifan Ddu ar y ffordd. Mae'r daith wedi ei chyfeirbwyntio yn gyson gyda'r arwyddion sydd wedi eu dylunio'n arbennig ac sydd ar du blaen y daflen hon. Serch hynny, byddem yn eich cymell i gael mapiau Arolwg Ordans i'ch cynorthwyo i gwblhau'r daith yn ddiogel. Os ydych yn cychwyn y daith o Barc Gwledig Margam, gallwch ddilyn yr arwyddion o'r Ganolfan Ymwelwyr.

BYDDWCH YN BAROD:

Gwisgwch esgidiau a dillad priodol gan bod rhan o'r daith hon ar dir uchel. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r daith hon mewn rhannau anghysbell o'r wlad. Cyn gadael, rhoch wybod i rywun ble rydych chi'n mynd a phryd yr ydych chi'n disgwyl cyrraedd pen eich taith. Ewch â bwyd a diod gyda chi. Mae siopau a/neu dafarnau yng Nghoetrahen, Betws, Llangeinwyr a Melin Ifan Ddu.

CLUDIANT CYHOEDDUS:

Mae nifer o lwybrau bysus yn cysylltu â'r daith gerdded. Am ragor o wybodaeth ffoniwch Adran Cludiant Cyhoeddus Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr ar 01656 642559 neu Traveline ar 0870 6082608.

PARCIO CEIR:

Mae lle i barcio ceir yn agos i ben dwyreiniol y llwybr yn Fferm Tŷ Gwilym ac oddi ar y ffordd fach i'r gorllewin o'r fferm wynt ar Fynydd Maendy. Mae parcio ffurfiol hefyd ym Mharciau Gwledig Margam a Bryngarw a pharcio anffurfiol ar y stryd yng Nghoetrahen, Llangeinwyr a Melin Ifan Ddu. Codir tâl am barcio ym Mharciau Gwledig Margam a Bryngarw. I gael manylion y taliadau cysylltwch â'r Ganolfan Ymwelwyr berthnasol.

LLETY:

I gadw ystafell neu i gael gwybodaeth am lety cysylltwch ag un o Ganolfannau Gwybodaeth i Ymwelwyr yr Arfordir Treftadaeth. Mae'r rhain wedi'u lleoli ym Mhentref Siopa McArthur Glen oddi ar gyffordd 36 yr M4 (ffoniwch 01656 654906) ac yn John Street, Porthcawl (ffoniwch 01656 786639).

GWYBODAETH BELLACH:

I gael mwy o wybodaeth am y daith gerdded hon ac i wneud sylwadau ac awgrymiadau gallwch gysylltu â'r Adran Gynllunio, Cyfadran Gwasanaethau Amgylcheddol a Chynllunio, Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr CF31 4WB (ffôn 01656 643182).

I roi gwybod am unrhyw drafferthion ymarferol gydag unrhyw un o'r llwybrau ar y daith hon byddwch gystal â chysylltu â'r Isadran Hawliau Tramwy, Cyfadran Gwasanaethau Amgylcheddol a Chynllunio, Tŷ Morien, Stryd Bennett, Ystâd Ddiwydiannol Pen-y-bont, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr CF31 1SH (ffôn 01656 642537). I roi gwybod am drafferthion gydag unrhyw lwybr ym Mharc Margam ffoniwch 01639 881635.

I gael rhagor o wybodaeth gyffredinol am ardal Pen-y-bont gallwch gysylltu â ni drwy e-bost yn tourism@bridgend.gov.uk. Neu, gallwch ymweld â'n gwefan sef www.bridgend.gov.uk.

POINTS OF INTEREST

Directions to particular points of interest are written assuming that you are walking eastwards.

1. MARGAM COUNTRY PARK

Margam Country Park has a wealth of history, natural beauty and wildlife. The magnificent Orangery, Abbey and Castle are set in 800 acres of beautiful parkland with lakes and ornamental gardens. The Castle is a Tudor Gothic folly and was built in 1840. The Abbey, founded in 1147, was one of the richest in Wales. The Park supports herds of Fallow, Red and Père David deer. For further information about the Park either call into the Visitor Centre or telephone 01639 881635.

2. MYNYDD Y CASTELL HILLFORT

This Iron Age hill-fort and the adjacent upland area of Margam Mountain is on the Register of Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales. The area has lots of evidence of past human settlement and activity including Bronze Age ritual and funerary monuments, a Roman road and a large and important group of Early Christian Inscribed Stone monuments. This fort is one of a number of large Iron Age hill-forts you will pass on this walk. It is a particularly prominent one with good views from the top.

3. BRO STONE

This large stone was erected to celebrate "Bro" or community. It was officially unveiled by the Prince of Wales.

4. MYNYDD TY-TALWYN AND MYNYDD BAEDEN

In this area are the first recorded examples of platform houses in Glamorgan. The remains of these are now very difficult to pick out but with a bit of imagination. . . . The rectangular "platforms" were excavated from the hillside and low turf walls supported the ends of the roof timbers possibly on the top of wattle walls. Central posts supported the ends of the ridge of the roof, which was thatched with bracken or heather. The dozen or so "platforms" on the southern slopes of Mynydd Ty-Talwyn are a good example of a medieval settlement, although it is possible that they pre-date the 13th century. Mynydd Baeden is reputedly the site of King Arthur's last great battle.

5. DUFFRYN, LLYNVI AND PORTHCAWL RAILWAY

Follow the farm access track past Pentwyn Farm. Carry on down this track for about 300 metres until you get to some farm outbuildings. About 100 metres past these you cross the old trackway of the Duffryn, Llynvi and

Porthcawl railway. With the advent of the Industrial Revolution the commercial development of the Llynvi Valley was hampered by the lack of adequate transport routes, and so in 1825 the construction of this horse drawn tramroad was enabled under a Private Act of Parliament. The tramroad ran 17 miles from the present day Caerau to the newly constructed docks at Porthcawl and was completed in 1828. Within 40 years it had been converted to steam and re-routed onto its present track.

6. BRYNGARW COUNTRY PARK

Bryngarw Country Park is an area of woodland, grassland, formal gardens and water features surrounding Bryngarw House. The gardens around the house are Edwardian and were laid out between 1910 and 1918. They include some fine Japanese maples, magnolias and rhododendrons. Call at the Visitor Centre or telephone 01656 725155 for more information.

7. BLACKMILL WOODLANDS

These oak woodlands are remnants of woods that were once widespread throughout the coalfield valleys. Major losses of such woods occurred as a result of the insatiable appetite of the iron smelters for charcoal prior to the development of the use of coke in the smelting process in the late 18th Century. In fact the fate of the iron trade was in the hands of the timber supply and as a result of the large scale loss of woodland the British output of iron fell from 180,000 tons in 1610 to 17,000 in 1740. These woodlands are now prized for their nature conservation value and are consequently afforded legal protection as a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

8. BLACKMILL

At the onset of the commercial exploitation of the coal reserves in this area Blackmill was an important junction for the railways taking coal to the sea ports. The splendid piers of the viaduct taking the Cardiff and Ogmore Junction to Bryncethin Junction line across the Ogwr Fach remain intact. This line was opened in 1876 and finally removed in 1939. The line of the disused railway between Bryncethin and Nantymoel has recently been converted to form the Ogmore Valley Community Route - a superb off-road route that can be enjoyed by walkers, cyclists, and those in wheelchairs. The Bridgend area has a growing network of such Community Routes.

9. WIND FARM ON MYNYDD MAENDY

This windfarm consists of 20 turbines which were erected in 1994. The overall height of each turbine with its blade in the vertical position is over 50 metres.

MANNAU O DDIDDORDEB

Mae'r cyfeiriadau i fannau o ddiddordeb neilltuol wedi'u hysgrifennu gan gymryd eich bod yn cerdded tua'r dwyrain.

1. PARC GWLEDIG MARGAM

Mae yna gyfoeth o hanes, harddwch naturiol a bywyd gwyllt yn perthyn i Barc Gwledig Margam. Mae'r Orendy ysbennnydd, yr Abaty a'r Castell wedi eu lleoli mewn 800 erw o dir parc prydyferth gyda llynnoedd a gerddi addurniadol. Ffoledd Gothig Tuduraidd yw'r Castell a adeiladwyd ym 1840. Yr Abaty, a sefydlwyd ym 1147 oedd un o'r rhai cyfoethocaf yng Nghymru. Mae'r Parc yn gartref i geirw cochion, hyddod brych a cheirw Père David. Am fwy o wybodaeth am y Parc gallwch naill ai alw i mewn i'r Ganolfan Ymwelwyr neu ffonio 01639 881635.

2. BRYNGAER MYNYDD Y CASTELL

Mae'r fryngaer Oes yr Haearn hon ac ardal ucheldir Mynydd Margam gerllaw ar y Gofrestr Tirluniau o Ddiddordeb Hanesyddol Arbennig yng Nghymru. Mae yna lawer o dystiolaeth yn yr ardal o aneddiadau a gweithgareddau dynol cyntefig gan gynnwys henebion defodol ac angladdol o'r Oes Efydd, ffordd Rufeinig a chasglad mawr a phwysig o henebion Carreg Arysgrifedig o'r Oes Cristionogol Cynnar. Ond un yw hon o nifer o fryngeyrydd Oes Haearn mawr y byddwch yn eu pasio ar y daith hon. Mae hi'n un arbennig o amlwg gyda golygfeydd da o'i brig.

3. CARREG Y FRO

Codwyd y garreg fawr hon i ddathlu'r Fro. Fe'i dadorchuddiwyd yn swyddogol gan Dywysog Cymru.

4. MYNYDD TY-TALWYN A MYNYDD BAEDEN

Yn yr ardal yma mae'r enghreifftiau cynharaf a gofnodwyd o dai llwyfan ym Morgannwg. Mae'n anodd iawn adnabod eu gweddillion bellach, ond gydag ychydig o ddychymyg . . . Cloddiwyd y "llwyfannau" hirsgrŵar o ochr y bryn a byddai waliau isel o dyweirch yn dal pennau prennau'r to o bosib ar ben waliau bangorwaith. Byddai pyst canolog yn dal pennau crib y to a fyddai wedi ei orchuddio â rhedyn neu rug. Mae tua dwain o "llwyfannau" ar lethrau deheuol Mynydd Ty-Talwyn sy'n enghraifft dda o anheddiad canoloesol, er ei bod yn bosibl eu bod yno cyn y 13eg ganrif. Mae yna chwedl mai Mynydd Baeden yw lleoliad brwydr fawr olaf y Brenin Arthur.

5. RHEILFFORDD DYFFRYN, LLYNFI A PORTHCAWL

Dilynwch ffordd y fferm heibio i Fferm Pentwyn. Ewch ymlaen ar y ffordd yma am tua 300 metr nes i chi gyrraedd tai allan fferm. Tua 100 metr heibio i'r rhain byddwch yn

croesi llwybr hen reilffordd Dyffryn, Llynfi a Phorthcawl. Pan ddaeth y Chwyldro Diwydiannol bu datblygu masnachol Cwm Llynfi dan anfantais gan nad oedd yno lwybrau cludiant digonol, ac felly ym 1825 fe hwylydwyd adeiladu'r ffordd yma ar gyfer tramiau a dynnid gan gefnyllau gan Deddf Seneddol Breifat. Roedd y ffordd yn 17 milltir o hyd ac yn estyn o'r Caerau presennol i'r dociau ym Mhorthcawl a oedd newydd eu hadeiladu ac fe'i cwblhawyd ym 1828. O fewn 40 mlynedd cafodd ei newid i stêm a'i hailgyfeirio i ddilyn y llwybr presennol.

6. PARC GWLEDIG BRYNGARW

Mae Parc Gwledig Bryngarw'n cynnwys coetir, glaswelltir, gerddi ffurfiol a nodweddion dŵr o gwmpas Ty Bryngarw. Mae'r gerddi o gwmpas y ty yn rhai Edwardaidd ac fe'u plannwyd rhwng 1910 a 1918. Ynddynt mae yna enghreifftiau hyfyrd o fasarn Siapan, magnolias a rhododendrons. Galwch yn y Ganolfan Ymwelwyr neu ffonio 01656 725155 i gael rhagor o wybodaeth.

7. COETIR MELIN IFAN DDU

Y coetir derw yma yw'r hyn sy'n weddill yn lleol o goed a arferai fod yn gyffredin tu hwnt ledled cymoedd y glo. Collwyd rhannau helaeth o'r fath goetir i archwaeth gwancus y smeltwyr haearn am siarcol cyn y dechreuwyd defnyddio golosg yn y broses smeltio tua diwedd y 18fed ganrif. Mewn gwirionedd roedd ffawd y fasnach haearn yn ddibynol ar gyflenwad coed ac wrth golli coetir ar raddfa mor eang cwympodd cynnyrch haearn Prydain o 180,000 tunnell ym 1610 i 17,000 ym 1740. Rhoddir gwerth mawr ar y coetir yma bellach o safbwynt cadwraeth natur ac mae'n Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig ac yn cael ei warchod o dan y gyfraith.

8. MELIN IFAN DDU

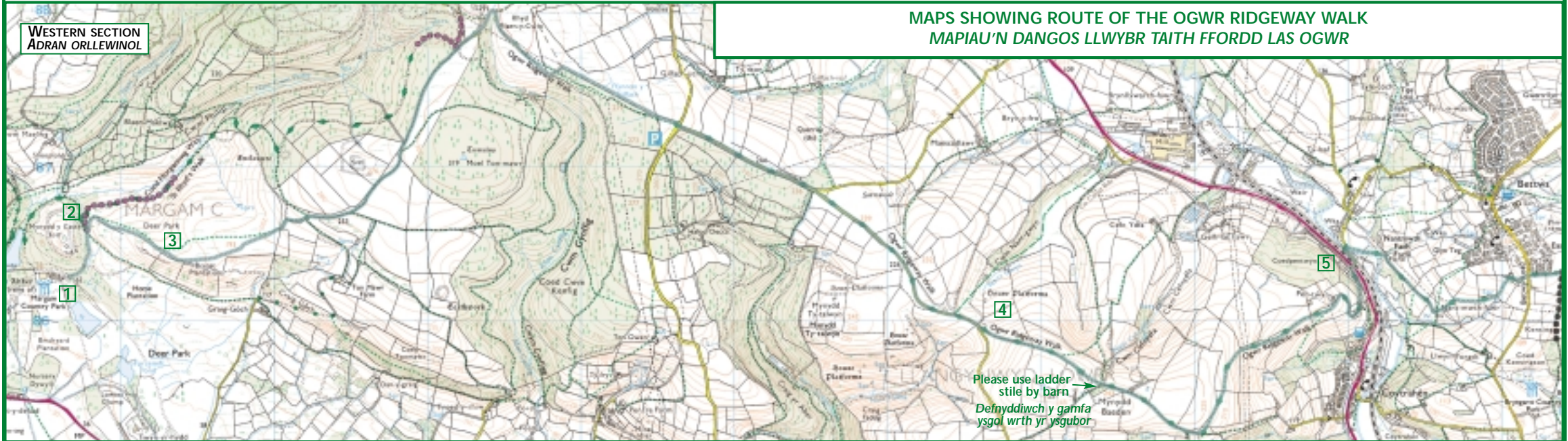
Pan ddechreuwyd gloddio glo ar raddfa fasnachol yn yr ardal hon roedd Melin Ifan Ddu'n gyffordd bwysig ar gyfer y rheilffordd oedd yn cludo glo i'r porthladdoedd. Mae colofnau ysbennnydd y draphont a gariai lein Caerdydd a Chyffordd Ogwr i Gyffordd Bryncethin ar draws afon Ogwr Fach yn dal i sefyll. Agorwyd y lein yma ym 1876 ac fe'i symudwyd yn y diwedd ym 1939. Cafodd llwybr yr hen reilffordd rhwng Bryncethin a Nantymoel ei addasu'n ddiweddar i ffurfio Llwybr Cymunedol Cwm Ogwr – llwybr oddi ar-y-ffordd gwych y gall cerddwyr, beicwyr a defnyddwyr cadeiriau olwyn ei fwynhau. Mae yna rwydwaith sy'n prysur dyfu o Lwybrau Cymunedol fel hwn yn ardal Pen-y-bont.

9. FFERM WYNT AR FYNYDD MAENDY

Mae'r fferm wynt yma'n cynnwys 20 tyrbina a godwyd ym 1994. Gyda'i lafn tuag i fyny mae pob tyrbina dros 50 metr.

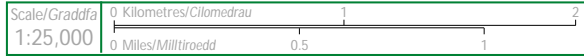
**WESTERN SECTION
ADRAN ORLLEWINOL**

**MAPS SHOWING ROUTE OF THE OGRW RIDGEWAY WALK
MAPIAU'N DANGOS LLWYBR TAITH FFORDD LAS OGRW**

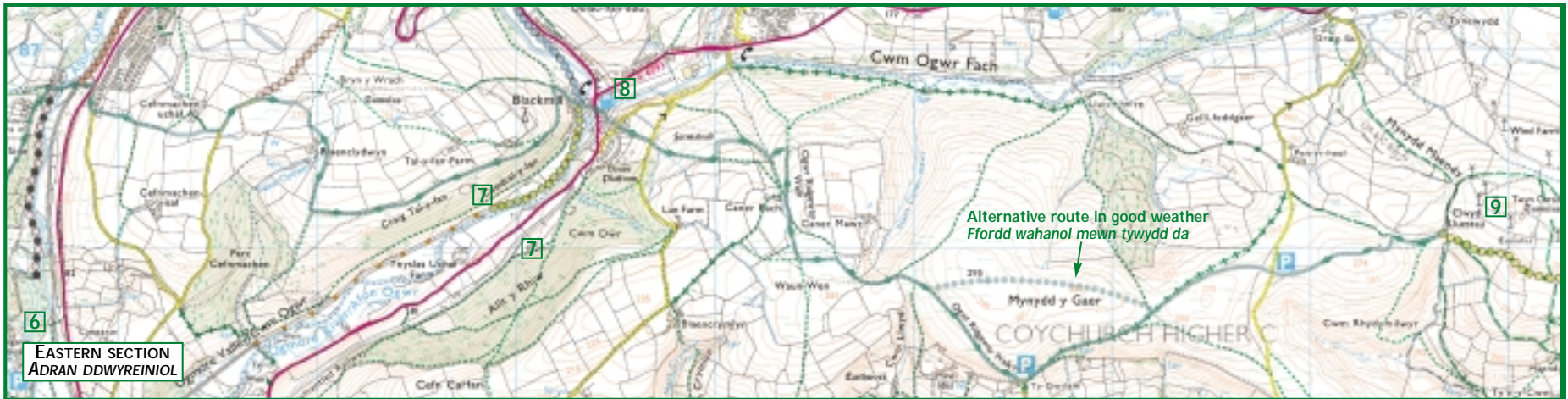


KEY/ALLWEDD

-  Route of the Ogwr Ridgeway Walk
Llwybr Taith Ffordd Las Ogwr
-  Coed Morgannwg Way
Ffordd Coed Morgannwg
-  Taff Ely Ridgeway Walk
Taith Ffordd Las Taf Elai
-  Sky to Sea Walk
Taith o'r Nen i'r Lli
-  Paths to Bryngarw Country Park
Llwybrau i Barc Gwledig Bryngarw
-  Garw Valley Community Route
Llwybr Cymunedol Cwm Garw
-  Ogmere Valley Community Route
Llwybr Cymunedol Cwm Ogwr
-  Celtic Trail
Lôn Geltaidd
-  **1** -  **9** Points of Interest along the way
Mannau o ddiddordeb ar hyd y ffordd



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**EASTERN SECTION
ADRAN DDWYREINIOL**