

Woodland Walk



Essential information

We want you to enjoy your visit to Padarn Country Park but please be aware that some areas of the Park can be dangerous and children should be supervised at all times.

- Only follow way-marked trails
- Do not enter building ruins
- Keep away from old quarry structures
- Some paths have uneven surfaces and steep drops
- Some of the features of the Park include old quarry workings, steep woodland paths and deep waters

- From the Padarn Country Park Information Kiosk at *Gilfach Ddu*, walk towards the Llanberis Lake Railway station building. Follow the yellow waymarks and walk part way up the A1 incline. Slate travelled down the incline to the yard. The weight of the trucks filled with slate raised the empty trucks on the other side. Look out for the inclines and winding houses along the trail.
- The Vivian Quarry closed in 1964. The quarry pit is known as a 'sinc'. When the pumps were switched off the sinc filled with water and formed a pool. The pool is 20 metres / 60 feet deep. Trees are slowly reclaiming the landscape. You might see ravens and buzzards here.
- This is the Dinorwig Quarry Hospital. It was built in 1860 to care for quarry workers. The quarry hospital was the first in north Wales to use X-Rays. The hospital is now a museum.
- Leave the grounds of the hospital, pass the mortuary and enter *Coed Dinorwig*, designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest due to it being an ancient Sessile Oak woodland, one of the largest in Wales.
- Roughly 200 metres from the main path is a collection of buildings that was once a woollen mill. However, the path to reach the woollen mill is unmarked and not maintained. The mill was later converted into a factory making slate products, such as school equipment. It was powered by water diverted from *Afon Fachwen*. Boats moored on the lake shore transported these goods to Llanberis.
- The flow of the river was controlled by a small reservoir further upstream.
- A detonator store was once located here. Detonators were used to ignite explosives, which heaved the rock from the mountain. They were kept away from the gunpowder store on the other side of the rise.
- This is the *Barics Dre Newydd / Anglesey Barracks*. Quarry workers from outside of the local area lived in barracks during the week. Each house had two small rooms and was shared by four men. There were few windows at the back of the houses. Shelter from the elements was more important than the view.
- Continue down the path to join *Y Llwybr Main / Zig Zag* path. This path was made by quarry workers. It was built within the spoil heap for protection from the weather. Their skill can be seen in how well the slate blocks fit together. The seats built into the wall were resting areas for quarrymen who walked long distances to work. At the road turn right. Follow the sign to Padarn Country Park and the *Gilfach Ddu* car park.



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| Short trail: Approx. 3Km Allow 1.5 hours | Full trail: Approx. 4Km Allow 2.5 hours |
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Taith y Goedwig | Woodland Walk

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Llwybrau Eraill | Other Footpaths

Ffin y Parc | Park Boundary