

Moel Arthur - Penycloddiau

Heather, hillforts and superb views

Distance: 11 km / 6.8 miles

Time: 4.5 – 5 hrs

Parking: Small car parks at Moel Arthur (SJ147657) and Langwyfan (SJ139668)

Grade: Strenuous (ascents and descents), many stiles

Facilities: None

Livestock: Lots of sheep and cattle

Grug, bryngeyrydd a golygfeydd gwych

Pellter: 11 km / 6.8 milltir

Amser: 4.5 – 5 awr

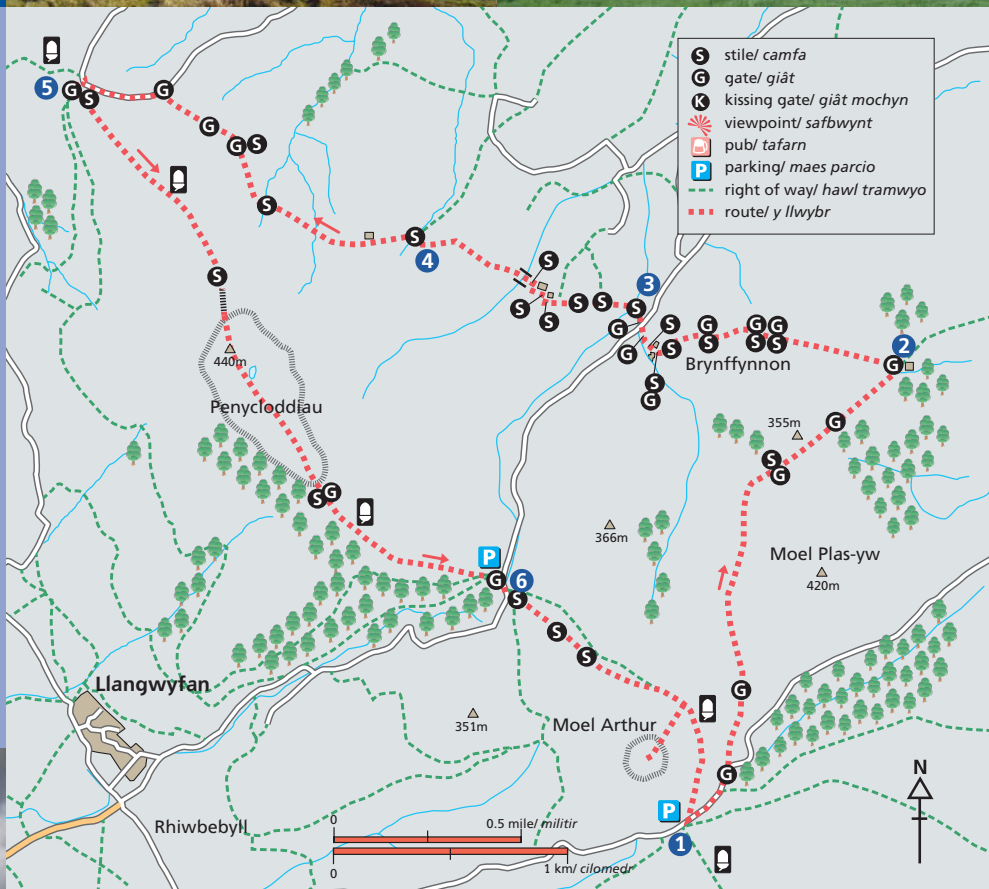
Parcio: Meysydd parcio bach Moel Arthur (SJ147657) neu Langwyfan (SJ139668)

Graddfa: Egniol (i fyny ac i lawr), nifer fawr o gamfeydd

Cyfleusterau: Dim

Da byw: Llawer o ddefaid a gwartheg

Waymarking / Arwyddion:  Part / Mewn rhannau



The Walk

1. From Moel Arthur car park (with cattle grid on R) turn L along lane for 275m. Near start of small wood on R, turn L through gate and head up track. After 200m cross stile/gate marked "Penbedw". After short climb track levels then descends. Continue for about 1km to gate/stile. Go diagonally L across field towards LH edge of pine plantation. Continue along plantation edge to gate. Continue on track towards another gate beside derelict cottage.

2. Turn L before gate and go up slope for 50m then turn diagonally L across large field, heading to gate in far LH corner. Thro' gate & follow RH fenceline to cross another stile by 2 gates. Walk ahead across next field to cross another gate/stile. Follow RH field boundary then turn R at marker post crossing stile & heading down steep slope. Go thro' gate between buildings, cross stile and turn R down drive. Go thro' gate and continue to road.

3. Cross road and go thro' gate by finger post into field opposite. Continue along LHS of field crossing small stream to visible stile. Cross stile and 2nd stream. Walk up slope to stile, initially

hidden from view. Cross stile & continue uphill for 20m then go thro' gate on L (ignore nearby stile). Turn R and follow RH fence uphill to stile. Cross stile & continue along RH fence, ignoring gate on R before house. Cross stile at far end of field and continue ahead, past stile, down sunken lane to disused wooden shack. Go around back of shack to cross stile then down steep slope to stream. Cross footbridge and stile at end then follow RH fence to stile & gate (fence no longer exists here). Continue ahead up slope, crossing grassy path with gate on L. Continue over stile ahead. Walk up slope, keeping to LH fenceline, passing gate on LHS. Continue along fenceline heading towards stile with large yellow disc, below stone ruin.

4. Cross stile and follow path with old stone wall on R (can be muddy). Pass ruin on RHS and continue along path keeping old wall on RHS. Cross stile and continue ahead, still following wall. After next gate/ stile follow obvious track diagonally R towards TV mast. Go thro' further gate and follow RH field boundary to gate onto track. Turn L along track. Pass farm on R.





Moel Arthur - Penycloddiau

5. Before lane turns sharply R, turn L over stile by gate, with Scot's pines on L. You are now on Offa's Dyke Path (marked by white acorns) that you follow for rest of walk. Turn L and follow path uphill, climbing steadily. Cross stile dedicated to Arthur Roberts and continue along path finally ascending some steps to summit of Penycloddiau (superb 360° views). Continue ahead for approx 800m then cross stile. Turn L and follow narrow path down hillside, with trees on R. At junction turn L and go thro' gate into small car park.

6. Turn R onto lane. After 25m turn L at finger post. Cross stile and follow steep path uphill. Continue ahead, crossing 2 more stiles, then follow obvious route through heather for about 1km, skirting around LHS of Moel Arthur to return to car park, or detouring R if desired at slate waymarker to summit of Moel Arthur.

Y Daith Gerdded.

1. O'r maes parcio (gyda'r grid gwartheg ar y LIDD) troi i'r Ch ac ar hyd y lôn am 275m. Wrth ymyl coedwig fechan ar y LIDD, troi i'r Ch drwy'r giât ac i fyny'r llwybr llydan. Ar ôl 200m croesi'r gamfa/giât sy â "Penbedw" arni. Ar ôl dringo ychydig bydd y llwybr yn gwastatau ac yna'n disgyn. Ymlaen am tua 1km i'r giât/camfa. Cerddwch yn groesgornel i'r Ch dros gae tuag at ymyl LICy y blanhigfa coed pin. Ymlaen wedyn ar hyd ymyl y blanhigfa at y giât. Parhau ar y llwybr llydan tuag at giât arall sy yn ymyl adeilidion tŷ cerrig.

2. Troi i'r Ch cyn y giât ac i fyny'r llethr am 50m, yna troi'n groesgornel i'r Ch dros gae mawr gan anelu at giât sydd yn y gornel chwith bell. Mynd drwy'r giât hon a dilyn y ffens sydd ar y LIDD a dros gamfa arall yn ymyl dwy giât. Cerdded ar draws y cae nesaf a chroesi camfa/giât arall. Dilyn ffin LIDD'r cae ac yna troi i'r Dde wrth y postyn arwydd, croesi camfa ac i lawr llethr serth. Cerdded drwy'r giât rhwng adeiladau, croesi camfa a throi

i'r Dde i lawr dreif. Mynd drwy'r giât ac ymlaen i'r ffordd.

3. Croesi'r ffordd a mynd drwy'r giât wrth yr arwyddost ac i'r cae cyferbyn. Ymlaen ar hyd ochr chwith y cae gan groesi nant fechan at gamfa weladwy. Dros y gamfa a'r ail nant. Dringo'r llethr at gamfa, nad yw'n weladwy i ddechrau. Dros y gamfa ac ymlaen i fyny'r bryn am 20m yna drwy'r giât sy ar y LICy (anwybyddu camfa gyfagos). Troi i'r Dde a dilyn y ffens sy ar y LIDD gan ddringo at gamfa. Dros y gamfa ac ymlaen gan ddilyn ffens sy ar y LIDD, anwybyddu'r giât sy ar y LIDD cyn y tŷ. Croesi camfa ar ben pellaf y cae a pharhau ymlaen, dros/drwy gamfa a chwalodd, i lawr lôn wedi suddo, at hen gwt pren. Mynd i gefn y cwt a dros y gamfa, i lawr llethr serth at y nant. Dros y bont a'r gamfa ac yna dilyn y ffens LIDD at gamfa a giât (dim ffens yma rŵan). Dringo'r llethr gan groesi llwybr glaswellt (anwybyddu'r giât sy ar y LIDD). Ymlaen dros y gamfa sy o'ch blaen. Dringo'r llethr gan gadw at y ffens sy ar y LICy, mynd heibio giât ar y LICy. Dilyn y ffens tuag at gamfa gyda chylch melyn arni, y tu isaf i furddun cerrig.

4. Croesi'r gamfa a dilyn y llwybr gan gadw'r wal gerrig ar y LIDD (mwdlyd), bydd murddun ar y dde. Ymlaen ar hyd y llwybr gan gadw'r wal ar eich LIDD. Dros y gamfa ac ymlaen, dal i ddilyn y wal. Ar ôl y giât/camfa nesaf, dringo'r llwybr amlwg yn groesgornel a thua'r mast teledu. Drwy'r giât gan gadw ffin y cae ar eich LIDD, at y giât a'r llwybr. I'r Ch ar hyd y llwybr. Peidiwch â throi i'r ffermdy sy ar y LIDD.

5. Cyn i'r lon wyro'n sydyn i'r dd, trowch i'r Ch dros gamfa wrth giât, bydd pinwydd yr Alban ar y LLCh. Dyma llwybr Clawdd Offa (gydag arwydd mesen). Byddwch yn ei ddilyn am weddiill y daith. Troi i'r Ch a dringo'r bryn yn raddol. Dros y gamfa sydd er cof am Arthur Roberts ac ymlaen ar hyd y llwybr gan ddringo grisiau pren i gopa Penycloddiau (golygfeydd 360°). Parhau ymlaen am tua 800m yna croesi'r gamfa. Troi i'r Ch a dilyn llwybr cul i lawr y bryn, cadw'r coed ar eich LIDD. Ar y gyffordd, troi i'r Ch a thrwy'r giât i faes parcio bychan.

6. Troi i'r Dde ac i'r ffordd. Ar ôl 25m troi i'r Ch wrth yr arwydd. Dros y gamfa a dilyn y llwybr serth i fyny'r bryn. Ymlaen a dros ddwy gamfa arall, dilyn y llwybr amlwg drwy'r grug am tua 1km, gan amgylchu ochr chwith Moel Arthur a dychwelyd i'r maes parcio.

Os dymunir, gellir mynd i gopa Moel Arthur drwy ddilyn yr arwydd llechen sy ar LIDD.

Moel Arthur and Penycloddiau are two of a string of Iron Age hillforts built along the Clwydian Range around 2500 years ago. The remains of large earth and stone banks which surrounded the settlements can still be seen, now clad in heather and bilberry. These banks were probably crowned with a wooden fence giving extra protection to the wooden roundhouses within, and with elaborate gateways that may have helped control supplies going in and out.

Penycloddiau is one of the largest hillforts in Wales. Its banks are 2 km in circumference! Recently 40 possible hut platforms (where roundhouses were built) have been found. Moel Arthur is much smaller but on a much steeper hilltop and the enclosing banks are visible from miles away. These hillforts may have been used before the Iron Age – Bronze Age axes, about 3,500 years old, have been found at Moel Arthur.

Adeiladwyd Moel Arthur a Phenycloddiau, dwy fryngaer mewn cadwyn o Fryngeyrydd Oes yr Haearn, tua 2500 o flynyddoedd yn ôl ar hyd cefn Bryniau Clwyd.

Gallwch weld olion y cloddiau mawr o bridd a cherrig a godwyd o gwmpas yr anheddiad. Grug a llus y mynydd sy'n eu gorchuddio erbyn hyn. Yn ôl pob tebyg, roedd ffens bren ar ben y cloddiau hyn gan ddiogelu'r tai pren, crwn oddi mewn; ac efallai y bu yma byrth cain er mwyn rheoli'r nwyddau oedd yn cael eu cludo i mewn ac allan o'r gaer.

Un o fryngeyrydd mwyafr Cymru yw Penycloddiau, a chylchedd y cloddiau'n ddau gilometr. Yn ddiweddar, darganfuwyd yma ddeugain o lwyfannau y tybir iddynt fod yn llwyfannau cytiau.

Caer lai o lawer yw Moel Arthur, ond yn serthach. Gwelir pen y bryn a'r cloddiau o gwmpas o bell. Daethpwyd o hyd i fwyelli oes yr Efydd (tua 3500 o flynyddoedd yn ôl) ar Foel Arthur gan awgrymu bod pobl yn defnyddio'r bryngeyrydd hyn cyn oes yr Haearn.

Meadow pipit
Corheddyd y waun

