

# Snowdonia Way Guided Trail Holiday

**Trip style:** Guided trails

**Destination:** 📍 Wales

**Trip code:** XAW08-LDW11

**Grades:** 1-5



## HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Experience the natural beauty of Snowdonia (Eryri), journeying from the very north of the national park to its southern border. This superb route offers you the chance to walk amongst Snowdonia's (Eryri) magical mountains, and to tick off Wales' highest mountain, and its second most popular peak too. From the charming world heritage town of Conwy in the north, to the Welsh heartland of Dolgellau in the south, with the summits of Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa) and Cader Idris on the way, our route follows valley trails, hillside paths, and Roman roads, leading you through the heart of Snowdonia (Eryri), with outstanding scenery and a wealth of history throughout. Relax and enjoy the route, knowing all your accommodation, transport and meals are taken care of. You just need to put on your boots and enjoy the journey.

## WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Visiting Conwy for its UNESCO-listed castle and medieval town walls
- Ticking off Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa) and Cader Idris
- Visiting the spectacular Aber Falls
- Walking the fisherman's path along the Aberglaslyn Gorge
- Spending time in the Alpine-style village of Beddgelert
- Discovering beaches, forests, mountains, and moorland

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Comfortable en-suite rooms in our partner accommodation(s)
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Guided walks with an experienced HF Holidays Leader
- All transport to and from walks where necessary

## TRIP SUITABILITY

This Snowdonia (Eryri) Way trail holiday is graded 5. This holiday is recommended for fit and experienced walkers only. You will require a good level of fitness as you will be walking every day. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the relevant fitness and equipment required to join this holiday. The Snowdonia (Eryri) Way is a strenuous walk through some challenging terrain. The route involves some pathless ground on occasion, which is rough underfoot. There are several long days which require a sustained effort. Provision cannot be made for anyone who opts out. Please be sure you can manage the daily mileage and ascent, detailed in the daily itineraries. The walking day is normally approx. 8 hours. It is important for your own and your fellow guests' enjoyment that you can maintain the pace.

### Your fitness

This holiday has been designed for experienced walkers with a good level of fitness. Having a solid base of fitness before your holiday will ensure you've the best chance of completing the holiday and enjoying it to boot. Here's a few simple tips to help you get fit and ready for your challenge:

- Get out walking – whatever the weather, get out there, and start building your fitness months before your holiday
- Build your distance gradually and get a number of 6-8hr hill days in
- Ideally, try and do two consecutive days training if possible
- Take the stairs every time
- Train on different terrain
- Train with your day pack and your walking boots too, to ensure they're well worn in before your holiday

- Other sports help improve your walking fitness too. The best ones are jogging, cycling, swimming, which will build your stamina, and yoga which will help strengthen your core and improve balance

Time training will help ensure you enjoy your holiday to the max.

## ITINERARY

### **Day 1:** Arrival Day

Guests are welcome to check in at The Imperial Hotel from 3pm. Gather to meet the rest of the group in the hotel reception at 6:30pm, to find out the plan of action before dinner.

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### **Day 2:** The Wales Coast Path

Follow the Wales Coast Path from charming Conwy castle and enjoy views from Conwy Mountain, looking out over to Anglesey and across to the Irish Sea. Ice-creams to end the day in the seaside town of Llanfairfechan. Distance: 9miles (14km)Ascent: 1,800ft (560m)

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### **Day 3:** Aber Falls

From Llanfairfechan we head up to the stunning Aber Falls, one of the most majestic sites of the Welsh mountains, before following the flanks of the magnificent Carneddau Mountains, to the Welsh slate quarrying village of Bethesda. Distance: 11.5miles (18.5km)Ascent: 1,720ft (560m)

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### **Day 4:** To Pen-y-Pass

To Pen-y-Pass. Superb walking again today, looking up to the mountain giants of the Carneddau, the Glyders, and Tryfan, before ending the day at the iconic mountaineering pub - the Pen-y-Gwyrdd. Distance: 8.5miles (13.5km)Ascent: with 2,720ft (840m)

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### **Day 5:** Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa)

That top of the world feeling today. We follow the Pyg track to the summit of Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa), before dropping down to the tranquility of the Nantgwynant valley and the pretty mountain lake of Llyn Dinas. Ice-creams and/or a well deserved celebratory pint to end the day, in the beautiful Alpine style village of Beddgelert. Distance: 10.5miles (16.5km) Ascent: 2,980ft (920m) of ascent

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### **Day 6:** Vale of Ffestiniog

The spectacular gorge and waterfalls of the Aberglaslyn Pass to begin with today, and super views of Cnicht (known as the Welsh Matterhorn) as we descend into Croesor. It's then into Southern Snowdonia (Eryri) as we reach the Vale of Ffestiniog, and Llyn Trawsfynydd, where we end our walk and transfer to the comforts of Dolserau Hall, Dolgellau. Distance: 15.5 miles (25km) Ascent: 3,090ft (950m) of ascent

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### **Day 7:** Coed y Brenin Forest Park

Woodland walks through Coed y Brenin Forest Park. Views of the Rhinog Mountains today, walking from Trawsfynydd, direct to our accommodation at Dolserau Hall, Dolgellau. Distance: 13 miles (21km) Ascent: 1,980ft (610m) of ascent

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**Day 8:** The Finale - Cader Idris

As finales go, this has to rival the best. Walking from our door, we head for the wild beauty of Cader Idris and the very southern end of Snowdonia (Eryri) National Park. We began on the northern coast looking out over Anglesey and the Irish Sea, and after a crossing of Snowdonia (Eryri), our views from Cader look back over Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa), the Rhinogs and out to the Irish Sea once more. Distance: 10.5 miles (17km) Ascent: 3,350ft (1,040m) of ascent

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**Day 9:** Departure Day

A group transfer leaves Dolserau Hall, for Machynlleth railway station (arriving 9:45am).

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## **The Imperial Hotel, Llandudno**

The 4\* Imperial Hotel has the perfect location for our first nights stay. Right on the promenade, take the time to stretch your legs with a seaside stroll before dinner, or relax and take a dip in their indoor pool or spa pool, or relax in the sauna or steam room. All rooms are ensuite, with TVs, WIFI, Radio, Direct Dial telephone, Hairdryer, Iron and Board, Complimentary Beverage Tray, Bathrobe and Slippers. The hotel is a 5min walk from the train station and guests are invited to check-in from 3pm.

## **Tyn-y-Coed, Capel Curig**

The Tyn-y-Coed is the perfect place to rest any weary legs. If the weather hasn't been kind to us, there's a drying room for our clothes, roaring log fires and freshly cooked, locally sourced food to get us warm. On a sunny evening we can enjoy the garden or be brave and take a dip in the River Llugwy; there's the perfect deep river pool, ideal for wild swimming, just in the meadow. All rooms are comfy ensuites and include Wi-Fi, TV, tea/coffee making facilities, toiletries, and hairdryer.

## **The Royal Goat, Beddgelert**

The Royal Goat Hotel is family-run and located in the beautiful Alpine-like village of Beddgelert. All rooms are comfortable ensuites, with Wi-Fi, TV, tea/coffee making facilities, toiletries, and hairdryer. The hotel is a short stroll from the village centre where you can wander along in the evening and learn about the famous Gelert of Beddgelert.

## **Our Country House: Dolserau Hall**

Stay at HF Holidays very own Dolserau Hall, Country House Hotel in Southern Snowdonia. Offering everything a walker could want, we've drying rooms for your boots and clothes, self-guided routes if you've the time to fit in an extra stroll, and comfortable ensuite rooms. Each room is equipped with WiFi, TV, hair dryer, tea/coffee making facilities, and toiletries.