

See more Spoke 'n' History Walks, including the Mawddach Trail and Mawddach Way at: www.MawddachEstuary.co.uk



Completed in April 2009, the multi-ability section of the New Precipice Walk is one of the highest wheelchair access vantage points in Wales. Over 300 m of the old mine tramway have been modified to suit a wide range of users, along with the gates and seating along the trail. The track has a crushed slate dressing, and a low tap-rail marks the path edge. The rail itself appears to be made from old tram-tracks, and forms a fitting reminder of the path's origins. The multi-ability section of the New Precipice walk can be joined by following the steep and narrow road up through the village of Taicyynhaeaf and turning right at the fork in the road. The several gates across the road may present problems for the unaccompanied wheelchair user. There is limited parking in the farm yard at the end of the road (no.9 on the map), and the flat path leaves the car-park below the white house.

The Multi-Ability Path:

See more Spoke 'n' History Walks at: www.MawddachTrail.co.uk and www.MawddachWay.co.uk

Distance: 7.5 km, 480 m of climbing
Notes: There are loose and slippery trails on this route

The New Precipice Walk is one of the Mawddach Estuary's classic trails, and is now home to an ambitious scheme to make such spectacular viewpoints accessible to a wider range of people.

The estuary is glacial in origin, and as the ice sheets pushed their way to the sea, they carved out a characteristic U-shaped valley with a flattish bottom and steep sidewalls. The Precipice is a flat track cut into the valley side on the slopes of Foel Ispri, and makes use of an old tramway built to serve the long abandoned workings of the Voel Goldmine. There are stunning views down the Mawddach estuary as far as Barmouth viaduct and across to Dolgellau and the Arans in the other direction.

For further information about activities and facilities on the Estuary, see www.MawddachEstuary.co.uk

Introduction

Coed Cae B&B



An ideal base for exploring the Mawddach Estuary

Taicyynhaeaf, Dolgellau
Telephone 01341 430628
www.CoedCae.co.uk

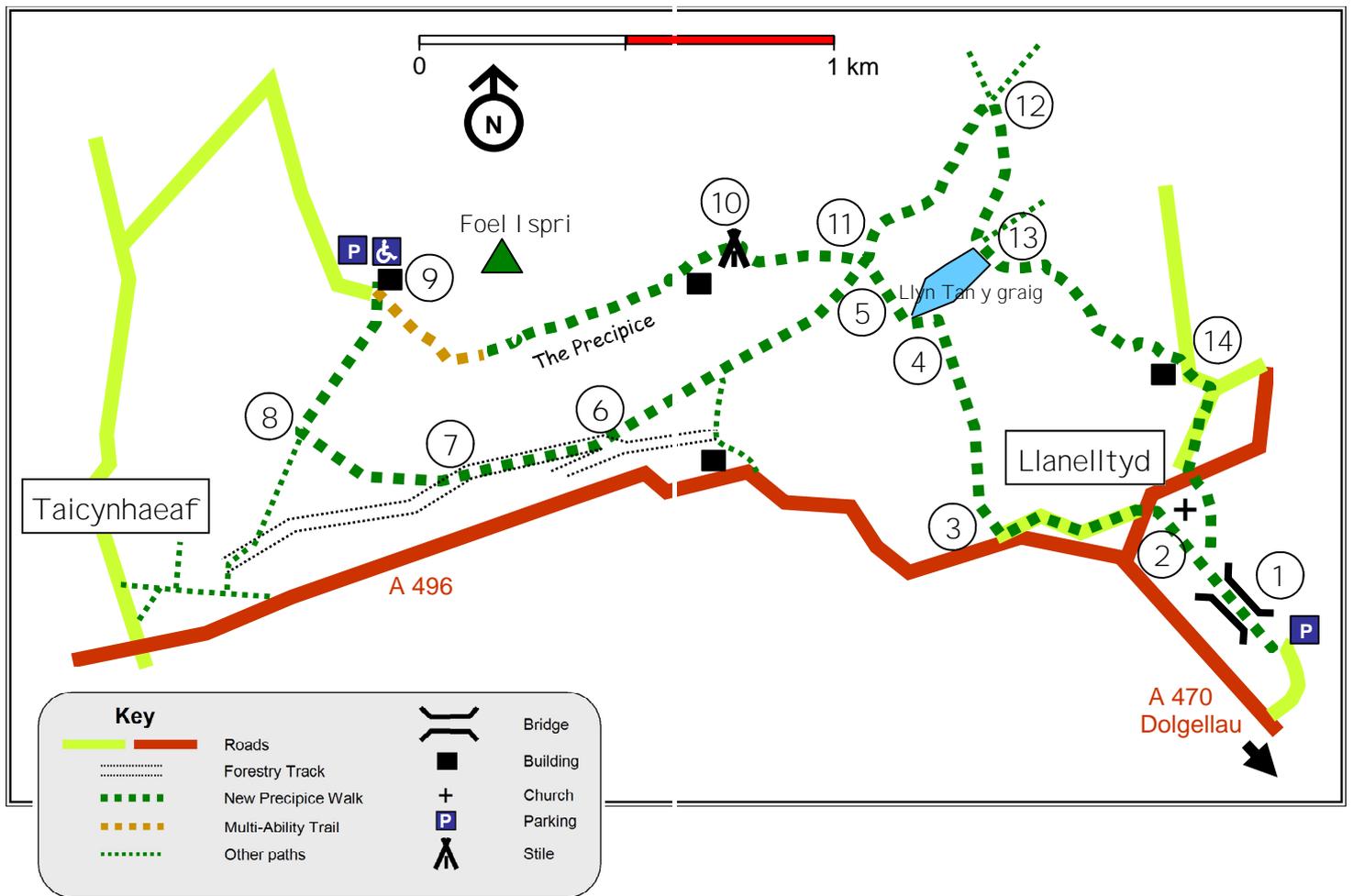
Detailed background information about Llanelltyd Bridge and Church, Gold Mining, nearby Cymer Abbey and many other features of the Mawddach estuary can be found in the Mawddach Way Guidebook. See www.MawddachWay.co.uk for further details.

The New Precipice Walk



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- 1 The Route starts from the car park next to the old Llanelltyd Bridge. There is very limited parking at the head of the multi-ability section of the trail (no.9), and the roads to get there are narrow and steep with few passing places. This parking is probably best left for those who need it. Cross over the old bridge, and the head to the A496 beyond.
- 2 Cross the main road, and turn LEFT through the bollards to follow the old road through the village of Llanelltyd.
- 3 Turn RIGHT up the tarmaced footpath (signed 'New Precipice') climbing up behind the houses of the end of the village.
- 4 At Llyn Tan y graig, head to the left hand end of the lake, where a stile takes you into the woodland beyond for yet more uphill.
- 5 At the cross-roads of paths turn LEFT and follow the trail across and down through the woods. The path can be indistinct, but trees with the lower limbs cleared away and the occasional bit of old ribbon tied to branches help show the way.
- 6 The path ends on the junction of broad but slightly overgrown forestry tracks. Take the fork ahead and to the RIGHT.
- 7 Turn RIGHT onto the sloping path climbing up through the conifers.

- 8 At the path junction turn RIGHT and, leaving the conifers behind, continue climbing through scrub and broadleaf woodland.
- 9 Turn RIGHT onto the flat multi-ability section of the trail below the farmhouse, and continue on the grassy trail beyond. At a fork in the trail take the lower option hugging the wall on the right, and passing buildings from the mining era.
- 10 Turn RIGHT over the ladder stile, and follow the track down into the woods again.
- 11 At the cross-roads of paths, turn LEFT.
- 12 At the cross-roads of paths, turn RIGHT and head downhill.
- 13 Cross the stile and follow the path past the end of the lake and down the hillside beyond, eventually running alongside the woodland to the LEFT. At the bottom of the slope the path turns left to cross a ford then up to join the road.
- 14 At the road, turn RIGHT, and just around the corner, RIGHT again. Follow this road until a set of steps allow you down to the main road. Take the lane to the LEFT of the church, where a footpath crosses the field to the bridge.