



Golygfa Gwydyr - Caerdroia

Scenic Walk

Discover the calm and energy
of the Gwydir Forest

Benefits of the forest

Relieves stress

Reduces anxiety and worry

Improves mood and energy levels

Aids better sleep

Find calm, creativity and clarity

Improves heart and lung health

*Slow down, breathe and be mindful,
have a look what's above your head,
below your feet and all around you,
how are you feeling?*

Golygfa Gwydyr

Golygfa Gwydyr is a community group based in Llanrwst, North Wales. We are a non-profit, community led organisation supporting people in rural Conwy through social and well-being activities in Llanrwst and at Caerdroia in the Gwydyr Forest. We aim to improve community well-being and develop pride in the culture and heritage of the area through inclusive activities open to all.

Golygfa Gwydyr

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Volunteer & Share

Would like to know what we do, join in on our events and/or volunteer with us? Please get in touch.

Has the walk inspired you? We invite you to share your experiences of Caerdroia and Golygfa Gwydyr with us - please visit our website and Facebook page.





Overview

Deep in the Gwydir Forest there is a place called Caerdroia (Labyrinth). A magical site in the woods for the community to benefit from. This self-guided walk takes you on a journey from Golygfa Gwydyr in the historical market town of Llanrwst, across the valley to wind up through the NRW managed forest to discover Caerdroia. You can do this at your leisure or on one of our events.

Distance: Approximately 5.8 miles / 9.3 km in total.

Duration: Allow at least 4 hours.

Paths and Terrain: Woodland paths and forestry tracks. Some uneven, steep ground.

Equipment: Wear suitable foot wear, clothing, sun cream and bring refreshments you may need.

Toilets: There are compost toilets on-site at Caerdroia which you can use during your visit.

Mini-bus: For those with difficulties walking up to Caerdroia, we occasionally organise mini-bus trips from Llanrwst as part of our events. For more information, please contact us.



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Countryside Code

Respect everyone

Protect the environment

Know the signs and symbols of the countryside

Enjoy the outdoors

Exploring Caerdroia

Here are some of the exciting features and activities that take place at Caerdroia. Enjoy exploring!

- a Forest pond
- b Caerdroia plinth
- c Celtic knot sculpture
- d Forestry team in action
- e Wooden shelter and activity site
- f Foraging in the forest
- g Giant chair & table carvings
- h Faerie tales with a wizard!

Walking to Caerdroia

You will be sharing parts of the route with mountain bikers and walking along some steep, uneven ground.

- Starting from Golygfa Gwydyr, walk towards the Co-op and turn left down the wide alleyway and follow the sign to the town centre. At the junction with the town square, turn left and cross the road. Continue ahead with views of Pont Fawr (stone bridge) and Ty Hwnt i'r Bont (tearooms). Walk over the bridge (used by walkers and vehicles). Photo © Steve Gill.



- Follow the B5106 pavement to the road junction. Take a left turn to follow the pavement on the road signposted Betws-y-Coed and Gwydir Castle. As you continue ahead (and before the entrance for Gwydir Castle) look to the right across the road for a stone doorway in the hedge.



- Carefully cross the road and follow this footpath as it winds up through the woods past Gwydyr Uchaf buildings and Chapel. Turn right at the Chapel to follow the path to a kissing gate, small field and another kissing gate to join a main forest track in Gwydir Forest.



- Turn right to continue ahead until you reach the Sawbench carpark. On your left you will see display boards and the entrance to the bike trails - Gwydir Bach and Mawr. Pass these and take the footpath on the left signposted Lady Mary's Walk. This is a steep section with plenty of opportunities to rest and admire the views across the Conwy Valley.



- As you approach the top of the path, on your right you will see a display of Llanrwst's old Town Hall. You will then walk through a wooden fenced gap to join the forest track.



Key

- Main route
- Alternate route
- Forestry track
- Steep section
- Car park
- View point
- Caerdroia

- 6 The route continues on the footpath ahead. You can take a short detour on the track to the left, to take a left turn (white waymark arrow) onto a path to a view point, bench and the 'Oak Towers' sculptures. These display poetry and music written about Llanrwst.



- 7 Retrace your steps back to the start of the detour and take the footpath up and to your left. Turn right onto the forest track. Keep an eye out for a footpath on your left. Taking this path, you will pass another sculpture 'The Spur' on your left. Ysbardyn/Spur was inspired by Dafydd ap Siencyn (Wales' Robin Hood). His riding spur was found here and is now exhibited in St Grwst's church, Llanrwst.

- 8 Continue up the path, cross the forest track to follow the path once again. As you arrive at the next forest track turn left onto it and then take a right at the junction. Follow this track and at the next junction keep right and continue up until the track flattens out slightly. Turn right at a forest gate and you have arrived at Caerdroia. Welcome and enjoy exploring the site!



- 9 Returning to Llanrwst. With Caerdroia and the forest gate behind you, retrace your steps and turn left to follow the forest track, keeping left at the first and second junctions. Just after the second junction turn right down the path, cross the forestry track to continue down the path past 'The Spur'.



- 10 Take a right onto the forest track. Continue along the track past the path on the left (that you came up) and past a track on the left. Head down to a sharp left bend where you will pass the Tudor Bowling Green with picnic benches and another view point.



- 11 Continue along the main track, past a small track down to the right. Keep an eye out for the narrow footpath (that you walked up) in the far right of the main track. Follow this footpath out of the forest and then the pavement back to Llanrwst and Golygfa Gwydyr.