

New Precipice Walk from our back door

Approx. 7 miles / 3-3.5 hours / difficulty - medium



Steep climbs take you to an old industrial tramway 800ft above the Mawddach valley, with outstanding views to Barmouth over the estuary.

The walk starts with a few steep climbs, but the views from the Precipice are rewarding. On the way back to town, you will pass over the wooden toll bridge at Penmaenpool. Treat yourself to a pint on the balcony of the George III hotel.

- Leave town over the stone bridge and cross Bala Road at the lights. Take the first right (Pen y Cefn Road) uphill for 0.5 mile.
- At the top of the road, where you will find a signpost for the Golf Club and a black/blue bench, go left downhill.
- As the tarmac road finishes, you see the old Golf Club to your left.
- Go through the metal kissing gate ahead of you and head downhill on a narrow path between a stone wall and a wire fence.
- Leave the path and continue ahead on the road. Go over the old stone bridge and pass church yard of St Illtud's Church, on your right.
- You will come to the A470, cross this busy road.
- Turn left, passing through the bollards entering a quiet road ahead. At the end, bear right, go over a little stream and enter another quiet road.
- Near the carpark at the end of this road, keep an eye out for the Signpost for the New Precipice Walk to your right.
- Climb the steps, and follow the narrow path steep uphill, passing through a metal gate.
- Further on, at a yellow waymarker take the path going uphill till you arrive at another metal gate.
- Go through this gate and continue over the open grassy area ahead. Follow the obvious uphill path to your right (2nd), in between shrubs.
- The path veers to the left and heads towards another metal gate at Llyn Tan-y-Graig.
- Go through the gate and follow the narrow path. Soon the path bends to the right and widens, going uphill through pine trees.
- Continue uphill using the obvious route ahead, and soon you come to a cross road of paths with yellow way markers.
- Again continue uphill (ignore the other paths to your left and right) through the less dense pine forest till you come to a stile over an old wall.
- Climb the stile and turn left uphill towards the old stone buildings, cross a narrow wooden bridge. Staying close to an old stone wall and continue to a gate in a wall, having ignored paths to your right. You have now arrived on the New Precipice Walk with its majestic views of the Mawddach estuary and Barmouth in the near distance.

- Continue on the level and go through 3 gates near the cottage Foel Ispri Uchaf.
- At the small carpark, turn immediate left onto a grassy path downhill.
- Soon, after a small gate, at a junction of paths, follow the yellow marker downhill ahead (don't take the one to your left)
- Note: recent storm damage can obstruct the path.
- Continue to follow the yellow pointers till you reach the wide forest track.
- Cross the forest track and continue on the narrow path, a little to your right, to go further downhill.
- Soon you will arrive at a T-junction of paths with a stone wall and gate, ahead of you. Turn right, following the obvious path with soon a fence to your left. You will pass through a gap in an old stone wall.
- The path winds through the woods till you come to an old metal kissing gate.
- Go through the gate and keep to the path on your left.
- A bit further down, take the next path to your left, going downhill in between two houses till you arrive at a tarmac lane.
- Turn left here, passing a few houses till you arrive at the busy A496 to Barmouth.
- Cross the road and go straight ahead on the road that ultimately leads to the wooden toll bridge and the George III.
- Go over the bridge, turn left and continue on the Mawddach Trail back to Dolgellau.