

Croeso i Cymru! – Welcome to Wales!



In the mountains

SNOWDON MOUNTAIN RAILWAY

The Snowdon Mountain Railway climbs more than 3,000 feet up to the top of Snowdon, the highest mountain in England and Wales. The trip from Llanberis takes approximately one hour and on a clear day you can see Merseyside in England, the Isle of Anglesey, the Wicklow Mountains in Ireland and the Isle of Man.

The first train each day leaves Llanberis at 9am, weather permitting. The last train from the summit leaves at 5pm. Trains will not go all the way to the top if winds become too strong or if the track is covered in ice or snow. Open daily from 15th March until 1st November.

BIKING

Explore the mountains the exciting way! Hire a mountain bike for a day or a week, the choice is yours. Full day – £8, half day – £5. Ring 01574-554586 for details.

On the water

LLANGOLLEN HORSEDRAWN BOAT TRIPS

One horsepower is all you need for a relaxing 45-minute trip along the canal through superb Welsh scenery. Half-hourly departures in the height of the season.

Combined rail/boat trip: Travel up the canal by train and return by boat (or vice versa).

JAY'S CANOEING AND INTERNATIONAL CANOE COURSE

Paddle a Canadian canoe through some of the most exciting scenery in North Wales. Our expert guides will show you how to handle the canoe and accompany you on the trip.

Cost: Adult introduction £30, Youth (U16) introduction £20, for one day, including all equipment and instruction. Tel: 01222-54376.

Historical sites

CAERNARFON CASTLE

One of Europe's greatest medieval fortresses, it was built in the 13th century by Edward I of England as part of his strategy to subdue the Welsh. The castle is very well preserved. An audiovisual display tells the story of the building of Caernarfon and its rich history.

Open 9.30am–5pm daily, all year round. Special events: The King's Storyteller, 26 May, 28 July. Normal admission.

OFFA'S DYKE LONG-DISTANCE FOOTPATH

177-mile-long footpath that follows the boundary constructed in the 8th century by the Mercurian king Offa as a means of keeping the Welsh out of England.

Contact Offa's Dyke Centre on 01547-528753 for information about organised hiking parties or maps of the area.

LLECHWEDD SLATE MINES

Former miners take visitors underground into the slate quarry to tell them about the often horrible working conditions endured by miners in the Victorian era. Visitors ride on a very steep funicular railway down to the heart of the mine. There, underground, you can see a display showing the life of a slate miner and his family. Back up on the surface, you can visit a typical Victorian village.

Open daily: 9.00–18.00. Last mine tour begins 50 min before closing time.

KING ARTHUR'S LABYRINTH IN CORRIS NEAR MACHYNLLETH

Sail on an underground river into the Labyrinth, a series of caverns and caves under the Braichgoch mountain. In the caverns, Welsh tales of King Arthur are told with tableaux and stunning sound effects.

The temperature underground is cool. Please wear sensible footwear. Helmets will be provided. Open every day from March to October between 10am and 5pm (last tour). Please phone 01654-761584 for details of winter visits.

Use the information on page 2 to answer the following questions about Wales.
Your answers must be in English.

1 In April, which days of the week can you take the train up Snowdon?

2a How much is a canoe course, if you are 18 years old? £

(write numbers)

2b The leaders will instruct you about canoeing and will also _____

3 What number should you ring if you want help planning a walking holiday in the area?

4 When you are in the Labyrinth, what special arrangements help you experience the old legends of Arthur?

● _____

● _____

5 There are different ways of finding out about the everyday life of a miner and his family. Give *two* examples of what you can *do*.

6 When is the last group of visitors allowed into the slate mines?

At

(write numbers)

7 How often does the canal boat go in the middle of summer?

8 What foreign leaders, who wanted to control the Welsh, are mentioned?

_____ and _____

Points

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