




23 CONWY MOEL SIABOD (VIA DAEAR DDU)

Distance: 6¼ miles/10km Time: 4-5 hours Grade: Challenging   

SEE
FEATURE
ON PAGE 56

The Snowdon Horseshoe from the summit of Moel Siabod.



PHOTO: MATTHEW PIKE



CHOSEN BY...
MATTHEW PIKE

When you cross the brow of a hill and first set eyes on the Ddear Ddu ridge, you can see it'll provide something rather thrilling. The ridge is more than half a mile long and is ideal for those entering the world of scrambling but are a bit nervous about it. If you're worried about exposure and technical stuff, then just stay left and you'll always find a way up. If you fancy testing yourself a bit, there are plenty of options towards the right of the ridge. Once at the top, you're rewarded with one of Snowdonia's finest vistas. You gaze straight into the Snowdon

Horseshoe, and you get great views of the Glyderau, Carneddau and Moelwynion ranges. Apparently, you can see 14 of Wales' 15 highest summits on a clear day, without moving your head!

1 Start Leave car park and turn R along road, take first lane L, then, after first house on R, take lane R leading uphill. At sharp R bend, continue straight up path. Turn L at track and follow for more than a mile, keeping R of lake before climbing between spoil heaps and past mining ruins to second lake in flooded pit.

2 1¼ mile/2.9km Head round L side of lake

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Bryn Glô car park, off A5 east of Capel Curig, grid ref SH736570, postcode LL24 0DT

Is it for me? Prolonged ascent and easy scramble, boggy patches. Route-finding skills necessary
Stiles 8

PLANNING

Nearest town Betws-y-Coed

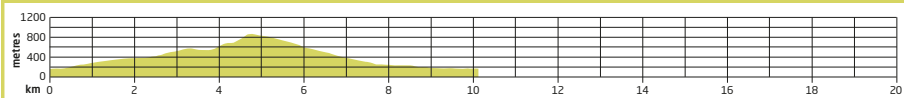
Refreshments Moel Siabod Cafe, Capel Curig (01690 720429); Tyn-y-Coed Hotel (01690 720331)

Public toilets Nearest in Capel Curig

Public transport Daily TrawsCymru T10 bus to Cyfyng Falls stop (near start of walk) from Bangor or Betws-y-Coed, plus the S1 Betws-y-Coed to Caernarfon

Maps OS Explorer OL17; Landranger 115; Harvey Superwalker Snowdonia N

GRADIENT PROFILE



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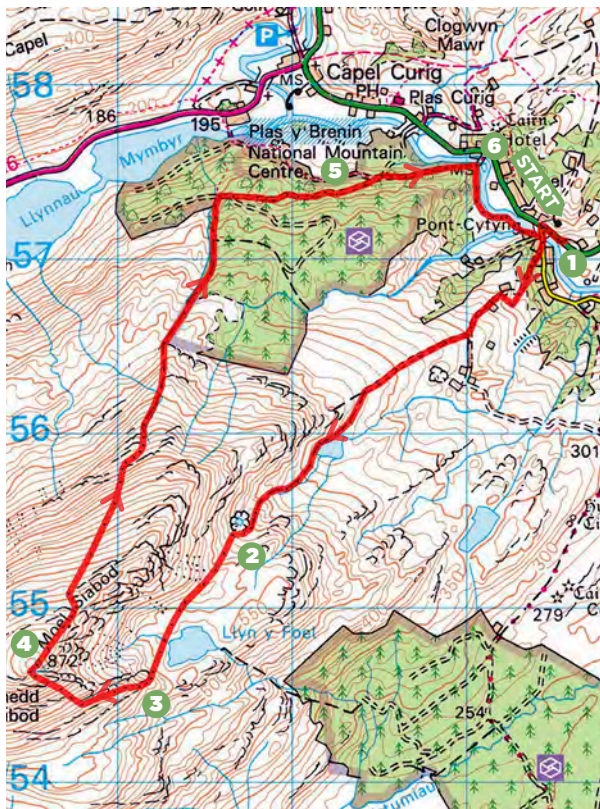
■ OS Explorer map OL17 ■ Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop

to opposite end, then continue in same direction as before, initially following stream. When stream stops, clear path continues, then drops to Llyn y Foel. Continue over boggy area to the R of lake (if ground conditions are too wet, an alternative route hugs hillside on higher ground and returns you near lake further on; or follow shoreline L). On far side, clamber up to Daear Ddu ridge, then turn R and start climbing.

3 2½ miles/3.9km
Keep L for easiest route up Daear Ddu. There's no obvious path, so stop and plan as you go, and you'll always find an easy scramble option. At top of ridge, veer slightly L to visible summit trig.

4 3 miles/4.7km
Head R of summit shelter towards ridge ahead. At start of ridge, head L to find clear path heading diagonally down side of hill. Path mostly clear, always heading towards R of lakes below. After crossing second stile on this track, continue to another stile (where forestry begins on R), and continue to another stile. Cross this, then soon take R fork. Turn R onto forest track, soon ignoring track branching R and continuing straight on.

5 5½ miles/8.7km
Continue when track joins another, then, on L bend,



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continue straight along track branching R. River appears on L and track becomes path. Keep river close, eventually heading R of footbridge down to water's edge.

6 5¾ miles/9.2km
Turn R and follow rough river path (some clambering required here). Stay close to river, cross step stile then continue through meadow. When past ruin, cut through

field, then cross footbridge. Turn L when path joins lane, turn L at second lane, then turn R at main road back to car park. **CW**

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:
walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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DATE WALKED

TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING

