

**1 Tŷ-Mawr**

Erbyn heddiw bwyty a gwesty gwledig yw Tŷ-Mawr, plasty sy'n dyddio o'r 16eg ganrif y gellir ei weld yr ochr arall i Afon Marlais o'r Maes Parcio ar ddechrau'r daith. Yn y 1840'au a'r 1850'au roedd yn gartref i Caleb Chivers, perchennog Gwaith Cemegau Brechfa. Mae'n debyg fod milwyr a anfonwyd i Gymru i drechu terfysgwyr Beca wedi cael llety yno yn 1843. Yn Nhŷ-Mawr hefyd y lleolwyd 'Academi Brechfa' (1857-1868).

**2 Ffiniau'r Plwyf**

Mae Pont Tŷ-Mawr, sy'n croesi'r Marlais, yn nodi'r ffin rhwng plwyfi eglwysig hynafol Brechfa i'r de a Llanfihangel Rhos-y-corn i'r gogledd. Mae plwyf Brechfa yn cyfateb i faenor mynachdaid o'r oesoedd canol oedd yn perthyn i Abaty Tallylchau. Sonnir amdano fel 'Bracma' yn nogfennau 'Llyfr Llandaf', o'r 11eg/12fed Ganrif.

**3 Yr Eglwys**

Wedi'i chysegru i Teilo Sant, mae'n dystiolaeth dda fod 'Bracma' unwaith wedi bod yn un o ystadau Teilo, mynachdy o'r oesoedd canol cynnar yn Llandeilo, rhwng 8fed a'r 11eg Ganrif. Mae nifer o chwedlau a thrawdodiadau wedi datblygu o amgylch y cymeriad hanesyddol Teilo. Gweler 'Teulu Teilo: Hanes Yr Eglwys ym Mrechfa' gan Bob Lenny a Patrick Thomas, sydd ar werth yn yr eglwys.

Mae'r eglwys yn adeilad modern a adeiladwyd yn 1909, ar safle eglwys gynharach y sonnir amdani mewn dogfen ganiatâd yn 1271. Gwelwyd olion o'r eglwys honno yn y fynwent a'r cae gerllaw yr iard a elwir yn Cae'r Palasau, sydd o bosibl yn cyfeirio at weddillion adeiladau'r faenor sydd o'r golwg dan y pridd.

**4 Y Capel**

Adeiladwyd Capel y Methodistiaid Calfinaidd ym Mrechfa yn 1790 ar ffurf syml a dirodres. Daeth Gweinidog Soar, Cil-y-cwm, i bregethu yma gyntaf a sefydlu'r achos tua 1770.

**5 Cloddiau Uchel**

Maent wedi'u gorchuddio â Blodau'r Gwynn a Llygaid Ebrill yn y Gwanwyn a Thafod yr Hydd Rhedyn a Chwerwys yr Eithin yn ddiweddarach yn y flwyddyn.

**6 Goedwig**

I'r gogledd, ar yr ochr arall i'r dyffryn gellir gweld (gyda chymorth Map Pathfinder OS) cyn blastyr'r Fforest a'r ffordd ffurfiol sy'n arwain ato. Dyma esiampl o dŷ (cain) a adeiladwyd ar byst dwbl gyda simdde yn y talcen, a adeiladwyd yn 1742 gan y teulu Rudd o Aberglasney. Mae'n ymgorffori nodweddion cynharach a hŷn - grisiau Jacobaidd a ffenestri o gyfnod y Tuduriaid. Mae'r Fforest Arms yn cymyrd ei enw o'r ystad bwysig hon.

**7 Yr Hafod**

Yn 1844 roedd yr Hafod yn cynnwys safle'r tŷ ac ychydig gaeau yn unig, esiampl dda o dyddyn o'r bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg heb ei ehangu. Gellir disgrifio'r tŷ orau fel 'tŷ hir'. O fewn y cae mae olion adeiladau llai wedi'u torri i mewn i'r llethrau ac wedi'u leinio â cherrig ar gyfer moch, gwyddau neu ier ac i gadw gwrei dlysiu. Mae'r enw Hafod yn awgrymu ei fod yn hanu o gyfnod cynharach pan ddefnyddiwyd hafod yn enw ar borfeydd yr haf. Gallai hwn felly fod yn dyddio'n ôl o'r adeg pan oedd Banc-y-Daren ei hun yn ucheldir agored ar gyfer pori defaid a gwartheg. Efallai mai cartref haf bugail neu fugail gwartheg oedd, a adeiladwyd er mwyn ei arbed rhag cerdded am ddwyawr neu dair yn ôl ac ymlaen o'r brif fferm.

**8 Heol gert** a ddefnyddir bellach yn unig ar gyfer cyraedd fferm Tŷ Llwyd sy'n rhoi syniad o sut yr arferai ffyrdd edrych cyn y dechreuwyd eu harwynebu â deunyddiau modern. Ar argraffiad cyntaf o fap Ordans 1831 dangosir yr heol hon fel ffordd drwodd.

**9** Mae'r daith gerdded ar hyd afon Cothi yn mynd trwy goetir naturiol o Dderw, Onnen a Chyll lle gellir gweld Dringwyr Bach, Cnocellau'r Coed a Gwiwerod Llwyd. Adeiladwyd yr heol hon yn wreiddiol er mwyn creu mynedfa i ddwy gware fechan lle yr arferwyd cloddio am gerrig siâl i'w defnyddio'n lleol, ond maent bellach wedi cau.

**10** Ardalo lastir gwlyb gyda nifer o blanhigion y gors megis Erwain, Llafn y Bladur, Tegeirian Brych a Llysiau'r Angel.

**11 Safle Picnic Ffynnon Byrgwm**

**12** Golygfeydd gwych ar draws y dyffryn o dirweddau amrywiol sy'n cynnwys tyddynnod a choetiroedd llydanddaill a chonwydd. Efallai y gwelwch Foda neu o bosibl Barcut Coch - mae'r adar godidog hyn yn araf ymestyn eu cynefin o ganolbarth Cymru tua'r de.

**13** Ffynidwydden Douglas a blannwyd dros drigain mlynedd yn ôl. Edrychwch yn ofalus am Wibredynen, Marchredynen Lydan a Llus yn tyfu o dan y coed mawr hyn.

**14** Efallai y cewch gip ar Wiwer Goch a llawer o adar megis Dryw Eurben, Delor y Cnau, Titw Tomos Las a Thitw Mawr.

**1 Tŷ-Mawr**

Today a restaurant and country hotel, the 16th century mansion house of Tŷ-Mawr is visible across the Afon Marlais from the Car Park at the start of the walk. In the 1840s and 1850s it was the home of Caleb Chivers who ran the Brechfa Chemical Works. In 1843, dragoons brought into West Wales to quell the Rebecca rioters are supposed to have been quartered there. Tŷ-Mawr also housed the 'Brechfa Academy' (1857-1868).

**2 Parish Boundaries**

Pont Tŷ-Mawr spanning the Marlais marks the boundary between the ancient ecclesiastical parishes of Brechfa to the south and Llanfihangel Rhos-y-corn to the north. Brechfa parish equates to a medieval monastic grange belonging to Talley Abbey. It is mentioned in 11th/12th Century documents in the so-called 'Book of Llandaff' as 'Bracma'.

**3 Church**

Dedicated to St Teilo, good evidence that 'Bracma' was once one of the estates of the early medieval monastery of Teilo at Llandeilo, between the 8th and 11th centuries. Many legends and traditions have developed around the historic Teilo. See 'Teulu Teilo: A History of the Church in Brechfa' by Bob Lenny and Patrick Thomas, for sale at the Church.

The church is a modern building of 1909, on the site of the earlier medieval church mentioned in a grant of 1271. Traces of the earlier medieval church have been encountered in the churchyard and the field adjacent to the yard is known as Cae'r Palasau (field of the palaces), probably referring to the buried remains of grange buildings.

**4 Chapel**

Brechfa's Calvinistic Methodist Chapel was built in 1790 to a simple, basic design. The minister from Soar, Cilycwm first came here to preach and establish the Cause about 1770.

**5 High hedgebanks** covered with Wood Anemone and Celandine in Spring, Hart's Tongue Fern and Wood Sage later in the year.

**6 Forest**

Northwards, on the opposite side of the valley, the former mansion house of Fforest and its tree-lined drive can be made out (with the aid of the OS Pathfinder Map), a fine double pile, gable chimneyed house, built in 1724 by the Rudds of Aberglasney. It incorporates older, earlier features - a Jacobean staircase and earlier Tudor windows. The Forest Arms takes its name from this important estate.

**7 Hafod**

In 1844 Hafod consisted only of the house site and a few fields, a good example of an unimproved 19th century smallholding. The house itself can best be described as a 'longhouse'. Within the enclosure are traces of other smaller buildings cut back into the banks, stone lined, for pigs or geese or fowl and to store rootcrops perhaps. The name, Hafod, suggests a much older origin. It means summer dwelling, and may go back to a period when Banc-y-Daren itself was unenclosed open upland - rough grazing for sheep and cattle. The hafod may have been the summer residence of a shepherd or cow-herd, constructed to avoid a journey of 2-3 hours to and from the home farm.

**8 Track**, now used only by Tŷ Llwyd farm, giving a sense of what many roads used to be like before modern surfacing. It was shown as a through-road on the first edition Ordnance Survey one-inch map of 1831.

**9** The walk alongside the River Cothi passes through natural woodland of Oak, Ash and Hazel, with Tree Creepers, Woodpeckers and Grey Squirrels. The track was originally constructed to give access to two small quarries, now disused, where shale was extracted for local use.

**10** Area of wet grassland with many marsh-loving plants such as Meadow Sweet, Bog Asphodel, Spotted Orchids and wild Angelica.

**11 Ffynnon Byrgwm Picnic Area**

**12** Excellent views across the valley, varied landscape of agricultural holdings, broadleaved and coniferous woodlands. You may see a Buzzard or possibly a Red Kite - these magnificent birds are extending their range southwards from mid-Wales.

**13** Douglas Firs, planted over 60 years ago. Look for Hard Fern, Broad Buckler Fern and Bilberry growing under these huge trees.

**14** Look out for the uncommon Red Squirrel and many birds including Goldcrests, Nuthatches, Blue Tits and Great Tits.



Wiwer Goch  
Red Squirrel  
**BRECHFA**



Hawffruint y Goron © Crown Copyright LA09007L/97/01





0870 6082 608

**Public Transport:** For up-to-date information, phone the All Wales Public Information Helpline:

**Triniaeth Gyhoeddus:** I gael y wybodaeth ddwydddar am y Gwasonethau Triniaeth Gyhoeddus Lledol Cymru ffônwch:

Now that you have enjoyed one of our walks you may like to know that there are three Country Parks in Carmarthenshire – Pembrey Country Park, Gelli Aur near Llandeilo and Llyn Llech Owain near Gorslas, all offering excellent opportunities for enjoying the countryside.

www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Telephone: (01554) 747500

Tŷ'r Nant, Trostre Business Park, Llanelli, SA14 9UT.

This is one of a series of country walks in Carmarthenshire. For further information of walks in this series contact:

**Want to know more?**

A chithau wedi cerdded un o'n llwybrau, etfallai y carech wybod bod yna dri pharc gwledig yn Sir Gaerfyrddin –

Pembrey, Gelli Aur ar bwyys Llandeilo, Llyn Llech Owain ar bwyys Gorslas. Mae pob un yn cynnig cyfleoedd rhagorol i bowb fwynhau cefn gwlad.

www.sirgarg.gov.uk

Ffôn: (01554) 747500

Tŷ'r Nant, Parc Busnes Trostre, Llanelli, SA14 9UT.

Uned Parciau a Cefn Gwlad, cysylltwch a'r:

Mae'r llwybr hwn yn un o gyfres llwybrau Sir Gaerfyrddin. I gael rhagor o wybodaeth am y llwybrau yn y gyfres

**Eisiau gwych rhagor?**

## Y Teithiau Cerdded

### TAITH COEDWIG BYRGWM (Comisiwn Coedwigaeth)

(6.5 km/4 milltir neu 3km/2 filltir)

Mae'n dechrau ger Saffle Picnic y Comisiwn Coedwigaeth ac mae wedi'i nodi i ddilyn cyfeiriad y doc. Mae'r Comisiwn yn hyrwyddo nifer o lwybrau beic mynydd yn yr ardal sy'n defnyddio rhannau o'r daith gerdded hon. Dilynwch ffordd y goedwig am filltir hyd nes y mae'r ffordd yn troi'n sydyn i'r dde. Ar gyfer y daith fer, trowch i'r dde i lawr y rhiw, sy'n dod â chi yn ôl i'r ffordd fawr.

### TEITHIAU BANC-Y-DAREN (6.5km/4 milltir neu 2.5km/1.5milltir)

Mae'r daith wedi'i nodi i'r ddau gyfeiriad gyda saethau melyn.

Mae'n bosibl y bydd y llwybr yn lleidiog mewn tywydd gwlyb ac mae rhannau ohono'n serth. O'r maes parcio ger Neuadd y Pentref, trowch i'r dde dros y bont, ac i'r chwith ger y Capel.

Ar gyfer y Daith Fer dilynwch yr un llwybr am milltir hyd at y fynedfa i Lwyn Griffith, yna trowch i'r chwith drwy'r giât ac ar hyd y ffordd dros y llethrau i ail ymuno â'r prif lwybr yng Nglyn Llydan.

### TAITH GERDDED PARC FICTORIA (800m/0.5 milltir)

Taith fer ar hyd Afon Marlais drwy goetir derw.

### COED PENFACH

Coetir preifat gyda Hawliau Mynedfa Cyhoeddus. Nid oes lawer o le parcio. Mae angen dringo llethr serth ond mae'n werth y drafferth i edrych ar yr olygfia o'r copa. Dylai'r llwybrau wella fel y bydd y ffyrdd yn cael eu datblygu.

## Y Rheolau Cefn Gwlad

Wrth ddefnyddio llwybrau cofiwch gadw at reolau cefn gwlad.

- Mwynhewch y wlad a pharchwch ei bywyd a'i gwaith.
- Ceuwch bob lliidiart.
- Cadwch eich cŵn dan reolaeth glôs.
- Cadwch at lwybrau cyhoeddus wrth groesi tir amaethyddol.
- Defnyddiwch lidiardau a chamfeydd i groesi ffensys, perthi a walydd.
- Gadewch lonydd i anifeiliaid, cnydau a pheiriannau.
- Ewch â'ch sbwriel adref.
- Helpwch gadw pob dŵr yn lân.
- Gwarchodwch fywyd gwylt, planhigion a choed.
- Byddwch yn ofalus iawn ar heolydd gwledig.
- Peidiwch â chreu sŵn yn ddiangen.



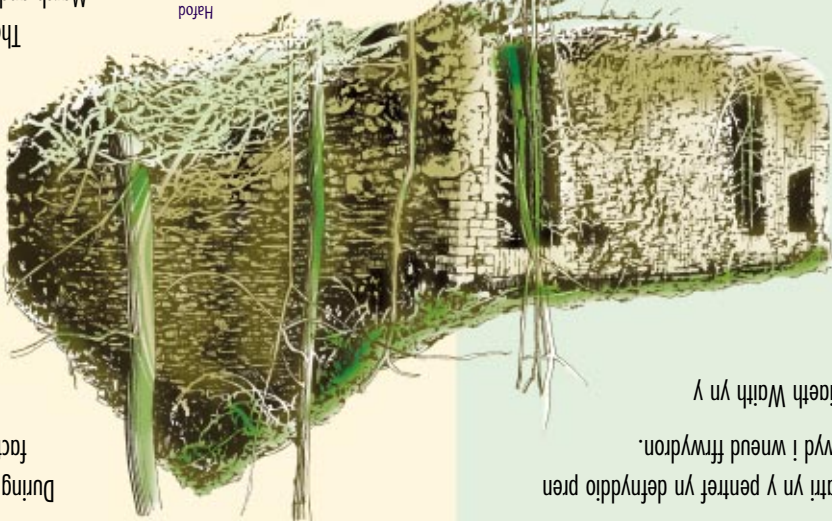
Rhedyn Bras  
Hard Fern

## Brechfa

The village is the birthplace of Thomas Evans, known as 'Thomas Glyn Cothi' Forest (see Abergorlech leaflet). The village is the birthplace of Thomas Evans, known as 'Thomas Glyn Cothi' Forest (see Abergorlech leaflet). subjugation of Wales by Edward I in 1283, Glyncothi became a Royal barrier to the armoured, mounted knight. Following the final from the 17th century onwards, these forests represented a formidable To the Norman kings and their Marcher lords attempting to subdue Wales used for fuel, building materials, hunting and as a source of honey and nuts. In the early middle ages the areas north of the Cothi were heavily wooded,

During the First World War a local timber to manufacture naphtha, used in the making of explosives. Two camps were set up by the Ministry of Labour in the 1930s, at Treglog (NE of Abergorlech) and just south of Brechfa village. These were used between March and October to house unemployed workers from the South Wales Valleys during the Depression, building Forestry roads. They also provided a home for Basque refugee children from the Spanish Civil War, and during WWII were used to house Poles. One of the forest roads is known as the Burma Road, built by hand in wartime.

Forestry Commission houses and offices in and close to the village have been sold. Though commercial timber production is still the main objective, the Commission now places a greater emphasis on wildlife conservation and recreation.



Harold

## The Walks

### BYRGWM FOREST WALK (Forestry Commission) (6.5km/4 miles or 3km/2 miles)

Starts at the Forestry Commission Picnic Site and is waymarked in a clockwise direction. The Commission promote a number of mountain bike routes in this area, using some sections of the walk route. Follow the forest road for a mile until the road bends sharply right. For the short walk, turn right downhill, bringing you back to the main road.

### BANC-Y-DAREN WALKS (6.5km/4 miles or 2.5km/1.5 miles)

The Walk is waymarked in both directions with yellow arrows. The path may be muddy in wet weather. Some steep climbs. From the car park by the Village Hall, turn right over the bridge, and left by the Chapel.

For the Short Walk follow the same route for a mile to the entrance to Llyn Griffith, then left through a gate and along a hillside track to rejoin the main path at Clyn Llydan.

### VICTORIA PARK WALK (800m/0.5 miles)

A short walk alongside the River Marlais, through oak woodland.

### COED PENFARCH

A privately-owned woodland with Public Access rights. Restricted parking. A steep climb is rewarded by a good viewpoint. Access should improve as woodland access tracks are developed.

## The Country Code

Whilst using paths please remember to follow the country code.

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.
- Fasten all gates.
- Keep dogs under close control.
- Keep to public paths across farmland.
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.
- Leave livestock, crops, and machinery alone.
- Take your litter home.
- Help to keep all water clean.
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees.
- Take special care on country roads.
- Make no unnecessary noise.



Cefnogydd gan Basiect y Barcud a Chyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru  
Supported by the Kite County Project & Countryside Council for Wales  
Photographs: © Carmarthenshire C.C. and Wales Tourist Board

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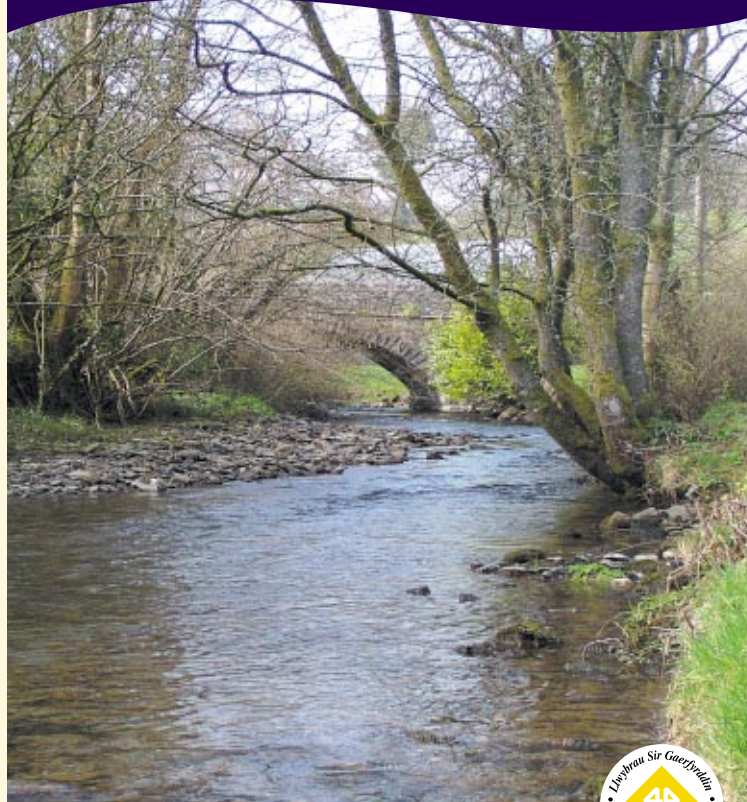
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## Brechfa/Byrgwm

## Brechfa/Byrgwm



## Teithiau Cerdded Sir Gaerfyrddin Carmarthenshire Country Walk

Cyngor Sir Gaerfyrddin  
Carmarthenshire County Council

## Amser Hamdden Leisure Time

