

## WALES - SNOWDONIA DOLGELLAU

8-days / 7-nights based in one-hotel for guided walking in one of Britain's most spectacular landscapes



Enjoy the splendid scenery of the Snowdonia National Park on our Guided Walking holiday based in the attractive market town of Dolgellau. Walk on the spectacular mountains of Cadair Idris, the Rhinogs and Aran Fawddwy, and discover the stunning Mawddach estuary. The charming coastal town of Barmouth and historic Harlech Castle are within easy reach. Snowdonia boasts some of the grandest mountain scenery south of Scotland; its summits are crying out to be explored. There is plenty of scope for challenging mountain walking. Less demanding walks delve into forests and moorland massifs, and pass brooding lakes and rushing waterfalls.

Walks generally start after breakfast, taking a picnic lunch and returning to the house between 5.00pm and 6.30pm, to relax before dinner. Seven night holidays offer five days of walking and a free day for relaxing or sightseeing. A typical walking day offers a choice of up to three guided walks of varying length and ascent. Each evening your experienced walk leaders will brief you on the proposed walking routes and plans for the next day.

**Cost from:** \$1750 per person twin share      Single supplement on request

**Departs:** 29<sup>th</sup> March; 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> April; 10<sup>th</sup> May; 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> June; 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> July; 31<sup>st</sup> August; 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> September; 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> October; 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2019

**Includes:** 7 nights in comfortable ensuite twin-share accommodation, full board (breakfast, picnic lunch & dinner), experienced walks leader, 5 guided walks, local transport to/from the walks, evening social activities.

**Not included:** Transport to/from the house, drinks, personal expenses, transport/activities on your free day.

**Accommodation:** Dolserau Hall is near the market town of Dolgellau with 24 en-suite bedrooms, in the main building or the converted coach house. The hall sits amidst attractive gardens with views across the valley with the summit of Cadair Idris in the background. **Premium rooms** may be available for a surcharge.



**Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations**

## Suggested itinerary:

**Day 1:** Arrival day - plan to arrive at the Country House around mid-afternoon.

**Days 2 - 4:** Choose from full-day walking options.

**Day 5:** Free day to explore southern Snowdonia independently or to relax at the Country House.

**Days 6 - 7:** Again, choose from full-day walking options.

**Day 8:** Departure day – the tour ends after breakfast

Possible walks that may be available on your holiday – final walking itinerary at the discretion of walk leaders:

**The Precipice Walk or Rhobell Fawr:** The Precipice Walk is a contouring path with panoramic views over the Coed y Brenin forest, the Mawddach estuary and Cadair Idris. The easier and medium walkers utilise this classic trail, with the medium walk passing the 60-foot Rhaeadr Du waterfall and the ruins of the Glasdir copper mine before joining the Precipice track. The harder walk ascends steeply to the summit of Rhobell Fawr, with sweeping views of north Wales before walking old drove roads to the hall.

**Cadair Idris:** South of Dolgellau, this distinctive peak dominates the skyline and is a favourite of many walkers. The easier walk admires it from afar, the medium and harder walks head to the summit. The easier walk offers a scenic loop on the New Precipice Walk, with wonderful views of the Mawddach estuary and Cadair Idris in the distance, returning along quiet tracks to Dolgellau. The medium and harder walks follow the rugged Minffordd path past the corrie lake Llyn Cau and a number of glacial erratics, large boulders left by retreating glaciers, to the summit. From the summit we descend via the Victorian-era Pony Path, or continue along the ridge to two more summits before the gradual descent to Dolgellau.

**The Mawddach estuary or into the wild Rhinogs:** The stunning Mawddach estuary features, with the easier group staying with it for salt marsh, tidal flats, and birdlife, while the other walkers enjoy spectacular high views from the hills above the estuary. Walking along the crest of the Rhinog mountain ridge, the medium walkers visit gold-mines and gain views of the coast, estuary and mountains. The harder walk heads for the summit of Diffwys, the second highest of the Rhinog peaks, then follows old quarry tracks to the Cym Mynach Valley. All of these routes finish at the hotel in Penmaenpool, by the lovely Penmaen bridge.

**Above Llyn Tegid and the Aran Ridge:** Head northeast towards Lake Bala (Llyn Tegid) for wonderful walks. The easier walk ascends gradually on field paths and through woodland from Bala onto the gentle hills east of the lake, with ever-better views. The medium walk heads for the summit of Arenig Fawr – in clear weather the superb views include every major peak in Snowdonia National Park. The harder walk tackles the iconic and dramatic Aran Ridge, taking in the twin summits of Aran Fawddwy and Benllyn.

**Harlech & the Rhinogs:** The easier route is a delightful walk, along the beach at Llandanwg and in the rolling hills above the coast, with time to visit Harlech Castle, a 13<sup>th</sup> Century fortification in a commanding position above Cardigan Bay. The medium walk is along the lower slopes of the Rhinogs, passing an ancient stone circle and with wonderful views of Harlech Castle as we approach Harlech. The harder route is a rugged walk in the wild Rhinogs, with an ascent over rough terrain to Rhinog Fawr with its fabulous sea views.

## Footpath information:



**Easier walks:** Up to 8 miles (13km), with up to 1250 feet (380m) of ascent in a day.



**Medium walks:** Up to 9 miles (14.5km), with up to 2900 feet (880m) of ascent in a day.



**Harder walks:** Up to 11 miles (18km), with up to 3200 feet (960m) of ascent in a day.

**Outdoor Travel** offer walking holidays, guided in small groups or self-guided with inn-to-inn luggage transfers and meals, in many parts of the UK, Ireland and across Europe including the **Coast-to-Coast** trail, the Cotswolds Way, the spectacular **Yorkshire Dales**, the rugged coast of **Cornwall**, Exmoor, the **West Highland Way** in Scotland or in Ireland on the **Ring of Kerry**. Also in France, Austria, Germany, Spain, & Greece.

## Contact OUTDOOR TRAVEL for more details and reservations

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