

4 Mynydd Llangeinor Wildlife, habitat description-upland, moorland. Should encounter birds such as Raven, (skylark, meadow pipit, display flights and singing in the spring/summer) red kite, buzzard, peregrine. Upland grassland habitat.

The ridge will eventually begin to drop down into a dip where you reach some double posted pylons. When you reach the double posted pylons aim for the pylon on the right, bear right from the pylon and connect with a bridleway which runs directly beneath the wires and along the field boundary. Follow this bridleway which heads down and through Fforch-wen valley.

5 Fforch Wen Valley. A secluded attractive valley made up of farmland, open hill sides, dry-stone walls, mature hedgerows and deciduous woodland.



6 Moel Garn. North and above the farmhouse and fields you will see a mound of rocks on the hill top, named Moel Garn, or more locally known as the 'rocks'. The mound consists of large boulders and rocks which were carried here from the Brecon Beacons and deposited during thawing of the glacial flows.



Description here

Continue through the bridle gates at the bottom of the valley and past the farmhouse. From here follow the waymark posts continuing along the tree line shortly reaching another bridle gate.

After going through the gate keep to the fence line on your left, (during wet weather it can be very muddy here) and look out for a waymark post.

CHOICE! At this point, if you prefer to keep off the beaten track you can join up with Garw walk 1.

To Continue on walk 3 proceed along the bridleway, gently descending, keeping the fence on your left until you reach a small gate in the corner of the field. Proceed forward over a tarmac track and behind a house then pass through another small gate at the far side of the house. Walk down this footpath over another tarmac road which passes by the cemetery entrance and turn right at the bottom of the path. Continue through the alley way and out onto Alexandra Road.

Turn left and walk downhill along the street until you reach the main road in Pontycymmer.

Cross the road, bear right heading towards the bus stop. At the bus stop turn left and after a short distance turn right into Prospect Place, where you will see the gated entrance to the Community route.

Ahead you will see Pontycymmer lake. Keep on the tarmac path/community route for approximately 2 kms, this path runs alongside the Afon Garw eventually reaching Parc Calon Lan head for the wooden bridge that crosses the river. You will now see Parc Calon Lan and have reached your starting point.



Llangeinor Ridge South

7 Afon Garw and Pontycymmer Lake

Formerly known as the 'black river', these waters were once used as a coal washery. Now the river is clean and supports important wildlife species, look out for birds like the Grey Heron, Dipper and Grey Wagtail. The river is also an important spawning ground for migratory brown trout/sewen. The environment agency constructed a series of weirs and gravel beds just above the lake in 2010 to encourage spawning. The lake usually hosts good numbers of Mallard and a few Moorhen. It can also be a good spot for attracting Dragonflies and Damselflies during the summer.



The Brown Trout

8 Plant scheme

Just behind the Co-op store and along the bank you will notice that these areas have been planted with young native trees. These areas were created in early 2011 and are part of a national project called Plant! The project is responsible for creating indigenous woodland by planting a tree for all new babies and adopted children across Wales. It is a Welsh assembly Government initiative that has been delivered on their behalf by Forestry Commission Wales and Garw Valley Community Council.

Advice and Information

The going can be steep and may be wet and slippery in places with some stiles to climb. Remember to wear suitable clothes and good shoes/boots and take food and drink with you and be prepared to get fit! Always follow the Countryside Code. When you are walking on minor roads keep to the right and make use of verges whenever you can.

It should be easy to follow the route using the map and instructions inside this leaflet. When walking the route try and look out for the Walk logo that will be situated on stiles, gates and posts along the route. Directional way marks with arrows will assist you as to which direction to walk in once you are on a public right of way. We also recommend you refer to the OS Explorer Map 166 Rhondda and Merthyr Tydfil.



Caim y Hyddod

For further information about this walk, to pass on your comments and suggestions or to report any practical problems on any of the paths please contact the Rights of Way Section, Communities Directorate, Morien House Bennett Street, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Bridgend, CF31 3SH (Telephone **01656 642553** or **01656 642593**) or by e-mail at rightsofway@bridgend.gov.uk

Countryside Code



RESPECT PROTECT ENJOY

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

Follow the Countryside Code wherever you go. You will get the best out of the countryside and help to maintain it now and for the future.



description here

Public Transport

For further information on bus times and service numbers telephone Bridgend County Borough Council's, Public Transport Section on **01656 642559** or the Traveline on **0871 200 22 33** www.traveline.info

Car Parking

There is parking provision at the following:

- On-street parking in Blaengarw
- Free Parking Provision at Parc Calon Lan

Accommodation

To make a reservation or to obtain information on accommodation contact one of the Tourist Information Centres. These are at McArthur Glen Designer Outlet off Junction 36 the M4 (telephone **01656 654906**) and at John Street, Porthcawl (telephone **01656 786639**).

For further general information about the Bridgend area you can contact us via e-mail at tourism@bridgend.gov.uk. Alternatively, you can visit our website - which is at www.bridgend.gov.uk

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Garw Valley Walk 3



Up to 11 km (7 miles) 4 to 4 1/2 Hours