

Welcome to Walkers

How To Find Penllergare Valley Woods

On Foot. From Penllergaer village cross the A483, either at the M4 roundabout and into the Council car-park, or via the Swansea Road path and through Parc Penllergaer, to the footpath at the bottom of Home Farm Way. From Penderry and Fforestfach enter via Cadle Mill.

By Bus. Service 141 (Swansea Quadrant, Morriston, Llangyfelach, Gorseinon) will stop at Penllergaer Council Offices or Pit-Stop Café by request. Service P1 (Kingsway, Tircoed, Penllergaer, Gorseinon) and Service X13 (Quadrant, Ammanford, Llandeilo) stops at Tesco Fforestfach or Parc Penllergaer.

By Car. Park at the Council Offices (by courtesy of Swansea Council if space permits) or at the A48 lay-by next to Pit-Stop Café, or at Cadle Mill. Parking at all these locations is entirely at owners' risk.

The Walks

Waymarks are colour-coded to indicate the main paths that are described below.

Some alternative routes, short-cuts and loops are marked with dotted lines.

Please comply with the Walker's Code, overleaf.

Terrace Gardens Walk (about 2 km/1¼ miles) makes a circuit of the upper valley, which John Dillwyn Llewelyn (JDL) re-designed in the nineteenth century in the picturesque style, together with a wealth of exotic planting. Today only traces of these famous gardens remain in the undergrowth. This description starts at the Council Offices.

Leaving the car park turn immediately right onto the **carriage drive** designed by JDL in 1833 to unite and show off the valley and its plantings. Further on the **bridge** crosses the entrance to the **quarry**.

The remains of **Upper Lodge** are on the right as you emerge into former wooded parkland. With the path to Parc Penllergaer to the right, turn sharp left down the slope (shared with the *Coed Nydfwch walk*) to the stoned track. Here you have a choice.

EITHER: take the woodland path opposite. Bear left and left again up the **River Llan**. Cross the river on **Collodion Bridge** and go under **Sapper Bridge**, built by the local TA Royal Engineers. Reaching the open ground take a short diversion to view the **waterfall**, then zig-zag up the slope above and re-enter woodland above the quarried terraces. Approaching the A48 entrance turn left across the Llan, back to the car-park.

OR: turn left onto the stoned track to the **waterfall**, built by JDL as a decorative dam for the **upper lake**. Passing the

silted-up **lake** see traces of **historic walls and steps** on the left, then bear left up the slope, back to the car-park.

Coed Nydfwch Walk (4km/2½ miles) is a circuit of the wooded parkland, including the river and re-modelled lake, and has extensive views out. Now part of Penllergare a large area once belonged to the adjoining estate of *Nydfwch*, after which this walk is named. The following description starts at Cadle Mill.

Go through the first kissing gate and up the path, with the **river** on your right. Passing the **stepping stones**, climb the remains of the **dam** of the first lake built by JDL in 1838-39, to see the **new lake**.

Skirt the left of the lake onto an old track, passing the ruined **boathouse** on the right. Turn sharp left at a veteran oak-tree, cross the stoned track and go up the slope (shared with the *Terrace Gardens Walk*). Turn left onto the **carriage drive**, pass the remnants of **Middle Lodge** on the right, before bearing right up an historic track with panoramic views of Penderry, Llangyfelach and the mountains beyond. At the top is the site of the former mansion of **Nydfwch**. Continue down the slope the other side, through new plantations and into **Spring Wood**. Across open ground, bear left and cross the **drive**, then turn right to follow the river, back to **Cadle Mill**.

The New Walk (4km/2½ miles) runs the whole length of the Woods and includes the carriage drive, river paths, bridges and the former cascade of the Lower Lake. This description starts at Cadle Mill.

Starting at the kissing gate at **Lower Lodge** (once the main entrance of the estate), follow the **drive**, with its fringing rhododendrons. Turn sharp right, cross the river on **Kiddies' Bridge** and continue up the river. As the path climbs onto the dam of the original lake, look out for the now disused cascades. The path passes through woodland, with glimpses across the new lake up to **Nydfwch**, before re-crossing the Llan at **Keepers' Bridge**. Turning right the path again follows the river, linking with the *Terrace Gardens and Coed Nydfwch Walks*, crossing the Llan once more at **Collodion Bridge**. Climbing the embankment for Sapper Bridge walk through remnants of historic woodlands, before bearing to the right, up **Nant Gelly Evan**. At the top, cross the haul route and follow the path through **Bluebell Wood**, ending at the A48 entrance. Either return the same way, or via the *Terrace Gardens Walk* to your left.

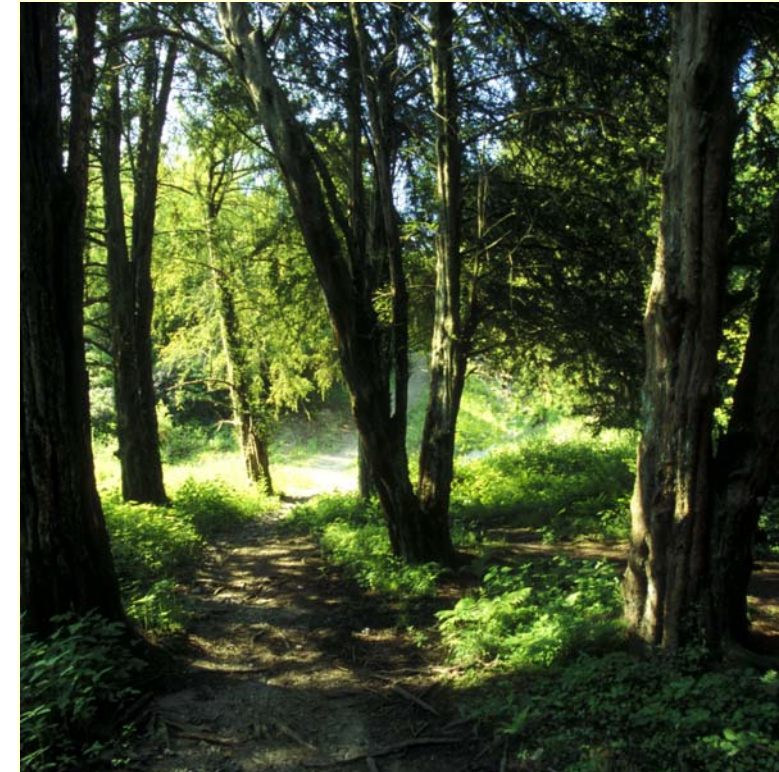
To Contact Us

Telephone: 01792 297431

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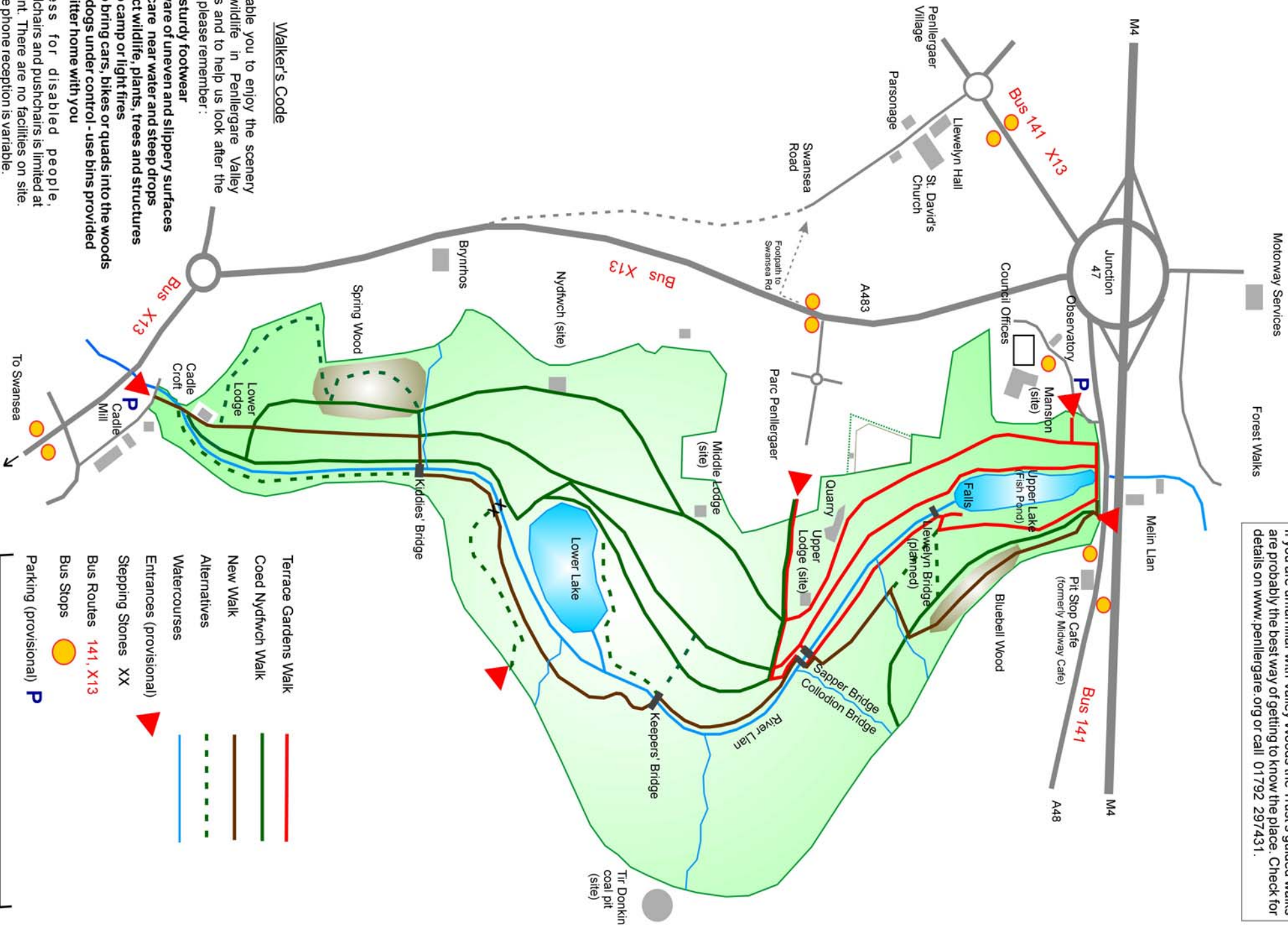
Penllergare Valley Woods



Walks



If you are unfamiliar with Valley Woods the Trust's guided walks are probably the best way of getting to know the place. Check for details on www.penllegare.org or call 01792 297431.



Walker's Code

To enable you to enjoy the scenery and wildlife in Penllegare Valley Woods and to help us look after the place, please remember:

- Wear sturdy footwear**
- Be aware of uneven and slippery surfaces**
- Take care near water and steep drops**
- Protect wildlife, plants, trees and structures**
- Not to camp or light fires**
- Not to bring cars, bikes or quads into the woods**
- Keep dogs under control - use bins provided**
- Take litter home with you**

Access for disabled people, wheelchairs and pushchairs is limited at present. There are no facilities on site. Mobile phone reception is variable.

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