

BRECON BEACONS

Outstanding Circular Walks

Pathfinder® Guides 



Britain's
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guides

Llyn y Fan Fach and Bannau Sir Gaer

Start Near Llanddeusant

Distance 6 miles (9.7km)

Height gain 2,130 feet (650m)

Approximate time 4 hours

Parking Parking off a track leading on from dead-end lane east from Llanddeusant

Route terrain A mixture of faint and clear paths over high mountains. Some steep going. Easy return along a broad track

Ordnance Survey maps Landranger 160 (Brecon Beacons), Explorer OL12 (Brecon Beacons National Park – Western area)

GPS waypoints

- SN 799 238
- SN 809 242
- SN 821 223
- SN 811 218
- SN 797 220
- SN 803 220

The Black Mountain (singular) is the western-most massif of the Brecon Beacons National Park and is often described as its last surviving wilderness, with sweeping, craggy escarpments that tower commandingly above glistening lakes, and a peaty upland plateau that bears few paths. This walk links a good waterworks track with a spectacular ridge-top path to create a short but extremely rewarding tour of the high escarpments at the western edge of the range, called Bannau Sir Gaer.

Bannau Sir Gaer and Llyn y Fan Fach



first of the next locks **A**, bear left, over the little bridge, to follow a clear footpath up through woodland to a stile, which is waymarked with a Beacons Way disk. Continue through the woodland to another stile which leads out onto open pasture, and keep straight ahead across the field to another stile, still following the Beacons Way. Bear right to follow the hedge to another stile and cross this and turn left to follow the field edge up to a drive.

Go straight across this and continue in the same direction, towards the top corner, where you need to cross another stile. Now continue in the same direction, all the time following Beacons Way signs, until you reach a lane ahead of a farmhouse. Turn right onto this and follow it up and around to the left, where you need to turn right onto a tree-lined track **B**.

Now follow this straight up, keeping to the right-hand edge of the field the whole time, with great views ahead to Tor y Foel. Continue like this until a



gate ahead leads into a narrow finger of open hillside, with a plantation to your right. Now continue straight ahead, passing the end of the plantation and

Waun Rhycl and the Talybont Reservoir from Tor y Foel



Llangors Lake

Start Llangors Lake

Distance 3½ miles (5.6km)

Height gain 130 feet (40m)

Approximate time 1½ hours

Parking Car park at Llangors Lake

Route terrain Mainly paths across level fields but a short section on a quiet road. Can get boggy and will flood at wetter times of year

Dog friendly Care needed on the road

Ordnance Survey maps Landranger 161 (The Black Mountains), Explorer OL13 (Brecon Beacons National Park – Eastern area)

GPS waypoints

 SO 128 272

 A SO 125 272

 B SO 122 263

 C SO 132 261

 D SO 126 256

 E SO 123 256

Llangors Lake, or Llyn Syfaddan, is the largest natural lake in South Wales and is noted for its rich flora and fauna, especially bird life. For much of this flat, easy, relaxing walk around its shores the lake is hidden but from time to time lovely views open up across the water to Mynydd Llangorse. After wet weather the low-lying and badly drained meadows bordering the lake are likely to be waterlogged.

 From the top of the car park walk straight across the field beside it, looking out for a waymarked footbridge over the Afon Llynfi. The whole of this walk is well waymarked and easy to

Looking across Llangors Lake

follow. Cross the bridge A, turn half-left and head across a meadow to a gate at the far end. Continue across a series of meadows, going through a succession of gates and curving gradually to the left all the while. Llangors Lake is to the left and there are fine views of





waymarked stile confirming the public footpath. The clear path undulates high above the Nedd Fechan, crossing two more stiles and numerous side streams to reach the bridge at Pont Rhyd-y-cnau **G**.

Here turn right at the footpath sign to Gwaun Bryn-bwch, along a track winding steadily uphill through woodland. Emerging from the trees, continue uphill and go through a metal gate onto

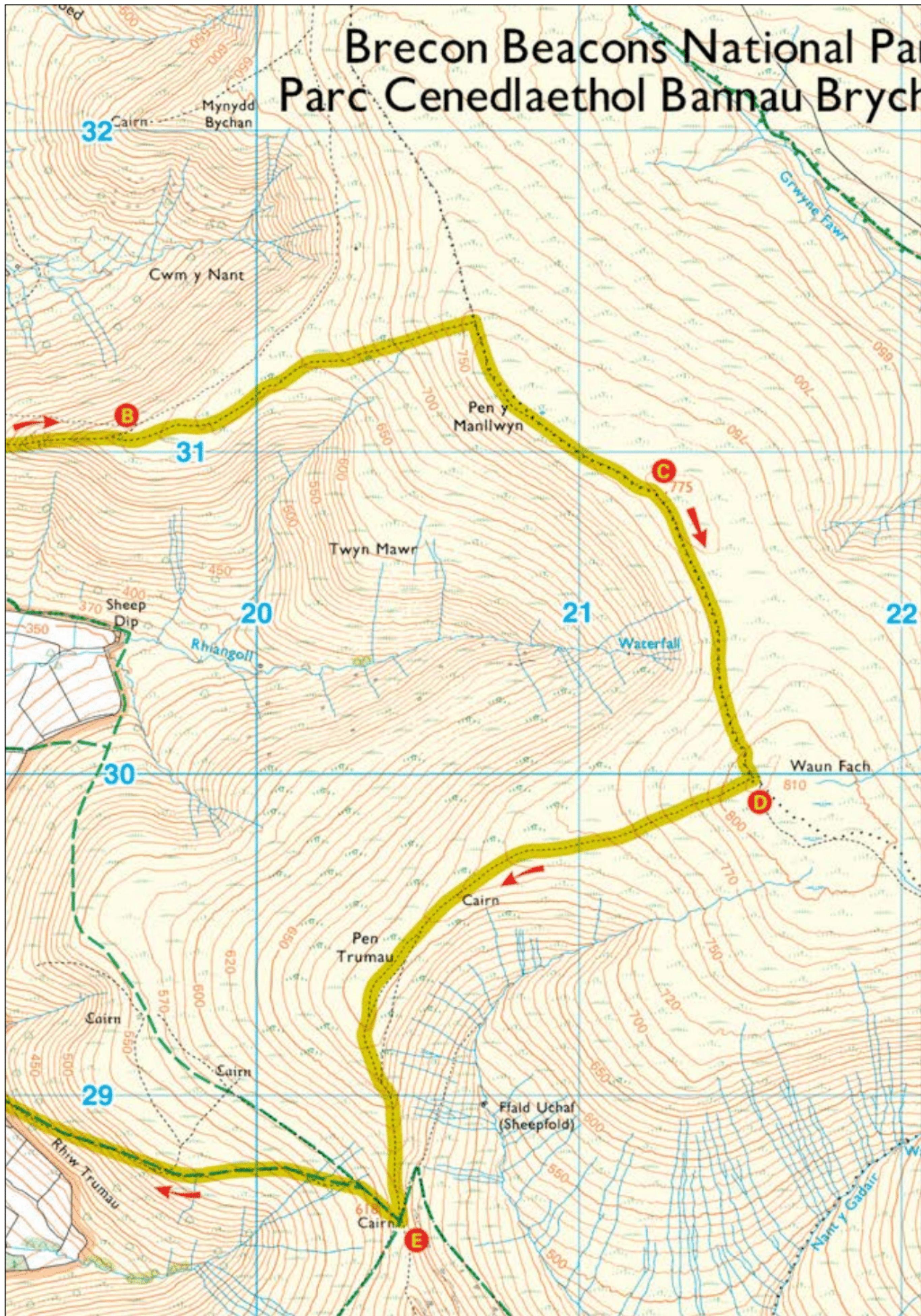
Sgwd Ddwli on the Afon Nedd Fechan

a lane. Turn right along the lane, which bends right to a T-junction. Turn left and after a few yards bear right **H**. At a blue-waymarked post turn left off the track, go through a wooden gate and downhill along an enclosed path, passing through a series of gates to reach the road opposite the car park at the start.

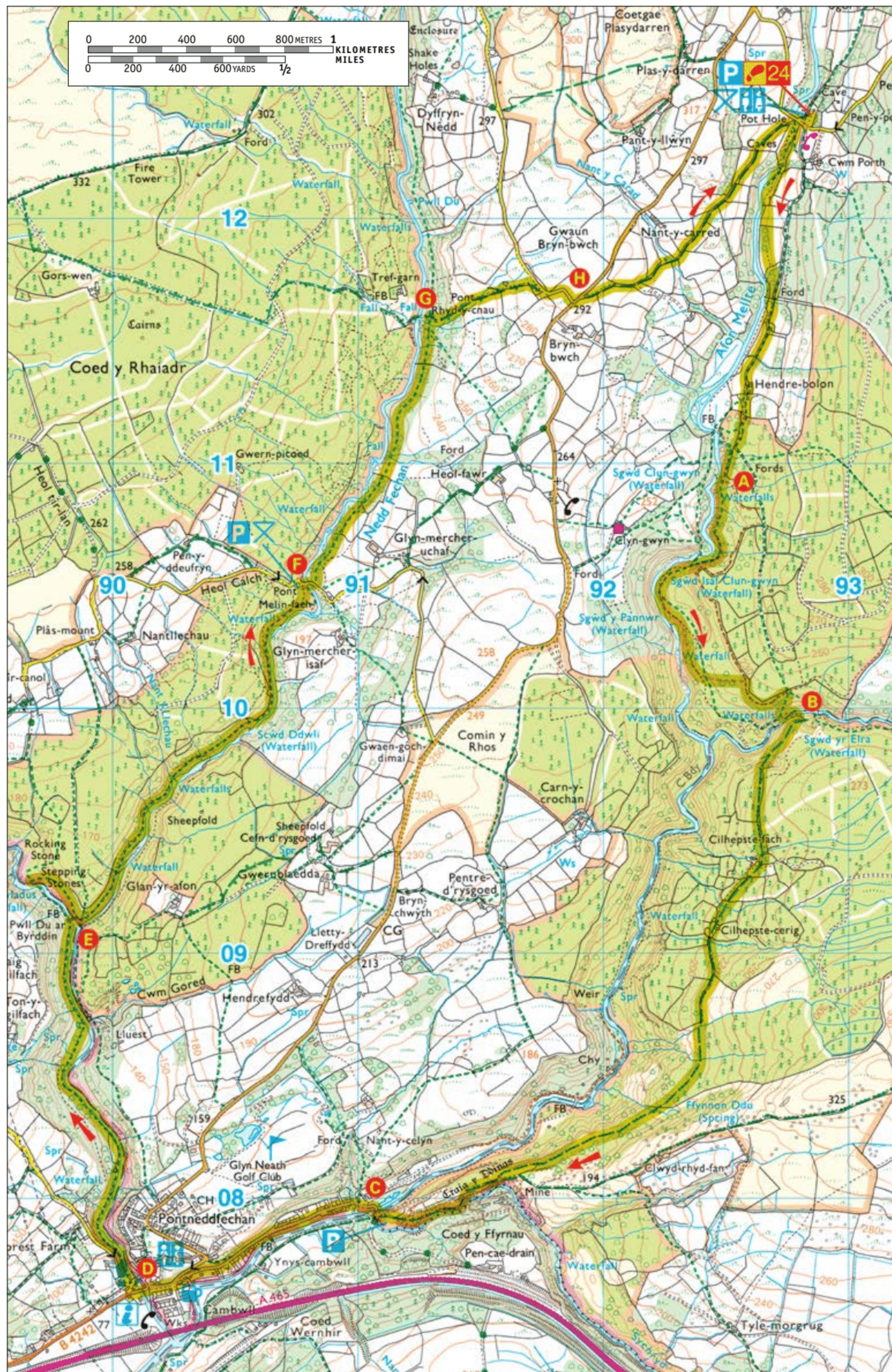
rough path now leads steeply down through sheep pasture, finally leaving the open moorland at a gate and dropping, between dry stone walls to a road **F**. Turn right and then left to drop steeply down to a bridge over the Afon Rhiangoll and then climb up the other side, where you'll see a rocky track

leading off to the right, on a sharp left-hand bend. Take this and follow it for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile (800m), past the stile that you crossed at the start and back up the steps to the car park.

0 200 400 600 800 METRES 1 KILOMETRES
0 200 400 600 YARDS $\frac{1}{2}$ MILES



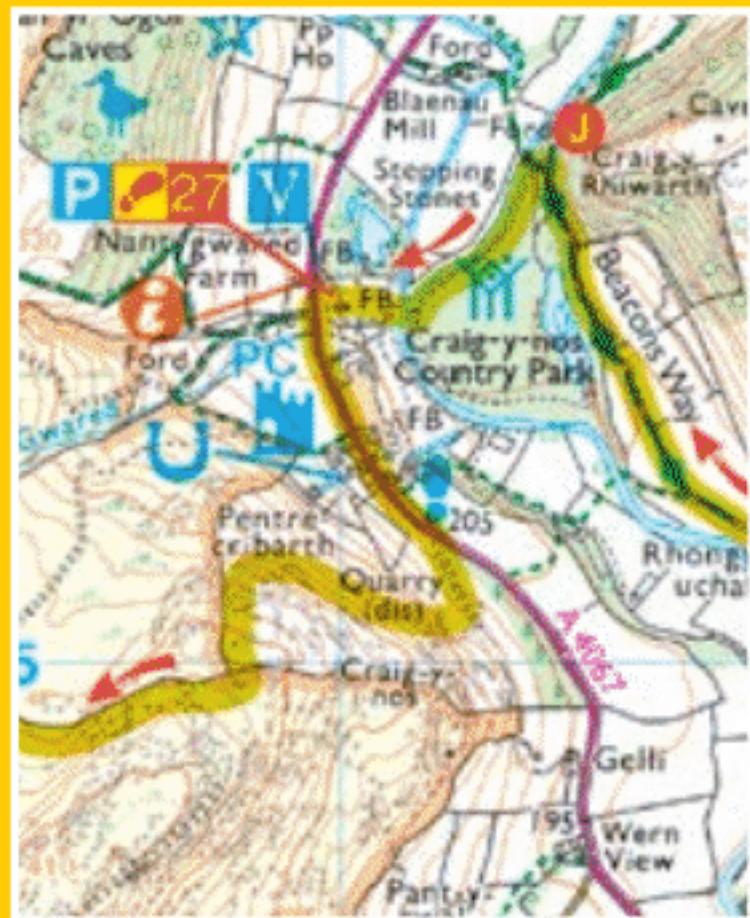
SCALE 1:25 000 or 2½ INCHES to 1 MILE 4CM to 1KM



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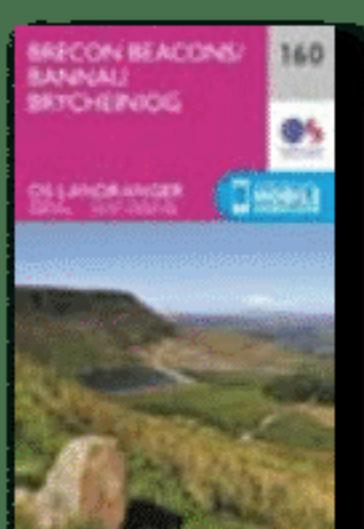
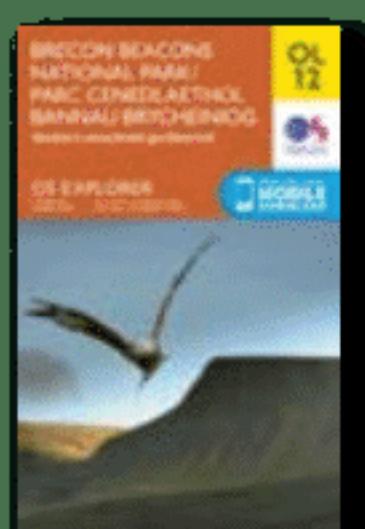
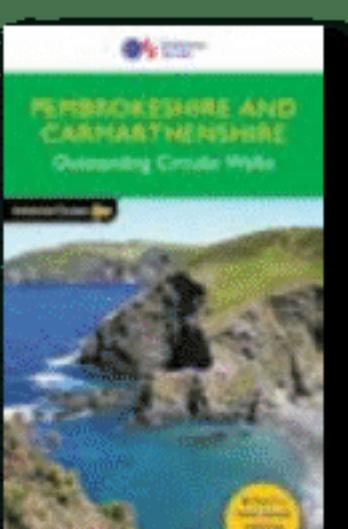
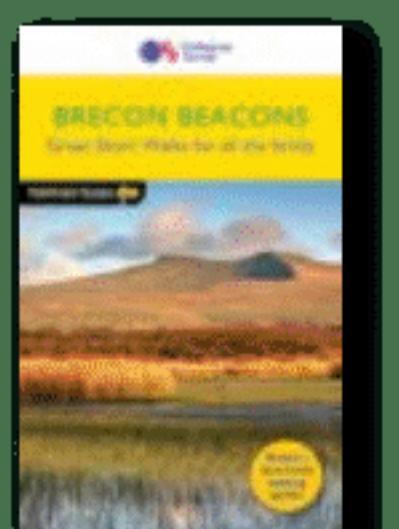
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