



Up West

To Tredustan & Llanfilo

We've been exploring for the best route to the pretty and historically interesting nearby village of Llanfilo for some time and a version of this walk will also be appearing as part of the Boots, Bikes and Bunkhouses collection soon too. The new version will come complete with maps. For now try this version with a little more commentary.

1. With the front door of Joe's Lodge behind you (Grid ref.155 339), turn right and immediately right again at Holly Cottage.

Continue to the end of the lane, past the Library, to the end of the lane and turn right. Cross the road (A4078 to Bronllys and Hay) and follow the brown sign to Activity Centre and Lake (off the road to Llangorse Lake). Cross this road and follow the way-mark sign (Talgarth Walkabouts – Howell Harris) down a lane, to the Recreation Ground.

2. At the recreation ground you will pass the pavilion on your right.

Enter the playing fields and make for the far right corner. Pass through a gate into a field, keeping the fence on your right, to leave it through a gate, again in the far right corner. Cross the wooden footbridge ahead and keeping the Afon Llynfi river on your left continue ahead along the field edge. Cross a stile and enter another field, still keeping to the bank of the river. Leave the field over a stile to enter a lane by a stone bridge.

3. Turn left into the lane and follow it for about a mile to a road junction just before the old demolished railway-bridge (Grid ref.148334).

You are now at Pontnichol- where a small mill and bridge stood on the Llynfi for many centuries. Little remains of the mill, and the bridge has been replaced by a modern structure. You will probably have noticed on your OS map that there appears to be a public footpath through the property to the left side (east) of the lane which parallels it and looks interesting, There is indeed, a footpath but it is overgrown and not easy to access at this end of the property so you should use the lane.

You, however, will take the right turn, sign-posted Tredustan 1 mile, and follow the lane as far as the hamlet of Tredustan. When you reach Tredustan you will turn right up a track (Grid ref.139325), passing a house on your left. Follow this track for about 1 mile.

4. You will pass a house and old ruined chapel and gravestones en route.

The track may be muddy in places. After about 1 mile the track becomes a tarmac lane and continues on to the small village of Llanfilo.

5. Enter Llanfilo passing Penmaes Farm and barns

The Llanfilo church, dedicated to St Beilo stands directly in front of you.

The key may be obtained by asking at a house behind the church. Directions are on the church porch.

6. Above you to the left is an iron age hill fort, which you will see marked on the OS map. Unfortunately it is difficult to access and you should take local advice if you want to have a look.

There are local legends associated with Llanfilo. Some centre on the story of St. Eluned, one of the daughters of Brychan, a local ruler in the pre-Norman period. For an account of these legends and information on the route of a much longer walk which follows an old pilgrimage way see a website or the link on our walks page:

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/~liskmj/wellsweb/wellstxt/wellsprings/eluned.htm>

A well dedicated to Eluned was a site of pilgrimage in Llanfilo for many centuries and there are springs at various points around the church though the main well was closed many years ago.

After you finish visiting Llanfilo return to the intersection of the lane you came up past Pen Maes Barns. Now you have a choice. You can return the way you came which will of course have entirely different views as you return. You can make this a much longer walk by heading up past the church and on along the ridge towards Brecon or you can take the lane, which slopes down through the village sharply. We recommend this route for a shorter and more varied walk.

Take this road downhill through the village. At the junction just past Penisaphentre Farm, take the right turn, signposted to Talgarth. Follow the lane for about 1.5 miles, passing Tregunter Farm on the left. Carry on to the Afon Llynfi river and go over the stone bridge. From here, turn left over the stile into the field, and retrace your steps back into Talgarth, initially keeping the Afon Llynfi on your right.

Points of Interest en Route to be sure to photograph (you may find others)

1. Tredustan and the old chapel and graveyard near there
2. Llanfilo and views and church
3. Tregunter farm complex