



Local River Walk with Refreshment & Waterfalls

Matt, Mak and I took this walk in August. Trying out my new Canadian river walking shoes, I went straight up the riverbed for part of the walk while Mak and Matt stuck to the footpath. Could be a nice route for a picnic.

Leave **Joe's Lodge** by the front entrance, turning **right** and continuing to **The Square**. An introductory brochure about the little nature reserve you are heading for is available at the **Talgarth Tourist Information Centre**, which is located in the ancient "tower house" in The Square. The brochure will set you back 25p. The TIC is manned by volunteers and is open limited hours, so grab a brochure whenever you see them open and enjoy the exhibit of photography and local crafts that they display, if you get a chance.

Walk over the **bridge** to the **left of the tower house**. Now you are crossing the Ennig and can see an old mill on your left (mill wheel is gone). Turn **left** at the corner by the **Bridge Inn**. Continue straight on to **Hospital Road** (left of the **Strand Café**). You can stop at the Strand for a coffee or a meal, the Griffin Tea Room for tea and cakes at the Bell Inn or Bridge pubs for other refreshment.

Continue up the **Hospital Road** for approximately 30 metres, where you will see a **left** taking you to a little **footbridge across the river**. At the footbridge notice a **path with railings heading up to your right** - take this turn. The footpath parallels the river Ennig and then brings you across to the river Ellwye, which was formerly important in the operation of several mills in the area. You are now heading to **Pwyll Yr Wrach** Nature Reserve, which is about a 10-minute walk. You will see a sign indicating the **reserve entrance** where there is a **small parking area** on the right hand side of the road. At the Reserve there is a **sign-posted walk** to a viewing platform overlooking waterfalls, which will be at their best after rain.

The reserve is adapted for access by the disabled and the main trail is wheelchair accessible. If you want a shorter walk you can drive to the reserve entrance, but then you miss some unexpected and neat parts of Talgarth along the river as you come up.

You will notice gliders above you and soaring around the hill to the south of the reserve while you are on this walk. They are flying out of the **Black Mountains Gliding Club**, adjacent to the reserve. The club offers trial gliding sessions with a licensed instructor in dual control gliders to those interested.

The Black Mountains Business Park, which you will notice on your left as you near the nature reserve, is a former hospital site that has some spectacular views out over Talgarth, if you walk into the grounds.

A much longer route, which includes a visit to Pwll Yr Wrach, is included in the booklet **Talgarth Walkabouts** available at the Tourist Information Centre.

You can return the way you came, and stop for refreshment on arrival back in the centre of Talgarth, but with a town map and a will to explore, several other routes back are possible to devise.