

This walk provides possibly one of the best views on the Llŷn Peninsula and features the remains of a very well-preserved and important hill fort, Tre'r Ceiri. Completing the walk is a scenic valley and once-abandoned quarrying village, now a National Welsh Language and Heritage Centre and café with sea views. The coastline section of the walk is within the Llŷn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

## Walk details

**Approx. distance:** 13km/8 miles.

**Approx. time:** 4hrs.

**OS Map:** 1:25 000 scale Explorer Map 253 & 254.

**Star/finish:** car park on road to Nant Gwrtheyrn above the village of Llithfaen, SH441 353.

## Access and amenities

**Parking:** adequate parking above Llithfaen, LL53 6PA.

**Bus:** Llŷn Coastal Bus: 01758 721 777.

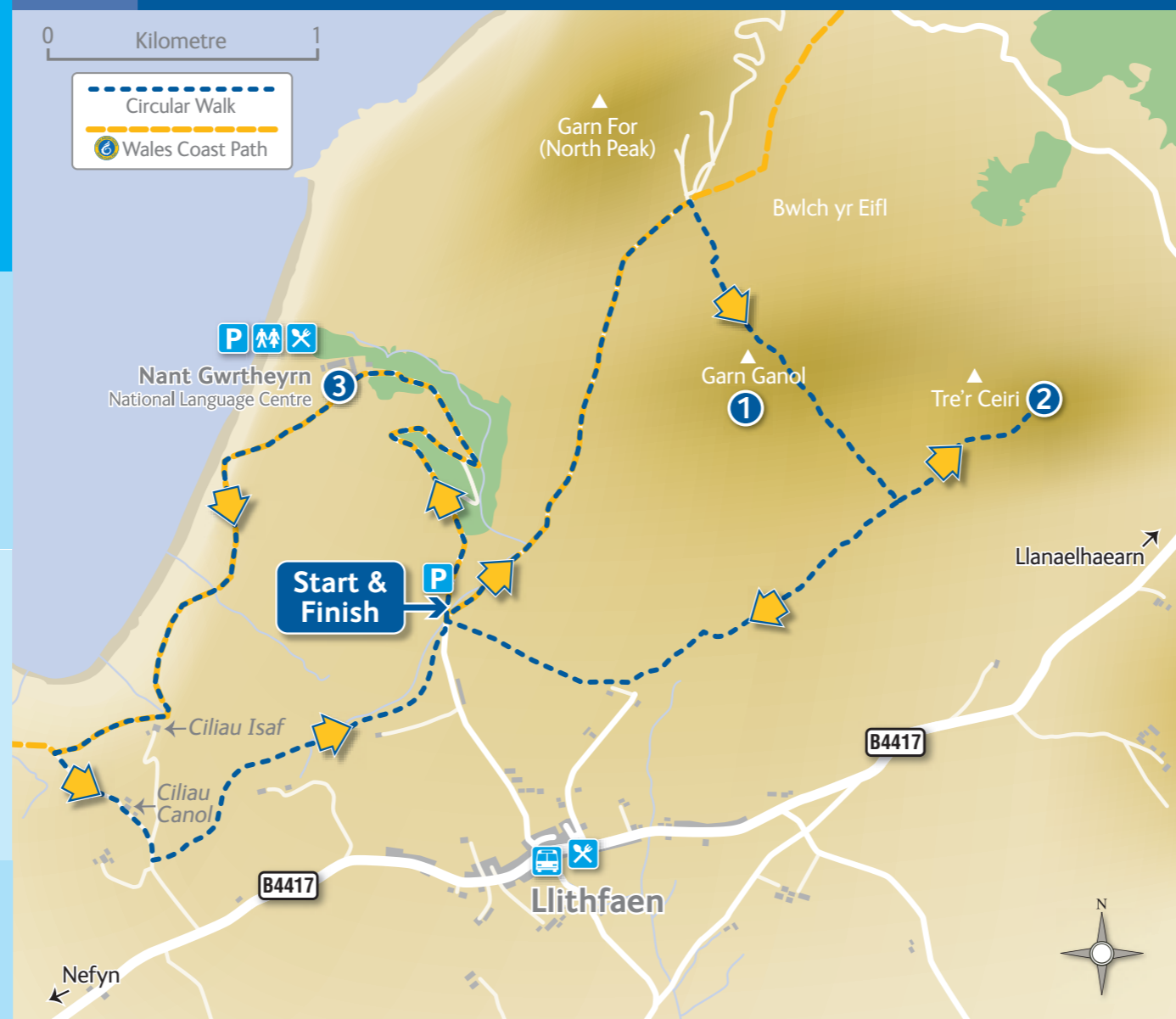
**Toilets:** At Nant Gwrtheyrn.

**Refreshment:** café at Nant Gwrtheyrn language centre, open throughout the year from 10am 'til 4pm. There is a community-run pub at Llithfaen - Tafarn y Fic.

## Please note

- There are a number of **steep** sections to this walk.
- This map is a rough guide only. We recommend you use the above **OS map**.
- Remember to adhere to the Countryside Code: **Respect, Protect, Enjoy**  
[naturalresources.wales/media/1369/the-countryside-code.pdf](http://naturalresources.wales/media/1369/the-countryside-code.pdf)

# 5 Llithfaen Circular walk



## Walk directions

There are in effect two loops to the Llithfaen and Tre'r Ceiri circular walk. From the car park, follow the path up between Garn For and Garn Ganol, turning right to ascend up over the summit and down to join the path with a left turn and on to the summit of Tre'r Ceiri. Retrace your steps down from Tre'r Ceiri and follow the path south westwards back to the car park. Then follow the lane down to Nant Gwrtheyrn, down towards the beach and on to the coastal path. You'll gradually climb high above the beach, eventually turning inland up a lane past Ciliau Canol, then turning off the lane and back up towards the car park via the marked route through fields.

## Points of interest

**Yr Eifl ①** (often called "The Rivals" in English) consists of three peaks towering above the sea, providing views not only of the Cardigan Bay coast, the Snowdonia Mountains and the island of Anglesey, but on clear days even the Wicklow Mountains in Ireland. Sea mists from Caernarfon Bay can mean that the weather on Yr Eifl can change rapidly. The three peaks are Tre'r Ceiri (485m), Garn Ganol (564m) and Garn For (444m). Garn Ganol is the highest point on the Llŷn Peninsula.

**Tre'r Ceiri ②**, sometimes translated as 'town of the giants', is undoubtedly one of the best examples of an Iron Age hill fort in northern Europe. The stone encircling walls stand in places up to 3.5 metres in height and there are the remains of approximately 150 circular houses visible within the fort. There are two other iron age hillforts on the Llŷn that are accessible from the circular walks that are, in their own way, as important as Tre'r Ceiri: Garn Boduan near Nefyn (walk no. 6) and Garn Fadryn (walk no. 12).



**Nant Gwrtheyrn ③**, the former quarry village of Porth-y-Nant, is today home to the National Language Centre, a facility for Welsh learners who stay in the village. The cottages



were built in 1878 and were considered to be the best workers' houses in the area. The quarry produced stone setts to pave streets in London and cities further afield, and for curling stones for use in the

Olympics. The heritage centre has interesting information on the village and the area's history, including the tragic love story of Rhys and Meinir ([www.nantgwrtheyrn.org](http://www.nantgwrtheyrn.org)). The Welsh poet and Prifardd Myrddin ap Dafydd described the quarry workers coming to work, bent double in the teeth of the wind:

*They are tied to earning their living from this rock, as if they chiselled it with their fingernails, summer or winter, it's the same yoke of stone on their shoulders. But they, on the path in the sky, bending, stumbling to the top of the mountain, they are the cornerstones of our walls - and we, so far from the wind that cuts like a knife, are shaped from what they once were.*

