

Taith Moel y Llan | Moel y Llan Trail

SUMMARY

An "out & back" walk to the summit of Moel y Llan (241 m, 800 ft) over farmland, moorland and short sections on minor roads, from the summit there is an excellent panoramic view of Bala, the Lake and surrounding mountains.

Other Trails are available which explore the history of Bala in more detail Bala & Penllyn Tourism Association have checked the information given in this leaflet but changes may occur. You must be responsible for your own safety, please heed warnings, follow the Country Code & see Safety and Conduct information at www.GoBala.org (Information/Safety)

Tourist Information:	www.VisitBala.org or www.visitsnowdonia.info
Trails Information:	www.GoBala.org

Plan your Trip

Distance	5 km (3¼ miles)
Time	1½ hrs
Map	OS OL18
Terrain	Paths, quiet-roads, farmland, moorland
Start / Finish	Cywain Centre, near Bala (SH928365)
Alternative start/finish	Green Car park, Bala (SH928361)
Parking	At start
Toilets	Green Car park, Bala (SH928361)
Refreshments	Bala
Public Transport	www.GoBala.org (Information/Public Transport)
Important	Over farmland with cattle - dogs not recommended. No refreshments or toilets

Thanks to **Rhiwlas Estate** for permission to access the summit of Moel y Llan, which is not a right of way, please use the route described and follow the country code.

The Trail

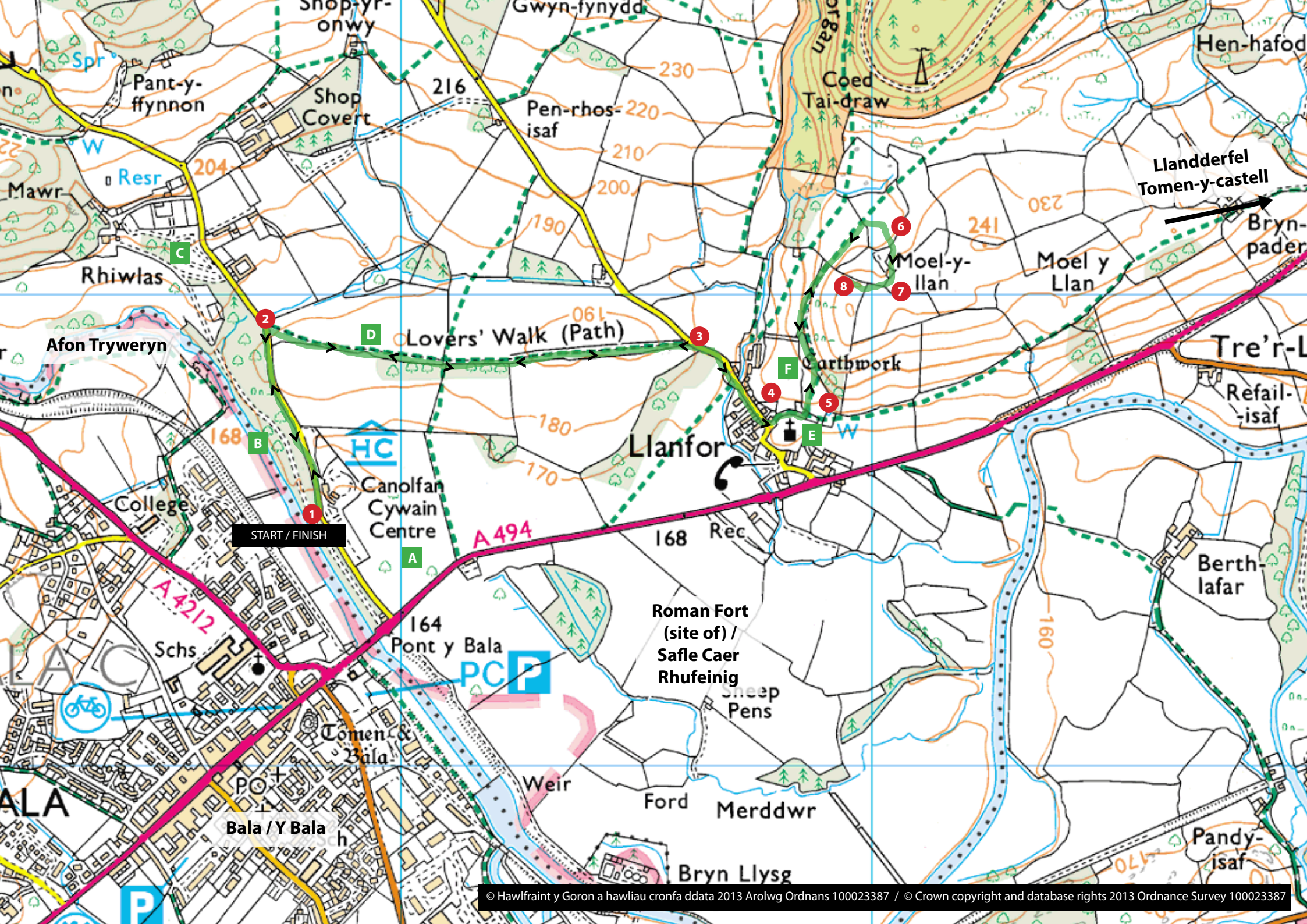
- 1** **START** Leave the Cywain Centre **A**, turn right onto the minor road (north). On the left through trees is the River Tryweryn **B** and straight on is Rhiwlas Hall & Estate buildings **C**.
- 2** After 400m (from the start) turn right at signpost, through gate, then bear right, uphill to and along fence on right. This is "Lover's Walk" **D** – a former tree lined avenue. Continue on "Lover's Walk" through gate to minor road. On left are views of Moel Emoel (bare hill) and on the right are views of the Cywain Centre and Aran ridge.
- 3** Turn right onto minor road to Llanfor **E** passing YR HEN YSGOL (The Old School) and attached YSGOLDY (School House) the next building, a derelict barn, was the Llanfor Work House.
- 4** Just before the Church **E**, pass the house "Moel Llan" and immediately turn left (way-marked - around the corner!), and follow lane with churchyard on right.
- 5** At end of lane, go left through the gate into field, then uphill to follow the track along fence/wood on right side of field. There is an Earthwork to left in the next field among trees **F**.
- 6** Continue on the track as it swings right through field passing a boulder and then a ruin (**this is not a right of way and is permitted by the Rhiwlas Estate**).
- 7** When the track "peters-out", pass an old hollow tree, go 20 m further to the remains an old wall, then go right uphill to summit of Moel y Llan.

- 8** The summit (SH942371) comprises a plateau and the highest point is the remains of an old wall. From the summit (241 m, 800 ft) there is an excellent panoramic view, in the foreground there are views of Bala Town, Lake Bala, overlooking Bala to the right is the golf course and Moel y Garnedd (see **Moel y Garnedd Trail**). Further away is the Aran ridge (rising from the lake), then clockwise: Cadair Idris (distance), Dduallt, Arenig Fawr (twin peaks, west), Mynydd Nodol, Arenig Fach, Moel Emoel (north), the Berwyn (east to south) and more. For a better view of the Dee valley (south-east to south), walk a short distance towards the lake and look to your left.
- 9** Return using the same route to the Cywain Centre **FINISH**

To reach the Cywain Centre from "The Green" Car Park (adds ½ km, 10 mins.)

Leave "The Green" car park and turn right onto A494 (Corwen), go over "Pont-y-Bala" (River Tryweryn) using the path on left-side of A494, passing the old arched gateway to Rhiwlas Hall. Immediately turn left onto minor road to reach the Cywain Centre after 300m.

When this leaflet was produced the **Cywain Centre** was closed, however, it is expected to re-open and provide toilets and a café.



A Ysgubor Isaf: A brush making factory using twigs from the local hedgerows. More recently it became part of the Cywain Centre a Heritage Centre (now closed).

The land nearby is used for major events including the National & Youth Eisteddfod, the County Show and Sheepdog Sales/Trials including the World Sheepdog Championships.

B The River Tryweryn is supplied with water from Llyn Celyn and has hosted the world championships for slalom and white-water racing. The National White-water Centre (Canolfan Tryweryn) is a short distance along the A4212. At the centre you can go white-water rafting or walk along the **Tryweryn Trail** up to the dam.

The River Tryweryn is one of the few places that freshwater pearl mussels are found which is an indication of how clean the water is. The lamprey, a rare eel-like fish, is also found in the River Tryweryn, as well as otters, Atlantic salmon, brown trout and grayling. For more wildlife information see the **Wildlife Guide** on GoBala.

C Rhiwlas Estate: the major estate in the area - owned by the Price family.

D Lover's Walk: this tree-lined avenue was used by the bride and groom as they travelled from the Rhiwlas Hall to Llanfor Church.

E Llanfor: The village of Llanfor is thought to date back to the medieval period - it held local markets and fairs up until the 14th century, when such events were relocated to Bala. in 2012.



Llanfor Church: Built in 1875, the church of St Mor and St Deiniol, is now closed. In the graveyard is the mausoleum of Richard John Lloyd Price of the Rhiwlas Estate, a famous sportsman, author and founder of a whiskey distillery at Frongoch. The mausoleum has an inscription referring to Bendigo - a racehorse which won the Kempton Park Jubilee which helped to revive the fortunes of the Rhiwlas Estate.

Llanfor Roman Fort: There was a massive early Roman fort of mostly wooden structures near to Llanfor that could accommodate 1,760 soldiers. The fort was situated in area between the rivers Dee and Tryweryn and to the south of the A494. It was identified by aerial survey.

F Earthwork (SH938368): Pen uchar'r Llan earthwork is an oval ringwork enclosure overlooking Llanfor. It is thought to date to the medieval period. The earthwork is defined by a massive rampart, up to 5.2m high, with

traces of an external ditch. The area enclosed measures some 26m by 18m. The Earthwork is associated with the earthwork "Tomen-y-castell" and is linked by the footpath followed in the Bala to **Llandderfel Trail**.

