

2. A stunning summit , ancient fort and underrated mountain range

AT A GLANCE

Where: Moel Arthur, Flintshire and Denbighshire

Distance: 7.5 miles

Difficulty: Moderate

Start: Car park between Nannerch and Llangwyfan

Grid Ref: SJ139668

Post Code:

LL16 4NA

Map: OS Explorer 265 Clwydian Range



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1. Exit the car park and turn north (right) onto Offa's Dyke Path. The first section leads up along the edge of a forest to reach open country at a stile. Just after this you cross the outer ditch of the Penycloddiau Fort.

2. The way ahead continues uphill along the ridge to reach the summit of the hill from where you can get a good idea of the

size of this ancient fort. Staying on Offa's Dyke Path, descend north to the next col below Moel y Parc. Here, a number of paths and tracks meet.

3. You need to turn sharp right here and follow the enclosed track for about 300 metres. At the end of this track take the gate on your right and continue across fields and >

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past a ruined building to reach a path junction.

4. Go right here and continue to reach an enclosed track on the approach to Pen-y-bryn farm. Where the track bends left, go right through a gate and then immediately left with the hedge to your left. Cross the track leading to Blaen-y-cwm and continue to reach a lane.

5. Cross this lane and walk up the access road to Bryn-ffynnon and turn left over a stile. The route climbs steeply up a field to join a track. Follow this track until it fades and then go half left across the next field to a stile.

6. Continue uphill over grass aiming for the right-hand side of a small conifer plantation ahead where you join a track. Turn right along this track and follow it for 2km to a lane into the col just to the south of Moel Arthur.

7. Reaching the small car park, turn right through a kissing gate

and follow the path as it climbs across the eastern flank of Moel Arthur. A few minor paths go off left if you want to explore the summit, otherwise stay on the Offa's Dyke Path as it descends to a lane. The start is a few yards along this lane to the right.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- **The Iron Age hill fort at the top of Moel Arthur has impressively large banks and ditches. It's thought a Bronze Age burial mound also exists here and that the hill was quarried in the unsuccessful Cilcain Gold Rush of the 19th century.**

- **The highest point on the Clwydian Range is Moel Famau (554 metres), a few kilometres south of this walk. There's a great diversity within the range, from heather-clad moors to limestone outcrops and fertile valleys with wildflower meadows.**

- Walk courtesy of www.walkingbritain.co.uk