

Betws-y-Coed | The Conwy Valley

Conwy

THE ESSENTIAL POCKET GUIDE 2018/19



#MAKINGMEMORIES



Conwy Castle

CASTLES, COAST AND COUNTRY

The Conwy Valley is flanked on the west by thick forests and to the east by the heather moors of Hiraethog. All in all, it's an area of great variety, with the bustling mountain village of Betws-y-Coed at one end and the historic town of Conwy at the other.

It doesn't get more epic than mighty Conwy Castle, a stunning World Heritage Site. Once you've conquered the castle, take a walk along Conwy's ring of medieval walls and lose yourself in the town's maze of narrow cobbled streets, sprinkled with historic houses.

Get to know North West Wales' former rulers at Conwy's informative Princes of Gwynedd exhibition, then seek out Dolwyddelan Castle, their atmospheric stronghold deep in the mountains.

Betws-y-Coed is the perfect base for climbers, cyclists and walkers seeking to test themselves against the rugged landscape of Snowdonia. For the more casual explorer there are gentle waymarked walking trails along riverbanks and through woodlands. You can take to the trees at Zip World Fforest, an aerial assault course of swings, nets and zip lines strung high in the canopy or catch a ride on the Fforest Coaster toboggan run.

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

Don't miss out! Check our website to see all the big events taking place in Conwy County throughout the year. visitconwy.org.uk/events



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This symbol identifies attractions that are normally open all year round.



Don't forget!

While you're here, visit the Tourist Information Centres at Betws-y-Coed and Conwy. The friendly staff will help you book tickets and plan itineraries. And, if you haven't already found somewhere to stay, they'll help you choose your perfect spot from our great range of accommodation, too.



CONWY

Conwy is a true one-off. Well-preserved ancient walls, the most intact in Europe, enclose a town of narrow cobbled streets, nooks and crannies chock-full of historic buildings.

Conwy Castle, a World Heritage Site, was a key part of the 'iron ring' of fortresses built around Snowdonia in the 13th century by Edward I to contain the Welsh. The views from the battlements, with the mountains of Snowdonia one way, the Conwy Estuary the other, are stunning. And it's from here that the entire town comes into perspective, ringed by a circuit of walls over three-quarters of a mile long and guarded by no less than 22 towers.

A Conwy 'must-do' is a walk along these walls, before venturing into the streets below to visit places like Aberconwy House (a rare 14th-century merchant's dwelling), Plas Mawr (the UK's best-preserved Elizabethan town house) and the dinky Smallest House. And complete your history lesson by calling into Conwy's Tourist Information Centre to see the exhibition that tells the story of the Princes of Gwynedd.

Other attractions include the Royal Cambrian Academy of Art and Thomas Telford's Suspension Bridge. Maritime Conwy lives on along the quay with its boat filled harbour and sightseeing cruises. And back in town there's a unique mix of shops to delight and entice everything from award-winning butchers to trendy boutiques and galleries.



ATTRACTIONS AND PLACES OF INTEREST

- 1 Aberconwy House B4
- 2 Boat Trips A4
- 3 Conwy Mussel Museum B5
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- 5 Plas Mawr B3
- 6 Royal Cambrian Academy .. B3
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- 8 Conwy Suspension Bridge & Toll House C6
- 9 Conwy Culture Centre B2 (Opening Summer 2019)



Artist's impression of Conwy Culture Centre

CONWY CULTURE CENTRE



**Opening Summer 2019
01492 576139**

Gateway to Conwy's heritage, where visitors can find out about Conwy's history and plan their visit to some of the county's most interesting places. Visitor centre, library and café, featuring information and interpretation about the story of Conwy.

CHURCHES & PLACES OF WORSHIP

(Numbers in brackets refer to churches)

- Church in Wales (1) C3
- English Methodist (2) C4
- Welsh Presbyterian (3) A3
- Roman Catholic (4) C1



- 1 Attraction / Place of Interest
- i Tourist Information Centre
- ★ Post Office
- One Way Street
- P Pay and Display Car Park
- ♿ Toilets

- ♿ Toilets with attendant (fee)
- ♿ Accessible toilet fitted with National Key Scheme (RADAR) lock
- + Doctors' Surgery



View from Deganwy Castle



Penmaenmawr

DEGANWY

Just across the Conwy Estuary at Deganwy you'll find an array of boutiques, great places to eat out and a big sand and stone beach with knockout views over the mainland coast and Anglesey. Plus an exciting marina development with quay-side hotel, restaurant and spa.

LLANFAIRFECHAN

The pretty village of Llanfairfechan is a great place to start walking in the beautiful surrounding hills from where you can take in the breathtaking views of the Irish Sea, the Menai Strait and Anglesey. Hone your castle building skills on the beach. The big open stretch of sandy beach is perfect for a picnic, paddle or watersports. It's also a great place to watch the birds over the nearby Traeth Lafan Nature Reserve.

PENMAENMAWR

This friendly seaside town has an array of interesting shops and a promenade complete with skating park, paddling pool and play area for children, so it's perfect for families. And there's a row of traditional beach huts, too. The sandy beach is great for walks, watersports and sailing. Follow the upland walk to discover several historic sites, including Y Meini Hirion (the Druids' Circle) dating to the Bronze age.



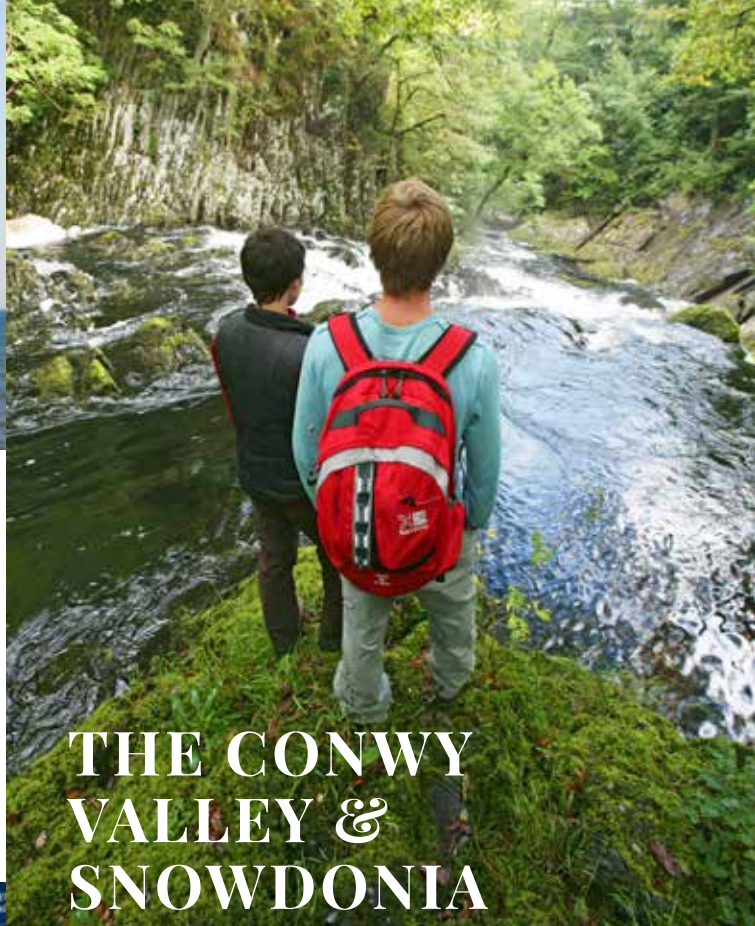
Llanfairfechan



PEDAL POWER

National Cycle Route 5 is its official name, but we know it better as the coastal bike ride between Llanfairfechan and Kinnel Bay. Most of the route is traffic free, and you can join at various points along the way. It's one of the greenest ways to see our coastline and countryside. Pick up a copy of the Conwy Cycle Route Map from Conwy or Llandudno Tourist Information Centres or download from

visitconwy.org.uk



THE CONWY VALLEY & SNOWDONIA

BETWS-Y-COED

It's one of those places that never closes, even on a Sunday in deep and dark December. How could it? There's too much demand.

This bustling mountain resort is the official 'gateway village to Snowdonia'. As well as the huge choice of outdoor activities on its doorstep, Betws's popularity can also be explained by its outstanding range of shops selling everything from quality crafts to walking boots. In a beautiful location amongst woods and riverbanks on the edge of the Gwydyr Forest Park, Betws has been a consistent Snowdonia favourite since Victorian times and the coming of the railway. Its many attractions include a railway museum, golf course, waymarked walks, Swallow Falls, high ropes adventure at Zip World Fforest and its latest addition the Fforest Coaster toboggan run. The town has an excellent Snowdonia National Park Information Centre with Princes of Gwynedd exhibition and a room that recreates the experience of standing on the summit of Snowdon.

ROWEN

Considered by many to be the most attractive village in the county, Rowen nestles at the foot of the Tal-y-Fan Mountain. Front gardens of quaint stone cottages burst with flowers in the spring and summer and there's a lovely country pub, perfect for a pit-stop whilst exploring the network of trails and paths.



Gwydir Chapel, Llanrwst

LLANRWST

Handsome 'capital' and historic market town for the Vale of Conwy. Gwydir Chapel in beautiful St Grwst's Church is on the Princes of Gwynedd Trail. It contains the elaborately carved coffin of Welsh medieval leader Llywelyn the Great, who died at Aberconwy Abbey in 1240.

Nearby Gwydir Castle and Gwydir Uchaf Chapel reveal more of the area's eventful past. Llanrwst is bordered by the popular Gwydir Forest Park, a lovely area latticed with numerous trails for all abilities. These waymarked paths take in everything from hidden mountain lakes to industrial heritage, scenic viewpoints to local history and the legend of Dafydd ap Siencyn, the forest's own 'Robin Hood'.



Llynau Mymbyr, Capel Curig

TREFRIW

Trefriw's long-established woollen mill produces distinctive Welsh tapestries and tweeds. Llyn Crafnant, a fishing lake, and Llyn Geirionydd, popular for watersports, hide themselves away in the forested hills above. Explore the village's idyllic surroundings by following some of the Trefriw Trails.

DOLWYDDELAN

Peaceful Dolwyddelan in the Lledr Valley is perfect for touring the surrounding countryside, walking, climbing, canoeing, mountain biking and angling. The village is renowned as the birthplace of Prince Llywelyn the Great. Dramatic Dolwyddelan Castle, built by Llywelyn between c.1210 and 1240, stands on its rocky ridge with awesome views over the Lledr Valley.

PENMACHNO

Head to Penmachno in the Machno Valley to really get away from things. There are some lovely woodland walks, especially around the Conwy and Machno falls. Additional activities include horse riding and a mountain bike trail. Tŷ Mawr Wybrnant was the birthplace of Bishop William Morgan, who first translated the bible into Welsh. The house itself gives an intriguing glimpse of rural Welsh life during the 16th and 17th centuries and contains an original Morgan bible.

CAPEL CURIG

Located in the wild foothills of Moel Siabod, Y Glyderau and Y Carneddau, here, Snowdonia is literally on your doorstep. The Afon Llugwy flows through the village to the beautiful waterfall at Pont Cyfyng, and Plas y Brenin National Mountain Centre is close by, near the twin lakes Llynau Mymbyr.



HIRAETHOG

The main draw here is Mynydd Hiraethog itself. This sparsely populated upland expanse of heather moorland and forest, overseen by big skies, has a unique and haunting quality.

Cerrigydrudion is one of the main settlements. The village, on the A5 at the southern gateway to Hiraethog is home to one of the UK's biggest and best karting circuits – GYG Karting. You'll reach speeds of 60mph as you navigate the twists and turns of the track. Along with the nearby village of Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr, Cerrigydrudion is also a good touring base for this largely undiscovered part of the world.

The same can be said for Pentrefoelas, also on the A5. Stagecoaches use to stop here on the main route into North Wales. Today's travellers – especially chocoholics – stop off at the Riverside Chocolate House and Tearoom for delicious hand-made goodies.

Most travellers who venture into Hiraethog inevitably make for Llyn Brenig. The reservoir and its smaller neighbour Llyn Alwen are packed with leisure facilities for walking, cycling, mountain biking, fishing, sailing and birdwatching. There's an excellent visitor centre at Llyn Brenig too, a good starting point for a deeper appreciation of Hiraethog's rich heritage and history, which stretches back to prehistoric times.

www.hiraethog.org.uk



ACTION AND Adventure

If you're into the great outdoors, you're in the right place. We've got every activity you can think of, and the best scenery to do it in. Our massive choice of activities ranges from climbing and abseiling, watersports, fishing and walking, to horse riding, cycling and mountain biking, golf and extreme sports.



PLAS Y BRENIN NATIONAL MOUNTAIN CENTRE

Map Ref: F2 Capel Curig
01690 720214 pyb.co.uk

Experience the adventure of a lifetime at Plas y Brenin National Mountain Centre. Action-packed multi-activity courses include rock climbing, abseiling, canoeing, kayaking, orienteering and mountain walking, with expert instructors on hand all year. Check the website for details.

LLYN BRENIG RESERVOIR & VISITOR CENTRE

Map Ref: G8 Cerrigydrudion
01490 420463
llyn-brenig.co.uk

Discover Llyn Brenig set in the beautiful forests and moors of Hiraethog. Go walking, cycling, fly fishing, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, or simply relax and take in the views. The visitor centre and café are open daily all year round (except 25 & 26 Dec and 1 Jan). Adventure playground close by. Llyn Brenig is one of only a few lakes preserved exclusively for fly fishing (permits available from the visitor centre)

GO BELOW UNDERGROUND ADVENTURES

Map Ref: G4 Betws-y-Coed
01690 710108 go-below.co.uk

Personally guided and authentic underground exploration trips through the abandoned mines of Snowdonia. Zipline, abseil, boat, scramble and traverse through huge deep caverns and across forgotten blue lakes. Experience the world's longest and deepest underground zip line and the world's only underground 70ft Freefall! Whether you're a first timer or an adrenaline junkie, a family, group or individual, there's a thrilling adventure for all. No experience necessary. See the website to choose your adventure.



ZIP WORLD FFOREST

Map Ref: G4 Betws-y-Coed
01248 601444 zipworld.co.uk

Family adventures from easy to epic. Enjoy a journey through the canopy of trees on Zip Safari, bounce and explore on Treetop Nets or soar over the tree tops on Skyride - the giant five seater swing. Weave, dart and speed through the trees on Fforest Coaster. Young adventurers can tackle the aerial obstacles and zip wires on the Tree Hoppers course. Then relax and refuel in the Zip World Fforest Caffi.



SURF SNOWDONIA

Map ref: D3 Dolgarrog
surfsnowdonia.com

A world-first inland surf lagoon where the waves are always on! Lessons, courses and freesurf for all ages and abilities. Includes a Wipeout-style Crash & Splash obstacle course and catapult blob, kiddies soft play, restaurant and bar. Free access & parking.

MOUNTAIN BIKING

GWYDIR MAWR TRAIL

Map Ref: F3 Gwydyr Forest
mbwales.com

Gwydyr Forest Park is home to the mighty Gwydir Mawr Trail. It's 15½ miles of pure adrenaline, with big climbs, big descents and big views. There's the 5½ mile Gwydir Bach Trail which incorporates part of big brother. It's great for a quick blast.

PENMACHNO MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

Map ref: H4
penmachnobiketrails.org.uk

30km of singletrack and forest trail with spectacular views and the feel of a proper mountain biking adventure. Split into two loops that can be ridden individually or as one amazing 30km ride.



Conwy Mountain

FISHING

SHORE FISHING

Try your hand at shore fishing from Deganwy, Conwy, Penmaenmawr and Llanfairfechan.

SEA ANGLING

Map Ref: B3

Take a trip on a charter vessel with an experienced skipper (weather permitting, of course!). Depending on the season you can fish inshore for whiting, codling, bass, mackerel and more. Or venture further out for pollock, cod, conger and coalfish. See locally for details.

RIVER CONWY GAME FISHING

fishing.visitwales.com

Head to the spectacular scenery and tranquillity of the River Conwy at Betws-y-Coed to find salmon and sea trout. Above Conwy Falls you'll find some great spots to fish for wild brown trout, and at one of the Conwy's tributaries, the Llugwy, you can fish for trout and salmon.

DON'T FORGET!

For game and coarse fishing you must have a valid permit from the appropriate association or owner and a national rod licence. For more information visit: environment-agency.gov.uk

STILLWATER GAME FISHING

Map Ref: E3
Llyn Crafnant, Trefriw
01492 640818

crafnant.free-online.co.uk

Head to the wooded hills above Trefriw to Llyn Crafnant. This scenic mountain lake is three quarters of a mile long, covers 63 acres, and is well stocked with rainbow trout, and you can fish from all banks or from a boat.



Fishing



Horsering

GOLF

BETWS-Y-COED GOLF CLUB



Map Ref: G3 01690 710556
golf-betws-y-coed.co.uk

9 hole parkland course.

CONWY GOLF CLUB (CAERNARVONSHIRE)



Map Ref: B3 01492 593400
conwygolfclub.co.uk

18 hole links course.

LLANFAIRFECHAN GOLF CLUB



Map Ref: C1 01248 680144
llanfairfechangolfclub.co.uk

9 hole parkland course.

PENMAENMAWR GOLF CLUB



Map Ref: B2
01492 623330

pengolf.co.uk

9 hole parkland course.

HORSERIDING

GWYDYR RIDING AND TREKKING STABLES



Map Ref: F3/H3
Penmachno, 01690 760248
horse-riding-wales.co.uk

Surrounded by National Trust and Natural Resources Wales land, Gwydyr Stables offer a wonderful location for horse riding and pony trekking for novices and experienced riders. You can ride for just half an hour, an hour or up to a whole day, including summer evenings. Qualified trainers conduct rides on a variety of over 30 horses. Residential riding breaks can also be arranged.

WALKING

GWYDYR FOREST

Map Ref: F3/H3

Betws-y-Coed and Llanrwst naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Gwydyr Forest covers 7,250 hectares across Snowdonia's eastern hills. You can walk the tracks, old miners' paths, cycle trails and long-established forest walks. And it's not just great for walking, you can study the wildlife, cycle, climb, fish or just enjoy the quiet woodlands.

CONWY COUNTRYSIDE SERVICE

01492 575200 conwy.gov.uk

Rocky mountain paths and sand-between-your-toes strolls. Forest footpaths and heritage trails. Easy rambles for families, tough upland challenges for enthusiasts. Walking is our most popular outdoor activity. Conwy Countryside Service has a range of walking leaflets to get you going. See the website for details.

LEISURE CENTRES



conwy.gov.uk for full activity listings and opening times.

LLANRWST SWIMMING POOL

(Map Ref: F4)

01492 577932 / 577933

DYFFRYN CONWY LEISURE CENTRE

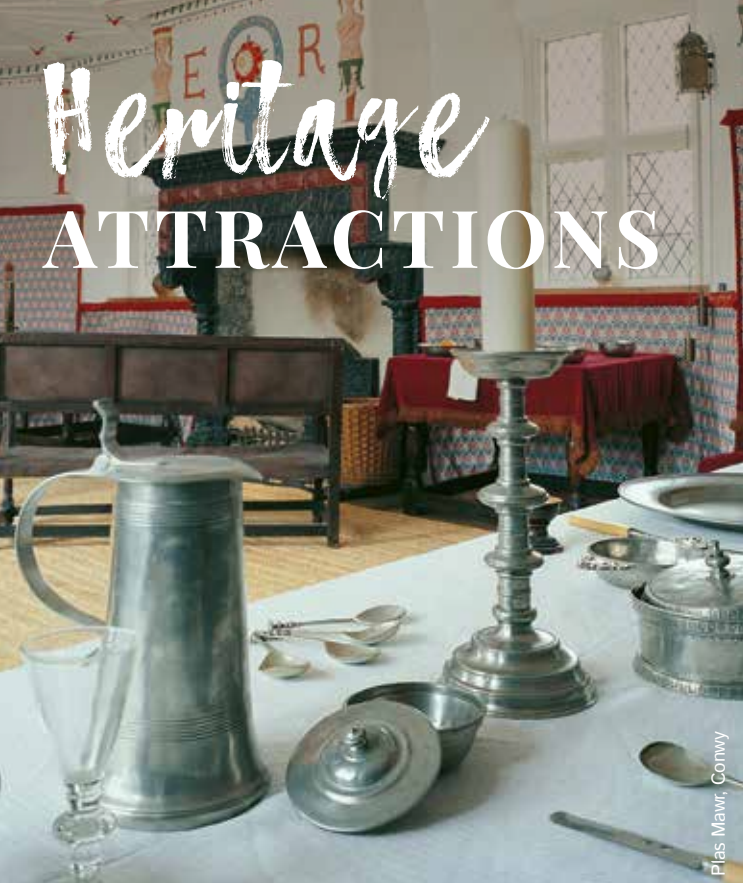
(Map Ref: F4)

01492 577938 / 577939

LLANDUDNO JUNCTION LEISURE CENTRE

(Map Ref: B4) 01492 577925

Heritage ATTRACTIONS



Plas Mawr, Conwy

MAKING HISTORY

Conwy town is a great place to start exploring the local history. The dramatic 13th century castle towers over one of the best examples of a medieval walled town in Europe. But Conwy's mighty castle and town walls built by English King Edward I are just part of our story as you can discover on a visit to the Princes of Gwynedd exhibition at Conwy Tourist Information Centre.

Aberconwy House, dating back to the 14th century, is believed to be one of the oldest surviving town houses in Wales, and just a short walk away is Plas Mawr, the Elizabethan townhouse with its distinctive tower and unique interior plaster work. Gwydir Castle, set within fabulous gardens in the Conwy Valley, is one of Wales' best examples of a Tudor courtyard house.



Aberconwy House

ABERCONWY HOUSE

Map Ref: B3
Conwy, 01492 592246
nationaltrust.org.uk

This 14th-century merchant's house is thought to be the oldest town house in Wales and shows Jacobean, Georgian and Victorian interior styles. The house is open daily from 8 Mar to 4 Nov from 10am to 5pm. Open weekends 10 Nov to 23 Dec from 11am to 4pm. See website for 2019 opening times.

CONWY VALLEY RAILWAY MUSEUM



Map Ref: G3 Betws-y-Coed
01690 710568

conwyrailwaymuseum.co.uk

Take a ride on the narrow gauge miniature railway or take a stroll around the fascinating museum to see working models and train layouts. Trains run every day from 10.30am weather dependant (except Christmas and Boxing Day).

CONWY CASTLE



Map Ref: B3
Conwy, 01492 592358
cadw.gov.wales

Conwy Castle was built for English King Edward I between 1283 and 1287 and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Climb one of the eight massive towers for the best views of our beautiful estuary and look out for the castle after dark, when it's all lit up. It's magical. Open daily all year except 24, 25, 26 Dec and 1 Jan. See website for opening hours.



Conwy Valley Railway Museum

DOLWYDDELAN CASTLE



Map Ref: H2
Dolwyddelan, 01690 750366
cadw.gov.wales

Dramatic Dolwyddelan Castle stands on its rocky ridge with awesome views over the Lledr Valley, it was built between c.1210 and 1240 by Prince Llywelyn 'The Great', and was remodelled by King Edward I. Open daily all year except 24, 25, 26 Dec and 1 Jan. See website for opening hours.



Dolwyddelan Castle



GWYDIR CASTLE

Map Ref:F4

Llanrwst, 01492 641687

gwydircastle.co.uk

Built in 1490 for the Wynns, Gwydir Castle is one of the finest Tudor courtyard houses in Wales. The building has connections with King Charles I, who's thought to have visited in 1645. Architectural additions in the 1540s used materials from the nearby dissolved Maenan Abbey. Gwydir is famous for its peacocks which strut around the 10 acre Grade 1 listed garden. Open from 1 April to 31 October 10am-4pm, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Open Bank Holiday weekends. Guided tours by arrangement.

GWYDIR UCHAF

CHAPEL Map Ref: F4

Llanrwst

Situated in the woods above Gwydir Castle, the chapel was built in 1673 by Sir Richard Wynn as a family memorial chapel for the Wynns of Gwydir, and is noted for its fine painted ceiling. Access to the chapel is by appointment. Contact the key holder on 01492 641687.

PENMAENMAWR

MUSEUM Map Ref: B2

Old Post Office, Conwy Old Road, 01492 575535

penmaenmawrmuseum.co.uk

An independent museum embarking on a new chapter in developing their offer. Temporary exhibitions on local heritage. Open 1 June to 30 Sept: Tues to Sun 2 to 4pm and Sat 10am to 12 noon. Groups



throughout year by appointment. See website for 2019 opening times.

PLAS MAWR ELIZABETHAN TOWN HOUSE Map Ref:B3

High Street, Conwy
01492 580167 / 573605
cadw.gov.wales

Probably the best preserved Elizabethan town house in Britain and definitely Conwy's grandest residence, Plas Mawr (meaning Great Hall) was built between 1576 and 1585 by wealthy trader Robert Wynn whose family seat was Gwydir Castle. Inside it's packed to the rafters with ornamental plasterwork, original furnishings, and more than a few skeletons in the cupboard. Open daily. 24 Mar to 30 Sept 9.30am to 5pm. 1 Oct to 4 Nov 9.30am to 4pm. See website for 2019 opening times.

PRINCES OF GWYNEDD EXHIBITION

Map Ref:B3

Rosehill Street, Conwy
01492 577566

snowdoniaheritage.info/en/theme/29/princes-of-gwynedd/

The mighty castles built by English King Edward I are just part of our story. Discover more about the native Princes of Gwynedd at an exhibition in Conwy Tourist Information Centre, featuring displays, maps, Welsh poetry and music. Hub exhibition at the Snowdonia National Park Visitor Centre, Betws-y-Coed.



SMALLEST HOUSE IN GREAT BRITAIN

Map Ref:B3

Conwy Quay, Conwy

thesmallesthouse.co.uk

This tiny red painted one up, one down measures a miniature 3.1 metres high by 1.83 metres wide and is officially the smallest house in the country. It's in the Guinness Book of Records and last lived in by a 6ft 3" fisherman! It's open every day from April to the end of October, 10am to 4pm (School holidays open until 6pm).

THOMAS TELFORD'S SUSPENSION BRIDGE AND TOLL-KEEPER'S HOUSE Map Ref:B3

Conwy, 01492 592246

nationaltrust.org.uk

Located right next to the castle, the Conwy suspension bridge was designed and built by Thomas Telford in 1826 to replace the ferry that crossed this dangerous part of the River Conwy. The tiny toll-keeper's house has been restored and furnished in the style of the 1890s. Bridge open daily 8 March to 4 Nov, 11am to 4.15pm. See website for 2019 opening times.

TREFRIW WOOLLEN MILLS

Map Ref:E3 Trefriw,

01492 640462 t-w-m.co.uk

Using water from the nearby Crafnant and Geirionydd lakes to generate its electrical power, the mill has been producing traditional Welsh bedspreads and tweeds for over 150 years. Shop and turbine: all year Mon to Sat (plus Sundays Spring BH to Sept). Weaving: mid Feb to mid Dec: Mon to Fri except Bank



Holidays. Mill museum: April to end Oct: Mon to Fri (except Bank Holidays). Please check website for dates of hand spinning and rag rug making demonstrations and 2019 opening times.

Tŷ MAWR WYBRNANT

Map Ref:H4

Penmachno, 01690 760213
nationaltrust.org.uk

Tŷ Mawr Wybrnant, in the secluded Wybrnant Valley, was the birthplace of Bishop William Morgan (1545-1604), who first translated the Bible into Welsh. The house itself gives an intriguing glimpse of rural Welsh life during the 16th and 17th centuries and contains an original Morgan bible. Open Thurs to Sun from 15 Mar to 30 Sept 12 to 5pm, 4 Oct to 4 Nov 12 to 4pm. Open Bank Holiday Mondays. See website for 2019 opening times.

SIR HENRY JONES

MUSEUM Map Ref:D5

Llangernyw, 01745 860630
sirhenryjonesmuseum.co.uk

This 19th century workman's cottage was the birthplace of Sir Henry Jones (1852-1922), who transformed education in Wales. This fascinating museum depicts Welsh rural life during the Victorian era and is open from 27 May to 30 Sep - Thurs, Fri, Sat and Bank Holidays. See website for 2019 opening times.



Sir Henry Jones Museum



Natural ATTRACTIONS

BODNANT GARDEN

Map Ref:C4 Eglwysbach, 01492 650460
nationaltrust.org.uk/bodnant-garden

The beautiful gardens at Bodnant are widely regarded as some of the best in the UK. There are terraced gardens, lawns and wild gardens and the huge range of plants and flowers from all over the world, plus some fabulous views of the Conwy Valley and Snowdonia. Open daily from: 1 Jan to 28 Feb 10am to 4pm, 1 March to 30 April 10am to 5pm, 1 May to 30 June 9am to 5pm, 1 July to 31 Oct 10am to 5pm, 1 Nov to 23 Dec 10am to 4pm, 27 Dec to 31 Dec 10am to 4pm, Open until 8pm on Wednesdays from April to end September. See website for 2019 opening times.



CONWY RSPB NATURE RESERVE

Map Ref:B4 Conwy Estuary
 01492 584091
rspb.org/conwy

This beautiful nature reserve on the banks of the Conwy estuary has a network of footpaths leading around a series of lagoons, through meadow land and along the estuary. There's a massive range of fascinating birds to be seen all year and you can watch them from hidden observation points that look out over the water. Family days, guided walks and farmers' markets are just a few things on the busy events calendar. Open every day (except Christmas) Visitor Centre 9.30am to 5pm.



PENSYCHNANT CONSERVATION CENTRE & NATURE RESERVE

Sychnant Pass, Conwy
 01492 592595
pensychnant.co.uk

Pensychnant is managed as a nature reserve and conservation centre for everyone who appreciates wildlife and natural beauty. Visit in spring/summer for pied-flycatchers, red starts and other rare migrant birds. See the Victorian Gothic house and varied wildlife art exhibitions. Various wildlife walks and talks by Pensychnant Foundation and other wildlife charities. Please see website for opening times.

SIGHTSEEING CRUISES

Map Ref:B3
 Conwy Quay, 07917 343058
sightseeingcruises.co.uk

Hop aboard the Queen Victoria for a sightseeing cruise on the River Conwy upstream to the estuary for wonderful views of Anglesey, Puffin Island, the mainland coast and the Irish Sea. From Feb to Oct (subject to tides). For details of departure times and duration of trips please see boards on the quayside.



SWALLOW FALLS

Map Ref:G3
 Betws-y-Coed, 01490 420486

This beautiful series of waterfalls on the Afon Llugwy is famous the world over, and rightly so. There are great views of the falls from the south bank of the river, but the best (and far more dramatic) viewpoint is from the north bank.



CONWY WATER GARDENS

Map Ref:C3
 Rowen, 01492 650063
conwywatergardens.co.uk

Conwy Water Gardens is based in the beautiful Conwy Valley on the edge of the Snowdonia National Park. The site comprises an aquatic centre, 3 well stocked coarse fishing lakes, Dutch Pancake House & Restaurant, a reptile house, nature walk and play area for children. See website for opening times.



CONWY FALLS FOREST PARK

Map Ref:H4 Penmachno
 01690 710336
conwyfalls.com

Built by renowned Portmeirion architect Clough Williams-Ellis, the café serves homemade food & drinks. £1 gives access to the spectacular Conwy Falls. Forest paths lead down to the falls through the SSSI designated woodland. The falls are home to a Victorian fish pass and to a modern salmon ladder.



DON'T FORGET!

Opening times and facilities may change without notice so please contact the individual attractions before setting off.



Royal Cambrian Academy, Conwy

ARTS & CRAFTS

Betws-y-Coed and Conwy both have an enticing range of craft shops and specialist galleries while Trefriw Woollen Mills is the place to go to for beautiful Welsh tapestries made the traditional way.

BODNANT CRAFT CENTRE

Map Ref: C4 Bodnant Garden, Eglwysbach

01492 651000 bodnantcraftcentre.co.uk



Bodnant Craft Centre has assembled over fifty different local arts and crafts producers. The result is a whole range of skills and creativity on display: from needle felt to landscapes; from photography to furniture, wood turning, silver jewellery, kiln-fired glass, ceramics plus many more represented in the lovely converted potting sheds next to Bodnant Garden Centre. Open daily with free entry 10am to 5.30pm, Mar to Oct and 10am to 5pm Nov to Feb.

ROYAL CAMBRIAN ACADEMY OF ART

Map Ref: B3

Conwy, 01492 593413
rcaconwy.org



The Royal Cambrian Academy is devoted to the visual arts in Wales and its members include many of Wales' most popular and respected artists. The gallery space holds annual exhibitions, talks, demonstrations and workshops. The gallery is open all year Tues to Sat, 11am to 5pm.

POTTERS' GALLERY

Map Ref: B3

Conwy, 01492 593590
thepottersgallery.co.uk



Conwy based gallery showcases the work of around twenty local designer/makers and includes a wide range of ceramic work – from homeware to collectors' pieces and sculpture.



Trefriw Woollen Mills

All map references relate to the map of Conwy County at the centre of this publication.



Taste Matters

We like our food in these parts.



Who wouldn't with such tempting produce right on our doorstep? We're talking flavoursome Conwy mussels, prized Welsh Black beef from the Conwy Valley, mountain lamb and farmhouse cheeses. On the drinks front we have local microbreweries, artisan gins and even a vineyard producing subtle whites, medium-bodied reds, fruity rosés and quaffable sparkling wine.

You'll be tempted by what's in store at our shops, farm outlets and delicatessens too. Take your tastebuds to places like Edwards of Conwy, Bodnant Welsh Food and Blas ar Fwyd in Llanrwst, an award-winning food hub stocked with delicious deli produce.

BODNANT WELSH FOOD



Map Ref:D4
Tal-y-Cafn 01492 651100
bodnant-welshfood.co.uk

Foodies flock to Bodnant Welsh Food Centre in the Conwy Valley where farm buildings have been transformed into an emporium featuring the best local produce. Onsite dairy, butchery and bakery. And there's a restaurant and tea room too. Please see the website for opening times.

CONWY VINEYARD

Map Ref:B4 Llangwstenin
Llandudno Junction
01492 545596

gwinllanconwy.co.uk
First planted in 2012, the vineyard has grown each year to two acres with 2,000 vines. These special hybrid grape varieties are chosen specifically to work well with the soil and climatic conditions in North Wales. Guided vineyard tours February to November. Please check the website for details.

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES



If you need further information while you're planning your holiday or once you are here, contact or visit one of our Tourist Information Centres.

OPEN ALL YEAR

CONWY

Muriau Buildings, Rosehill Street, LL32 8LD
t: (01492) 577566
e: conwytic@conwy.gov.uk

BETWS-Y-COED

Snowdonia National Park Visitor Centre, LL24 0AH
t: (01690) 710426 e: tic.byc@eryri-npa.gov.uk

GETTING AROUND

Why not leave your car behind, relax and enjoy the scenery by using our network of buses and trains. Full details in the Public Transport Guide available at TICs. Call **Traveline Cymru** on **0800 464 00 00** or go to traveline.cymru: the journey planner and timetables website for public transport in Wales.



Looking for information on Llandudno, Rhos-on-Sea and Colwyn Bay, then pick up a copy of these Essential Pocket Guides at TICs or email: tourism@conwy.gov.uk



Published by:
Tourism Marketing Team
Community Development Service
Conwy County Borough Council
Library Building, Mostyn Street
Llandudno, LL30 2RP
t: 01492 575945 / 575950
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Designed by: View Creative
37 Rhos Road, Rhos-on-Sea, Conwy, LL28 4RS.
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LOCAL SERVICES

Most visitor attractions are accessible by rail, bus or coach. Pick up a copy of the Conwy Public Transport Guide from our Tourist Information Centres.

Call **Traveline Cymru** on **0800 464 00 00**

Or go to traveline.cymru the journey planner and timetables website for public transport in Wales.

KEY

THE CONWY VALLEY RAILWAY LINE

The Conwy Valley Line runs between Llandudno and Blaenau Ffestiniog through some of Wales' wildest and most beautiful scenery. You can reach it from the North Wales coast main line by interchange at Llandudno Junction. At Blaenau Ffestiniog, it connects with the narrow gauge Ffestiniog Railway to Porthmadog.

Take the train to the busy market town of Llanrwst, experience quality shopping at Betws-y-Coed, visit the fine 13th century castle at Dolwyddelan, at Blaenau Ffestiniog visit Llechwedd Slate Caverns, the spectacular underground world of the Victorian slate miner or explore the area on foot using one of the many walks from local stations.

conwyvalleyrailway.co.uk