

Precipice Walk

A walk more or less on a contour line with just a small bit of up and down. Magnificent views up towards Trawsfynydd and on to Snowdonia, the Mawddach Estuary and Cader Idris.



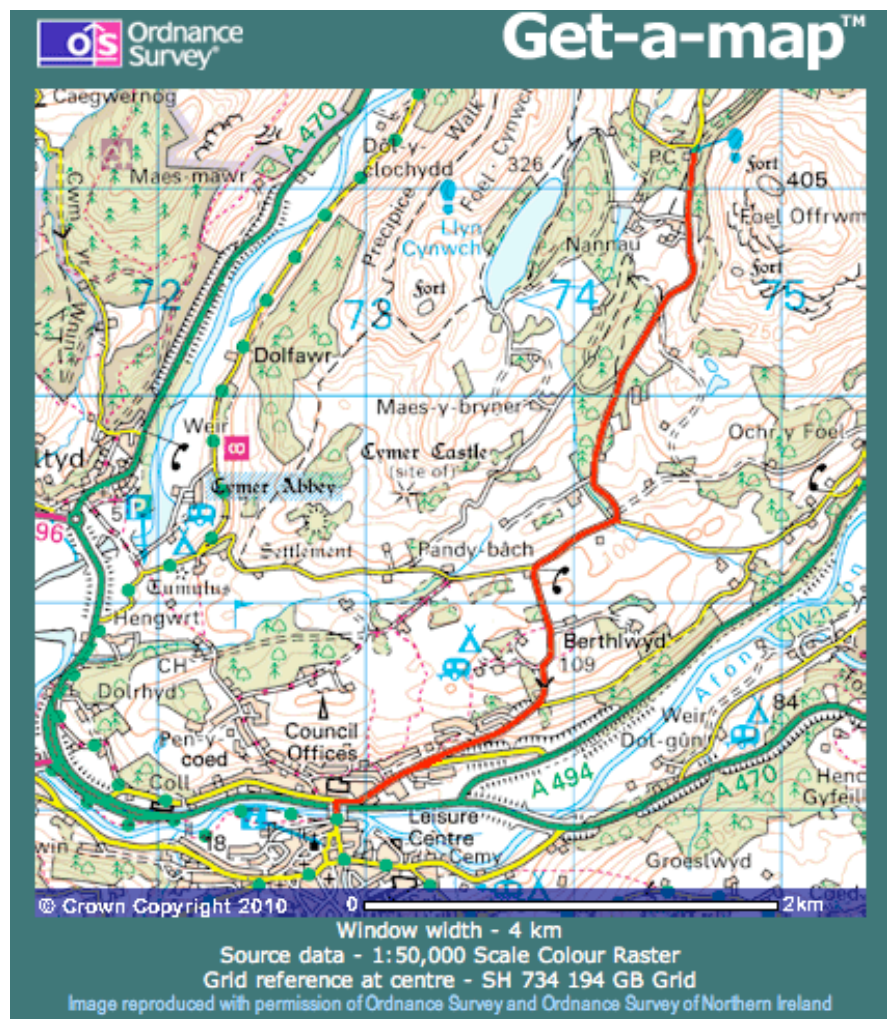
Duration - A very leisurely 2.5 hours including stops to admire the views and eat lunch.

Height climbed very little, some rough paths and mud in wet weather.

Most of the walk is along a contour line on a steep slope, hence the name. The path is quite safe provided care is taken. Children need to be able to do as they are told!

Access:

Drive into Dolgellau town centre and leave over the Mawddach bridge taking the road right at the far end of the bridge towards Bala. The road is coloured red on the map opposite. Go past the Texaco petrol station and EuroSpar and just after passing Spar take the left fork signposted to Llanfachreth. Stay on this narrow(ish) road for about 2 miles, following signs to Llanfachreth until you come to a junction with Lanfachreth straight on and Hermon to the left. Precipice Walk car park (free, and it has toilets) is at the junction on the left, at the end of the red section.



Leave at the high end of the car park and bear immediately right onto the path through woods. (You can also go out of the bottom of the car park and after a few yards on the Hermon road turn left into the woods – signposted). The path is well marked past a farmhouse to the point where the path splits. There is a signpost pointing left towards the lake or to the right up to the main path. It is better to go right (ending with the lake).

After turning right you follow a wall and gradually the vista opens up with views down to Llanfachreth and beyond. A little further and you can look towards Trawsfynedd. On a clear day Snowdon is visible. From part of the path you can see the (now non-operational) nuclear power station at Trawsfynedd.



As the path continues to bear to the left you come to the path along the contour on the steep slope which gives the walk its name. There are wonderful views down onto the Mawddach running its course along the narrow valley. The cars on the main road looks like toys.

Further still and the Mawddach estuary opens up with views down to the village of Llanelltyd, the Penmaenpool bridge and to the Barmouth bridge and the sea.



As you round each bend more of the Cader Idris massif appears until the whole range is visible. At one point on the walk, if you are lucky with a clear day, you can see Snowdon in the distance in one direction, and the nearby mass of Cader in the opposite direction.

The path then continues its leftwards bends until you come to the lake Llyn Cynwch.



The path takes you along the left of the lake through some pleasant woodland until just after the lake you rejoin the path at the point where you had the choice which way to go. Return to the car park by the same route as you came.

A perfect drive to end the trip around Precipice Walk is to continue by car from Precipice Walk car park on to Abergeirw.

Driving rather than walking:

If you are looking just for a beautiful drive with a short walk, take the short walk from the Precipice Walk car park to the far end of the lake – a nice spot for lunch – and back, and then continue on the drive via Aber-Geirw.