



Llyn Ogwen Mountain Walks

DRIVE

**Approx. 27 mins
from Cae Du**

PARKING

**Designated Ogwen
bays only**

CHOICES

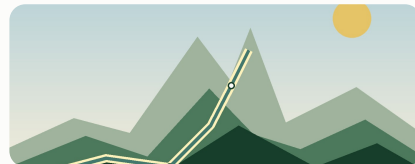
**Lakeside walk to
serious scrambles**

MAPPING

**OS Explorer
OL17**

ABOUT THIS WALK

Ogwen is a spectacular base for exploring the Glyderau and Carneddau. Choose the scenic Cwm Idwal circuit, challenge yourself on Tryfan and the Glyders, or plan a long ridge day over Carnedd Dafydd and Carnedd Llewelyn.

**ROUTE MAP / NUMBERED MARKERS MATCH THE DIRECTIONS**

THREE ADVENTURES FROM OGWEN

CWM IDWAL / TRYFAN & GLYDERAU / CARNEDDAU

**OPTION A • CWM IDWAL**

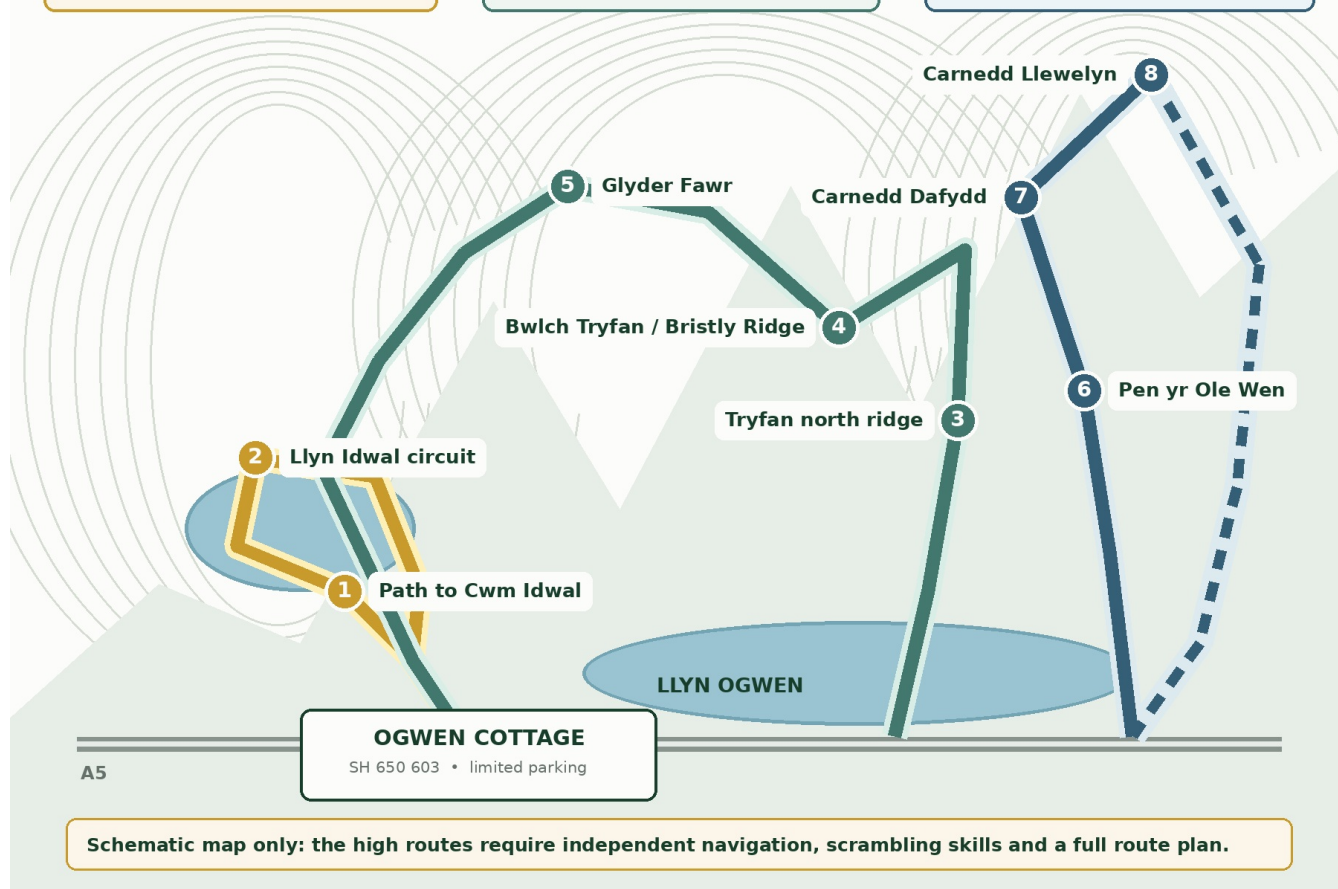
4.8 km • approx. 3 hours • moderate

**OPTION B • TRYFAN + GLYDERAU**

Grade 1 scrambling • full mountain day

**OPTION C • CARNEDDAU**

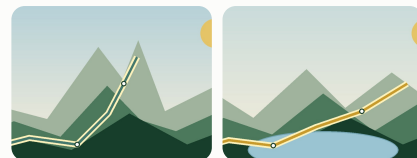
18.7 km • approx. 8-12 hours • severe





STEP-BY-STEP ROUTE

Llyn Ogwen Mountain Walks



Follow the route

Use the numbered directions alongside the route map on page one.

- 1** **OPTION A - CWM IDWAL.** From Ogwen Cottage Ranger Base, pass the Cwm Idwal Visitor Centre and climb the surfaced path through the mountain gate. At the main fork, take the right-hand path towards Llyn Idwal.
- 2** Follow the normal low-level circuit around the lake. Cross the streams carefully, pass beneath the dramatic headwall and return over the slate bridge. Retrace the approach to Ogwen Cottage. Do not swim in Llyn Idwal.
- 3** **OPTION B - TRYFAN AND THE GLYDERS.** Start from the correct designated A5 parking for your planned route. Tryfan's North Ridge is sustained, hands-on scrambling with complex route-finding. It is for experienced, well-equipped scramblers only.
- 4** From Tryfan's 918 m summit, descend the South Ridge to Bwlch Tryfan. Continue over exposed Bristly Ridge only if it matches your skills and conditions, then reach Glyder Fach at 994 m. Never improvise into gullies.
- 5** Cross the rough plateau via Castell y Gwynt to Glyder Fawr at 1,001 m. Descend on your plotted route towards Llyn y Cwn and Twll Du, the Devil's Kitchen. The rocky descent into Cwm Idwal is steep, loose and tiring.
- 6** **OPTION C - THE CARNEDDAU.** From the eastern end of Llyn Ogwen, follow the right of way near Glan Dena and Afon Lloer. Climb the rocky eastern ridge to Pen yr Ole Wen at 978 m; scrambling and careful route-finding are needed.
- 7** Continue along the high ridge to Carnedd Dafydd at 1,044 m, then cross the exposed ground above Ysgolion Duon to Carnedd Llewelyn at 1,064 m. These are the fourth and third highest mountains in England and Wales.
- 8** Complete only the return you planned before setting out. A full circuit may continue over steep Craig yr Ysfa and Pen yr Helgi Du before descending Y Braich to the A5. Allow for the road return and do not improvise in cloud.

PARKING AND ACCESS

P

Ogwen Valley - around 27 minutes from Cae Du

Parking is extremely limited. Use Ogwen Cottage car park or a designated A5 bay suitable for your chosen start, arrive early and never park on clearways, double yellow lines or where emergency access could be blocked. Ogwen Cottage grid reference: SH 650 603.

BEFORE YOU SET OFF

Match the day to your experience. Tryfan, Bristly Ridge and parts of the Carneddau routes involve scrambling, exposure and serious consequences from a slip. Check a mountain forecast; carry waterproofs, warm layers, food, water, map, compass, headtorch and a charged phone. Avoid high routes in strong wind, heavy rain, ice or poor visibility unless properly trained and equipped.

ROUTE NOTE

Choose one option for the day. Even the Cwm Idwal circuit has rough, steep and sometimes wet ground. There is no ordinary walking route to Tryfan's summit. In an emergency call 999, ask for Police, then Mountain Rescue.