

Llwybrau Arfordir Talacharn

LLWYBR DYLAN

1 Y Castell a'r Grist

Sefydlywyd Castell Talacharn gyntaf yn 1116 ond mae'r muriau uchel yn perthyn i'r 15fed a'r 16eg ganrif pan dröwyd y castell yn blas caerog. Mae'n debyg mai talfyriad o 'Grist Mill' sef Melin Rawn yw'r 'Grist'. Mae'r morfeydd heli wedi datblygu yma dros y 100 mlynedd diwethaf. Gallai cychod gyrraedd at waelod muriau'r castell yn y Canol Oesoedd.

2 Cartref Dylan Thomas

Hwn oedd cartref Dylan Thomas rhwng 1944 a 1953, ond mae'r adeilad yn perthyn i ddechrau'r 19eg ganrif. Bu'n safarn yn yr 1880au, The Ferry House Inn, ac yn iard adeiladu cychod yn ddiweddarach. Ceir golygfeydd gwynch tuag at Fryn Syr John a'r aber oddi yma.

3 Cliffside

Llwybr poblogaidd ar lan yr afon gydag olion hen fythynnod a chwareli bach yw hwn. Hyd y 1950au, roedd cwch fferi yn rhedeg ar y llanw rhwng Ferry Point a Talacharn. Uwchben y dogwyni coedioig ceir olion amddiffynfa o'r Oes Haearn, a gafodd ei ailddefnyddio fel batri gynnau yn ystod y Rhyfel Cartref pan oedd Castell Talacharn dan warchae yn 1644. Mae ty cychod hynod islaw'r llwybr yn atgof o weithgareddau hamdden y 19eg ganrif.

4 Cychod Fferi a Chroesi'r Afon

Dyma lle'r oedd yr afon yn cael ei croesi gan gychod fferi gerllaw fferm Cwm Celyn, ar ochr arall yr aber. I fyny'r afon roedd cychod fferi yn croesi ger Eglwys Llandeilo Abercwyn. Roedd bob math o deithwyr yn defnyddio'r llwybrau hyn yn y Canol Oesoedd ac yn ddiweddarach, gan gynnwys brenhinoedd, esgobion, pererionion a masnachwyr. Mae olion sarnau i'w gweld ar lanw isel.

5 Llwybr Arfordir Cymru

Mae Llwybr Arfordir Cymru yn cynylltu Talacharn gyda Sandlîr i'r gogledd a Phentywyn i'r gorllewin.

6 Eglwys Martin Sant

Mae'r eglwys hon yn dyddio i'r 13eg ganrif ac yn sefyll cryn bellter o'r dref. Gallai'r teulu de Brian fod wedi ei chysegru'r eglwys i Martin Sant o Tours. Saif ar safle eglwys Gymreig gynharach, oedd yn dyddio i'r cynnod cyn i Dalacharn (Abercoran) ymddangos. Claddwyd Dylan Thomas yn y fynwent newydd yma, ac mae croes wen syml yn dynodi ei fedd.

7 Golygfeydd at yr Hugden

Corfforaeth Talacharn sy'n gyfrifol am y caeau agored yma, sy'n cael eu rhannu ymmsg Bwrdeisiaid y dref. Mae'r lleiniau o dir yn cael eu gwahanu gan gynnau gwair sydd heb eu haredig a adweinir fel 'landsers'.

BRYN SYR JOHN

8 Ffin y Gorfforaeth

Wrth y gamfa edrychwch am yr arysgrif ar y graig. Ceir golygfeydd gwynch o'r aber ac o'r môr tuag at Drwyn Wharley, eiddo'r Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol, a Cover Cliff a Black Scar Ferry.

9 'Cockshilly'

Cewch ddewis llwybr uchel dros Fryn Syr John neu i lawr ar hyd 'Cockshilly' tuag at olygan drawiadol sy'n edrych dros yr hen gei a'r dramffordd, at Benrhyn Gŵyr a Sir Benfro.

10 Cors Talacharn

Tir a gafodd ei adennill o'r môr ers y Canol Oesoedd, gyda chymorth datblygiad y twyni tywod. Lleolwyd rhai ffermydd ar fryncynnau isel Cors y Dwyrain. I gyfeiriad Ginst Point gallwch weld morgloddiau'r 'Freething' a'r 'Saltings'. Gellir gweld yn glir hyd heddiw y cwysi rheolaidd a grëwyd wrth aredig y tir tua diwedd y 18fed ganrif.

11 Railsgate Pill

Tramffordd o'r 19eg ganrif a oedd yn cynylltu chwarel Coygan â glanfa fechan ar geg y Pill lle'r oedd calchfaen yn cael ei lwytho ar longau bach. Mae'r cledrau wedi mynd ond mae'r dramffordd, y sarn ac olion y cei bychan yn dal yma.

12 Y Lees

Tir comin isel (40 llain) sy'n eiddo i Gorfforaeth Talacharn, a roddwyd gan Syr Guy de Brian yn 1291. Pileri o haearn bwrw sy'n dynodi'r ffiniau.

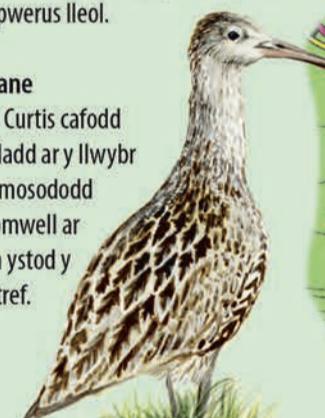
13 Chwarel Coygan

Gwelir y brigiad amlwg hwn o galchfaen Carbonifferaidd o bell. Mae rhwydwaith eang o ogofeydd yn rhedeg trwy'r graig a thua 38,000 o flynyddoedd yn ôl roedd ffau hienas yno. Darganfuwyd offer llaw o garreg a ddefnyddiwyd gan bobl Neanderthaliaid yn yr ogof hefyd. Adeiladwyd bryngaer fawr yno yn ystod yr Oes Haearn, tua'r 2ail ganrif CC. Rhwng y Sed a 7fed ganrif OC, yn ystod yr Oesoedd Tywyll, roedd y fryngaer yn gadarnle i bennaeth pwerus lleol.

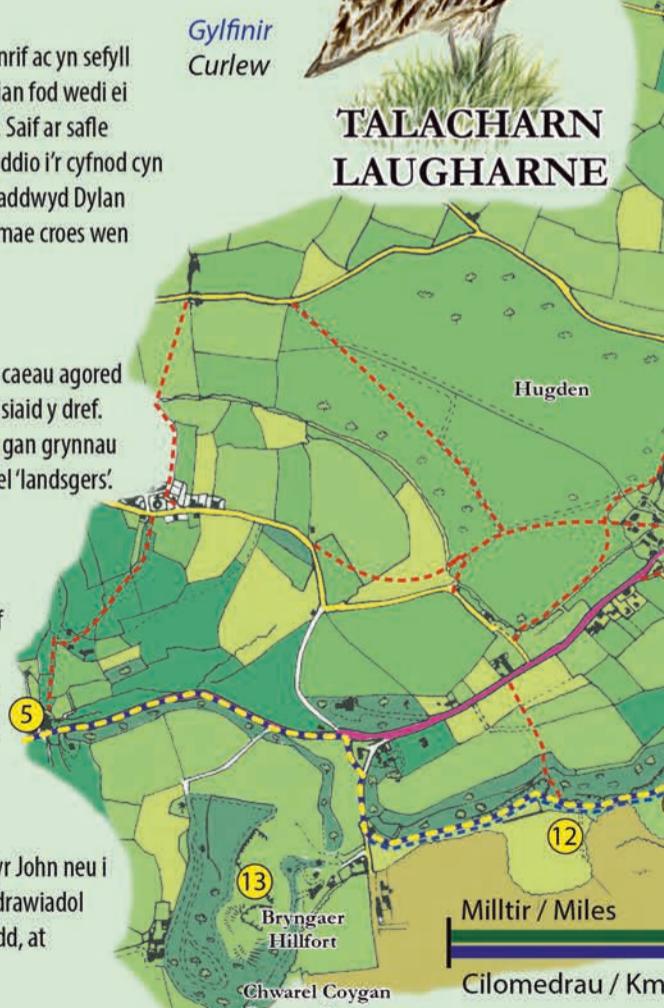
14 Back Lane

Yn ôl Mary Curtis cafodd llawer eu lladd ar y llwybr hwn pan ymosododd milwyr Cromwell ar y castell yn ystod y Rhyfel Cartref.

Gylfinir Curlew



TALACHARN LAUGHARNE



DYLAN'S WALK

1 Castle & Grist

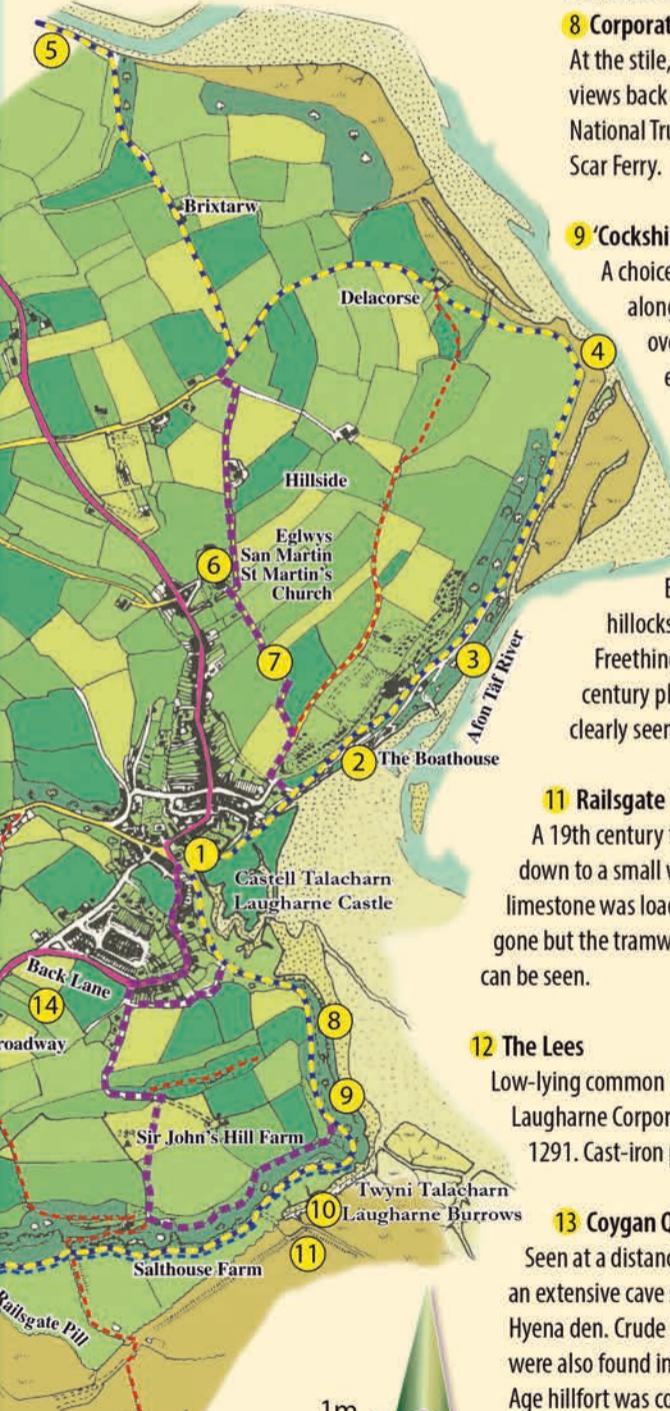
Laugharne Castle was first established in 1116 but the towering walls date to the 15th and 16th centuries when it was a fortified mansion. 'The Grist' is probably a shortened form of Grist Mill or Corn Mill. The salt marshes have developed in the area over the last 100 years or so. In the Middle Ages, boats could come right up to the castle walls.

2 The Boathouse and Dylan Thomas

This was Dylan Thomas' home from 1949 to 1953. The building dates from at least the early 19th century. It was a pub in the 1880s, The Ferry House Inn, and later a boat building yard. It is a fine viewpoint towards Sir John's Hill and over the Tâf Estuary.

3 Cliffside

A much-used route to the foreshore with the remains of older cottages and small quarries. Until the 1950s, an open-boat from Ferry Point to Laugharne was operated by a single boatman. Above the wooded cliffs are the remains of an Iron Age defended enclosure, reused as a gun battery during the Civil War siege of Laugharne Castle in 1644. A fine Victorian boathouse below the path is a reminder of 19th century leisure.



4 Ferries and River Crossings

A ferry crossing point close to Cwm Celyn farm, on the other side of the Tâf Estuary. Upstream there were ferries below Llandeilo Abercwin Church. These were routes used through the Middle Ages and later by travellers, including kings, bishops, pilgrims and merchants. Traces of causeways are revealed at low tide.

5 Wales Coast Path

The Wales Coast Path links Laugharne with St Clears to the north and Pendine to the west.

6 St Martin's Church

The 13th century church lies some distance from the town on the site of an earlier, Welsh church which predated the foundation of the Anglo-Norman town. The de Brian family may have changed the dedication to St Martin of Tours. Dylan Thomas is buried in the new graveyard, marked with a simple white crucifix.

7 Views to The Hugden

These unenclosed open fields are held by Laugharne Corporation and shared amongst the Burgesses. The shares or strips of land are separated from each other by unploughed grassy baulks known as 'landskers'.

SIR JOHN'S HILL

8 Corporation Boundary

At the stile, look for the inscription on the rock. Excellent views back along the Tâf estuary and seaward to the National Trust's Wharley Point, Cover Cliff and Black Scar Ferry.

9 'Cockshilly'

A choice of a higher route over Sir John's Hill or down along 'Cockshilly' to a spectacular viewpoint overlooking the former quay and tramway, extending to the Gower and Pembrokeshire.

10 Laugharne Marsh

Land reclaimed from the sea since the Middle Ages helped by the development of sand dunes. On the East Marsh some farms were sited on low hillocks. Out towards Ginst Point you can see 'The Freething' and 'The Saltings' sea walls. Late 18th century ploughing in regular ridges can still be very clearly seen today.

11 Railsgate Pill

A 19th century tramway used to run from Coygan Quarry down to a small wharf at the mouth of the Pill where limestone was loaded onto small coasting vessels. The rails are gone but the tramway, causeway and remains of the small quay can be seen.

12 The Lees

Low-lying common land (40 small strips or shares) belonging to Laugharne Corporation, first granted by Sir Guy de Brian in 1291. Cast-iron pillars mark the bounds.

13 Coygan Quarry

Seen at a distance, this outcrop of Carboniferous limestone has an extensive cave system. Some 38,000 years ago the cave was a Hyena den. Crude stone hand tools used by Neanderthal men were also found in the cave. In the 2nd century BC a large Iron Age hillfort was constructed here. In the 5th to 7th centuries AD the hillfort was the centre of power of a Dark Age chieftain.

14 Back Lane

According to Mary Curtis, there was much slaughter along this part of the route when the castle was stormed by Cromwell's soldiers during the Civil War.

