

Climb Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa)

Trip code: CS



Overview

 Total 1 day

 n/a

 Difficulty: 

 Hiking 1 day

 Wales, UK

 All year round

“More Adventure were amazing. The hike was very well organised and our guides made the challenge fun. I will definitely be doing more challenges with these guys!”

Paul, 2018

Climb Snowdon (*Yr Wyddfa* in Welsh), the highest mountain in Wales! At 1085 metres above sea level, this magnificent mountain is one of Wales’ most recognisable landmarks and an extremely popular day-hike. On a clear day on the summit you can experience views all over Snowdonia National Park, Anglesey, Pembrokeshire and Ireland. For an unforgettable adventure in the unique and rugged landscape of North Wales, tackle this fully guided hike with our qualified, experienced and fun guides at More Adventure.

There are several routes we can take to the summit, each with a slightly different atmosphere and length. The route you choose with your guide will depend on the weather, the abilities of the group, and what you’d like to get out the day. We always recommend arriving in the area the night before the hike begins and can advise on the best places to stay to make your Snowdonia stay truly memorable.

Highlights

- Breathtaking mountain scenery of Snowdonia National Park
- Embracing the physical challenge of climbing a mountain
- Experiencing the awe-inspiring wilderness of Wales
- Reaching the summit of Wales’ highest mountain, Snowdon (1085m)
- Encountering countless friendly sheep, our most popular mountain residents

Routes

There are several hiking routes up and down Snowdon, each with their own unique flavour. The distances and height gain below are for one way only, but it is possible to hike up one route and down another if you'd prefer (this may however require additional logistics). During certain months of the year it's also possible to return to Llanberis by the mountain railway. At the beginning of each route you'll be met by your More Adventure leader and will receive a safety brief, kit check, and overview of the day.

Here are four of our most popular routes!

Route 1: The Pyg Track

5.2km & 723m[↑]

This route begins at Pen-y-Pas car park at the head of Llanberis Pass. The Pyg Track is one of the most popular routes up Snowdon and is certainly one of the most direct. It is thought to be named from either the pass it crosses, *Bwlch y Moch* (Pig's Pass), or due to the *pyg* (tar) that was transported along it to use in the copper mines of the mountain.

Starting at Pen-y-Pas car park, this fabulous route begins by heading west along a well-formed rocky path to Bwlch y Moch. From here it continues down towards Llyn Llydaw to the south of Crib Goch before rising steeply up to Bwlch Glas. Here we turn south along the final summit ridge to the summit of Snowdon (1085m).



Route 2: The Miners Track

6.5km & 766m[↑]

This route has the same elevation as the Pyg Track and also begins at Pen-y-Pas car park, but is slightly longer and the beginning less steep. As the name suggests, the Miners track provided access to various mineworks below Snowdon and passes a number of buildings and remnants of this once thriving industry along the way.

It begins with a gentle ascent along what is essentially an unsurfaced road to cross over the causeway at Llyn Llydaw. After a gentle 500 metres skirting the northern bank of the lake, the route then steepens to Llyn Glaslyn above which you join the Pyg track for the final push to the summit.

Route 3: The Watkin Path

6.5km & 1000m[↑]

The Watkin Path is certainly one of the most scenic of all the routes. Originally opened by Sir Edward Watkin as a tourist route for horse-drawn carriages, it features old mine ruins, waterfalls and stupendous views on a clear day. It also tends to be quieter than the Pyg and Miners track.

Starting just southwest of Nant Gwynant, the route begins following the Afon-Cwm-Llan north into Cwm Llan. Here are the ruins of Plas-Cwm-Llan and Gladstone Rock which commemorates the opening of the path in 1892 by the Prime Minister William Gladstone. The route soon reaches Bwlch Ciliau, a saddle below Y Lliwedd from which a scree path leads to the summit of Snowdon.



Route 4: The Snowdon Ranger Path

6.5km & 920m[↑]

The Snowdon Ranger path is probably the oldest route to the summit and is also one of the quietest. It's a relatively straightforward ascent with some steeper sections but these are reasonably short lived. It was a popular route in the 19th century with the Victorian clients of John Morton, a local guide known locally as 'The Snowdon Ranger'.

Starting at the Snowdon Ranger Youth Hostel on Llyn Cwellyn, the route begins with a series of zigzags just southwest of Foel Goch on a bridleway. Ascending to the lake of Llyn Ffynnon-y-gwas, the route then becomes steeper, rockier and more challenging. In the final section it crosses the shoulder of Clogwyn Du'r Arddu before merging with the Llanberis Path and railway track to the summit.

Typical Itinerary

Whilst each day on the mountain is different according to the weather, group fitness, the chosen route and start/finish points, here's a typical itinerary for the day:

08:00 Meet your More Adventure leader(s) at the meeting point outlined in your Joining Instructions for a safety briefing and kit check. Catch a bus/taxi to your hike start point (if required).

09:00 Begin your hike up Snowdon!

12:00 - 13:00 Reach the summit of the highest mountain in Wales - the mighty summit of Yr Wyddfa / Snowdon!

13:30 Depart from the summit

16:00 - 17:00 Arrive back safely for a celebratory drink - congratulations, you made it!

Included

- Qualified, experienced mountain leader
- Professional, friendly support and guidance before your hike begins
- Comprehensive kit list and Joining Instructions
- 1:10 mountain leader ratio
- Group safety equipment and first aid kit
- Your event photos uploaded to social media
- Event insurance
- Training plan (if required)

Not Included

- Transport to and from start and finish points
- Accommodation before or after your challenge
- Parking fees
- Personal walking kit and equipment
- Lunch and snacks

This itinerary is a guide only and can sometimes be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Whilst we endeavour to uphold the proposed timings, this cannot be guaranteed.

Trip Notes

Trip suitability

You need to have a good level of basic fitness and some experience of walking with a rucksack in hiking boots. You will be walking through mountainous environments on uneven and steep terrain that will be challenging at times. This is a group trip and we aim for participants to enjoy it as much as possible, for that reason we recommend you undertake some challenge-specific training before the challenge, details of which will be included in the Joining Instructions.

Anything cardiovascular will help (walking, cycling, swimming, running, gym), but we also recommend you have practice tackling some hills whilst wearing the boots and rucksack you'll be using on the mountain. Importantly you need to do some longer (2+ hour) walks so you will know what is required. We cannot control the weather so don't forget to bring your sense of humour on the hill! **The more you train, the more you'll enjoy this incredible hiking challenge!**

For a more detailed training plan, [please get in touch](#).

Weather & Climate

The weather in the mountains of Snowdonia is variable throughout the year and in a single day you can experience all four seasons. **It is absolutely essential that you are prepared for all weathers and be able to carry 2 litres of water.** Whilst North Wales has its fair share of good weather, it can rain at any time of the year and mornings can be chilly. Our recommendations on what clothing to bring will be issued upon booking.

Health

Your health and safety is our number one priority during any trip with More Adventure. For this reason, our leaders are the very best in the business, they all hold relevant outdoor First Aid Certificates, and have hands-on practical medical experience in a variety of environments.

It is recommended that you visit your GP well in advance to discuss your trip and any pre-existing medical conditions you have. We will require a comprehensive medical declaration form that may need to be verified by your GP.

Equipment

There are few specialist items required on this challenge but we do make some recommendations in the Joining Instructions to make your hike more pleasurable.

Clothing

It is crucial to be prepared for the weather! The trip will continue in all but the absolute worst of weathers so it's important you are wearing and carrying the correct items of clothing. Generally the best clothes to wear while hiking are light and comfortable but you will also be required to carry waterproofs and warm clothing at any time of the year. A comprehensive clothing and equipment list is included in the Joining Instructions. Remember, it's better to "have and not need than to need and not have"!

Leaders

This trip is led by at least one experienced and qualified mountain leader who will lead the group at all times. They guide and encourage the group, and help deal with any issues that arise.

Please do not book any transport to/from the trip until it has been confirmed by email that it will run.

How to book

1. Find a date that suits you on our website
2. Click 'Book Now'
3. Fill in your personal details (if you are booking for a group, there is an option here to do so)
4. Fill in your medical details
5. Invite your friends if you wish!
6. Click on 'Make Payment' and securely pay a deposit or full balance through Worldpay
- 7. Congratulations - you've now secured your place!**
8. You will receive a confirmation email and further information about the trip
9. Any remaining balance needs to be paid no later than 5 weeks before the trip begins. This can be paid in installments or in one payment through your More Adventure account.