

23 CONWY TRYFAN (VIA HEATHER TERRACE)

Distance: 5¼ miles/8.3km Time: 4-5 hours Grade: Challenging



Llyn Idwal from just past Llyn Bochlywd, between 5 and 6.

PHOTO: MATTHEW PIKE



CHOSEN BY... MATTHEW PIKE

If you want a great scramble up this

iconic Snowdonian peak but tremble at the thought of its notorious North Ridge, then Heather Terrace is a great alternative. The going is slow and tough, but, for most of the way, lacks the exposure and the technicality required on North Ridge. That said, the final section is a full-on scramble, so don't underestimate this route. The rewards include dramatic views of the precipitous Glyderau and Carneddau ranges, three utterly gorgeous lakes, and the satisfaction and kudos of having climbed Britain's

toughest mountain south of the Scottish Highlands.

1 Start

Head to the western end of the roadside parking then turn L through gate at footpath sign. Head R through kissing gate then follow grass path heading uphill. At T-junction of paths head L and follow contour of hill. Shortly before dip as approaching Tryfan Bach rock face, take faint path R. This heads directly uphill, and soon up gully following small stream. At T-junction with more distinct path, turn R. Climb steeply then, once completing the hands-on climb-up between rocks, you've reached Heather Terrace path.

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Free roadside parking on A5, east of Llyn Ogwen, grid ref SH668605

Is it for me? Grade 1 scrambling and exposure, particularly near the summit. Route finding skills needed. Prolonged ascent and descent

Stiles 6

PLANNING

Nearest town Bethesda

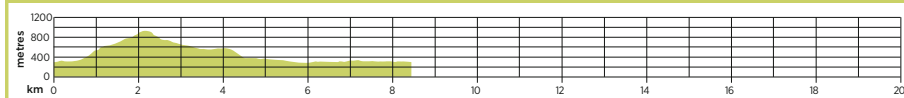
Refreshments Snack bar at Ogwen Centre

Public toilets Ogwen Centre

Public transport T10 Trawscymru bus Bangor-Bethesda-Betws y Coed stops at Llyn Ogwen (0300 200 2233; trawscymru.info). Bws Ogwen electric bus Bethesda-Llyn Ogwen

Maps OS Explorer OL17; Landranger 115; Harvey Superwalker Snowdonia North

GRADIENT PROFILE



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■ OS Explorer map OL17 ■ Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop

2 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile/0.8km
Turn L here. Path is often indistinct, but keep heading generally uphill. After short time you'll see more distinct looking terrace ahead. Follow this as it eventually bends R around mountain. As approach gully leading up to col, scramble up rocks immediately to gully's R. Drop down into gully near top, then cross step stile at col.

3 $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles/1.9km
Locate track R, winding up L side of mountain, initially avoiding steepest rocks. Path gives up after a bit. Take easiest looking route up rocks (there are several options, all of them tricky) to false summit. Then scramble down, and up to the true summit of Tryfan.

4 $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles/2.3km
Retrace steps over false peak, then keep R on descent until locate path down to col. Continue to R of Far South Peak (there's more clambering here). This eventually meets another path and, as it approaches stone wall with two step stiles, take path R, leading downhill. Path descends to Llyn Bochlywd.

5 $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles/3.5km
Just past lake, turn L to cross stream, then boulder hop to path running alongside lake. When approaching end of lake, take path diagonally R

uphill. Ignore paths leading L, and continue straight ahead for steep, prolonged descent to Llyn Idwal. At lake, turn R along path and, at far side, turn R just before footbridge and follow track down to car park at Ogwen Centre.

6 $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles/5.6km
Turn R along road, then turn L at main road until footpath sign R. Follow initially by river, clambering over large boulders. Path is waymarked and stays close to lake edge. At end of lake, cross stile, then

continue to cross another stile, after which path heads over footbridge and up bank above farmhouse. Follow waymarkers aiming for step stile in wall. Cross this and turn R. Follow path down to track, then turn L and follow track to road. **CW**

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:
walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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DATE WALKED

TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING

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