

THE SNOWDONIA WAY

by Alex Kendall



JUNIPER HOUSE, MURLEY MOSS, OXENHOLME ROAD, KENDAL, CUMBRIA LA9 7RL www.cicerone.co.uk © Alex Kendall 2017 First edition 2017

ISBN: 978 1 85284 856 9 Reprinted 2020 (with updates)

Printed by KHL Printing, Singapore A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library. All photographs are by the author unless otherwise stated.



© Crown copyright 2017 OS PU100012932

Acknowledgements

I'd like to thank Jenny Wilson and Emily Stachowiak, who came with me to walk sections of the book, through pleasant days and not-so-pleasant bogs and hail-storms. I'd also like to thank Rosemary Moorhouse-Gann and Monica Kendall who helped me check the whole route and made sure the directions made sense. Finally, a huge thanks for the advice and information I've been given by countless friends, café workers, hostel staff members and people in the hills.

Updates to this guide

While every effort is made by our authors to ensure the accuracy of guidebooks as they go to print, changes can occur during the lifetime of an edition. Any updates that we know of for this guide will be on the Cicerone website (www.cicerone.co.uk/856/updates), so please check before planning your trip. We also advise that you check information about such things as transport, accommodation and shops locally. Even rights of way can be altered over time. We are always grateful for information about any discrepancies between a guidebook and the facts on the ground, sent by email to updates@cicerone.co.uk or by post to Cicerone, Juniper House, Murley Moss, Oxenholme Road, Kendal, LA9 7RL.

Register your book: To sign up to receive free updates, special offers and GPX files where available, register your book at www.cicerone.co.uk.

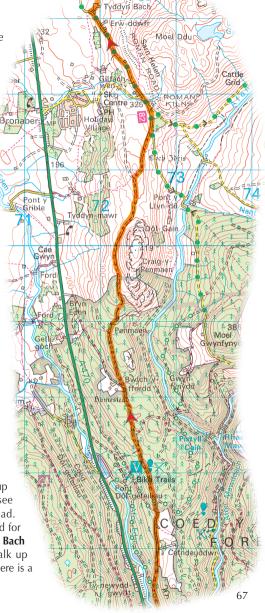
Front cover: Looking north from the summit of Cadair Idris (Stage 1B)



When fully out of the forest you will be able to see the full day's route laid out before vou, from Cadair Idris in the south to Llyn Trawsfynydd ahead. Continue ahead along the track, passing Craig y Penmaen and following a wall on the right. Take the right track at the fork, heading uphill, rather than the grassy left one heading downhill.

The track meets the road beside a small forest and the chapel Capel yr Annibynwyr Penystryt, built in 1890. Turn left on the road and then left at the road junction. Cross the cattle grid and take the right road fork, passing to the right of the house.

This minor road gradually descends, and from the small group of conifers you can see Llyn Trawsfynydd ahead. Continue down the road for just over 1km to **Tyddyn Bach** farm; turn right and walk up the farm drive, where there is a



Conwy Castle will come into view, surrounded by the town of Conwy and facing the town of Llandudno over the mouth of the Afon Conwy ('full and flowing river').

After two small rises, this track descends in a roughly straight line down to Conwy. At the only path junction, continue ahead in the same direction, downhill. The track eventually becomes Mountain Road at a small layby. Take a left at the first road junction after this, onto what is still Mountain Road, past the sign for Beechwood Court. Continue down the track straight ahead and cross the footbridge over the **railway**.

At the crossroads after the footbridge, continue straight ahead over the road, keeping the school on the right. Take the first right after the school, following the tarmac track along the banks of the Afon Conwy to reach the **Conwy** waterfront and the **castle**. From the waterfront, pass through the arch and head up Lower Gate Street, next to the Liverpool Arms. This road becomes High Street and heads up to reach Lancaster Square. The Snowdonia Way ends at the statue of Llywelyn the Great, at the top of the High Street.

CONWY



Conwy Castle and the Afon Conwy

Standing near the mouth of the Afon Conwy, this impressive town is dominated by the castle, built in the late 13th century by Edward I as part of his conquest of Wales. It was designed to dominate the landscape and put an end to Welsh resistance to the English crown, which tells us as much about the persistence of

the Welsh princes as it does about English might.

Surrounding the town are the original stone walls, built at the same time, and in an impressively complete state. There are 22 towers, and several