



Circular Walk

St. Fagans

Circular Walk

Countryside, history and wildlife on your doorstep...



A Proud Capital



 **OUTDOOR Cardiff**
AWYR AGORED Caerdydd


Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru
Countryside Council for Wales



FOLLOW THE WALKERS CODE

- Guard against all risk of fire
- Fasten all gates
- Keep all dogs under close control
- Keep to public paths on farmland
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls
- Take your litter home
- Protect all wildlife, plants and trees



Getting there

By foot / cycle: via Castle Hill, the Ely Trail from the south east, Michaelston Road from the west and from PROW13 north of the level crossing from Plymouth Great Wood (by foot only).

By bus: - details of bus routes and services can be found at www.cardiffbus.co.uk

By car: - car parking facilities are conveniently located nearby at the National History Museum for a small charge.

Contact Details

Downloadable leaflets and further information on walks in Cardiff can be found at www.cardiff.gov.uk/countryside, or by contacting the Cardiff Council Countryside Team on:

Telephone: 029 20873719 / 029 20877318

Email: countryside@cardiff.gov.uk

Further information about what you can do outdoors in Cardiff is available from the **Website:** www.outdoorcardiff.com, or by contacting

Telephone: 029 20785200

Email: outdoor@cardiff.gov.uk

For any other enquiries/ issues concerning the walk please contact the Council's Public Rights of Way Team on

Telephone: 029 20785200

Email: Highways@Cardiff.gov.uk



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About the walk

Walk distance: The circular walk is less than 2 miles in length (3km)

Time of Walk: Between ¾ and 1½ hours to complete.

Terrain: The route is largely flat with some very gentle slopes, and includes a kissing gate, and three stiles. Users should also note that the northern section of this route involves walking on a roadside verge. As such, normal respect for the highway should be applied at all times.

Route: Way-markers and red banding is posted throughout the walk route for walkers to follow. Please be aware that part of the walk route crosses farmland used for grazing stock.

Facilities: Refreshments and toilet facilities are conveniently located nearby at the National History Museum.

Setting

The walk is set within the St Fagans Lowlands and Ely Valley which comprises attractive countryside close to the urban area.

It passes through a mosaic of farmland, mature planted woodland and a well managed hundred acre parkland estate associated with the St. Fagans National History Museum.

The museum includes the premier exhibit St. Fagans Castle, over forty well chosen examples of Welsh historic architecture, a farm, skills demonstrations and galleries with exhibitions of costume, daily life and farming implements.

Biodiversity

The St. Fagans area is rich in biodiversity. The main habitats of interest are the River Ely, together with the numerous woodlands and ponds.

The river itself is a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Otters, Dippers, Kingfishers and Sand Martins are examples of some of the special creatures that use the river. It is also the Welsh stronghold of Monk's-Hood, a large poisonous plant with blue flowers.

The woodlands in the area are mainly Beech, where you can find ancient woodland ground flora under the trees. In the spring this includes carpets of Bluebells, Ramsons (wild garlic), Lesser Celadine and Wood Anemone.

The woodlands are also home to a number of bat species and a colony of Lesser Horseshoe bats live in the museum grounds.

St. Fagans is the Cardiff stronghold for Great Crested Newts. They lay their eggs in water and the adults spend most of their time in damp places on land. Smooth and Palmate Newts, Common Frogs, Toads, Grass Snakes and dragonflies can also be found in the area.

Local interest

The Battle of St Fagans

This circular walk encompasses the reported site of the Battle of St. Fagans dated, 8th May 1648.

Sources record that this last major battle of the Civil War saw 8,000 Royalists bearing down on a Parliamentary force of only 3000. After around two hours of cavalry charges and hand-to-hand combat the 'Royalist Rebels' were surrounded and the Parliamentarians victorious.

Whilst reports describing how the 'River Ely ran red with blood' may be an exaggeration, it is fair to say that this is a significant site of Civil War history within Wales.

St. Fagans

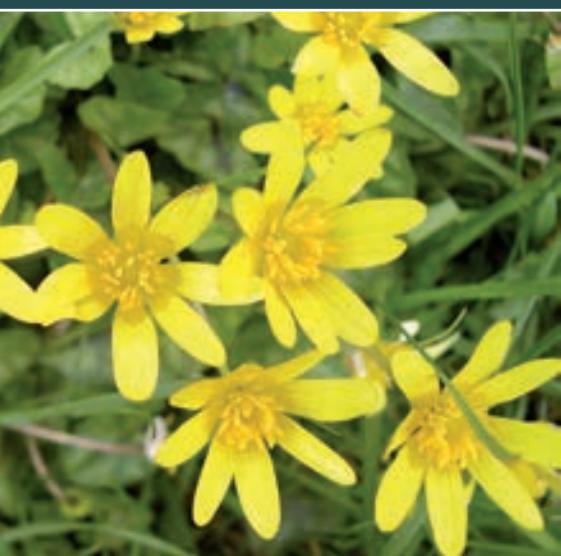
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The Ely Trail

It is possible to access the Ely Trail from St. Fagans, on the southern side of Castle Hill. The trail is a generally flat mainly off-road, stone-dust / tarmac path suitable for cyclists and walkers. Although the trail is incomplete around the Canton section it is still possible to walk and cycle along the whole trail from St. Fagans to Cardiff Bay.

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Sain Ffagan

Taith Gerdded Gylchol

- ←→ Taith Gerdded Gylchol Sain Ffagan
- ↔ Brwydr Sain Ffagan
- - - Llwybr Elái

Taith
Gerdded
Gylchol

Y Daith

Pellter y daith gerdded: Mae'r daith gylchol yn llai na 2 filltir o hyd (3km)

Amser i'w Chwblhau: Rhwng ¾ a 1½ awr i'w chwblhau.

Tirwedd: Mae'r daith yn un gwastad gan fwyaf gyda rhai llethrâu rhwydd, giât mochyn a thair camfa. Dylai cerddwyr nodi hefyd bod y pwnt mwyaf ogledol i'r daith hon yn cynnwys cerdded ar hyd llain yml y ffodd. Yn hyn o beth, dyld defnyddio'r rheolau arferol ar gyfer y briffordd bob amser.

Taith: Gall cerddwyr ddilyn trywydd y daith gydag arwyddion sy'n nodi'r ffodd a bandiau coch sydd wedi'u gosod ar hyd y daith. Mae rhan o'r llwybr yn croesi ffermdir a defnyddir ar gyfer da pori.

Cyfleusterau: Mae lluniaeth a chyfleusterau tai bach ar gael yn gyfleoedd gerllaw yn yr Amgueddfa Werin.

Lleoliad

Mae'r daith gerdded wedi'i lleoli yn Iseldiroedd Sain Ffagan a Dyffryn Elái sef illecyn gwledig braff gerllaw'r ardal ddinesig.

Mae'r daith yn mynd heibio tir fferm, coetir aedd fed ac ystâd can erw sy'n cael ei rheoli'n dda sy'n gysylltiedig ag Amgueddfa Werin Sain Ffagan.

Mae'r amgueddfa'n cynnwys Castell Sain Ffagan fel prif atyniad, a thros ddeugain enghraift o bensaernïaeth hanesyddol Gymreig wedi'u dewis yn ofalws gan gynnwys fferm, arddangosiadau sgilau ac orielau'n dangos gwisg, bywyd bob dydd ac offer fferm.

Bioamrywiaeth

Mae ardal Sain Ffagan yn gyfoeth o fioamrywiaeth. Y prif gynefinoedd o ddiddordeb yw Afon Elái, ynghyd â nifer o goetioredd a phyllau.

Mae'r afon ei hun yn Safle o Bwysigrwydd ar gyfer Cadwraeth Natur (SoBCN). Mae'r Dwrgi, Trochwr, Glas y Dorlan a Gwennol y Glennydd ymhlið rhai o'r creaduriaid arbennig sy'n defnyddio'r afon. Dyma gadarnie Cwcwll y Mynach yng Nghymru hefyd, sef planhigyn mawr gwenwynig â blodau glas.

Coed Ffawyd sy'n llunio'r coetiroedd lleol gan fwyaf ble y gallwr ddod o hyd i flora maes hynafol y coetir o dan y coed. Yn y gwanwyn mae'r flora'n cynnwys carpedi o Glychau'r Gog, Craf y Geifr (garleg gwylt), Llygad Ebrill a Blodau'r Gwynt.

Mae'r coetiroedd hefyd yn gartref i nifer o rywogaethau ystum ac mae cytreff o Ystumod Pedol Lleiaf yn bwy ar diroedd yr amgueddfa.

Sain Ffagan yw cadarnle Caerdydd i'r Fadfall Ddwyr Gribog. Mae'n dodwy ei hwyau yn y dŵr ac mae'r oedolion yn treulio'r rhan fwyaf o'u hamser mewn llefydd gwylb ar y tir. Gellir hefyd gweld Madfall Dŵr Barfog, Broga Cyffredin, Llyffant, Neidr Lwyd a Gwas y Neidr yn yr ardal.

O Ddiddordeb Lleol

Brwydr Sain Ffagan

Mae'r daith gylchol hon yn cynnwys maes y gad Brwydr Sain Ffagan dyddiedig 8fed o Fai 1648.

Mae ffynonellau'n cofnodi, y gwelwyd 8,000 o Frenhinwyr, yn y frwydr fawr olaf hon o'r Rhyfel Cartref, yn rhuthro ar 3000 aelod yn unig o lu'r Seneddwyr. Ar ôl rhyw ddwy awr o ymosodiadau o dŵr marchfiliwr a brwydro bôn braich cafodd y 'Gwrthryfelwyr Brenhinol' eu hamgylchynu a bu'r Seneddwyr yn fuddugoliaethus.

Er efallai bod gor-ddweud yn yr adroddiadau sy'n disgrifio 'Afon Elái'n goch gan waed', mae'n deg dweud bod hwn yn safle arwyddocaol o ran hanes y Rhyfel Cartref yng Nghymru.