

OUTDOOR Cardiff
AWYR AGORED Caerdydd

Fforest Fawr Circular Walk


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About the Walks

Fforest Fawr is managed by Forestry Commission Wales on behalf of Welsh Government. It is a lovely mix of deciduous woodland with small pockets of conifers.

There are three circular walks available in Fforest Fawr

 **Burges' Way: 1.1 miles (1.76km)** Starting from the Castell Coch car park, follow the yellow way-markers. This circular walk takes approximately 45 minutes to one hour to complete with the opportunity to visit the old mining site, the Blue Pool.

 **Sir Henry's Trail: 2.31 miles (3.72km)** Starting from either Castell Coch or Fforest Fawr car parks, follow the red way-markers. This circular walk takes approximately 1 to 2 hours to complete. Look out for the 3 Bear Caves and the Sculpture Trail which has many interesting features for children to discover and a panoramic view of the mountains at the end!

 **Industrial Heritage Trail: 2.5 miles (4km)** Starting from the Fforest Fawr car park, follow the purple way-markers. This circular walk takes approximately 1 1/2 to 2 hours to complete with features along the route: 3 Bear Caves, Blue Pool and the Sculpture Trail.

Terrain and Accessibility Information

- Paths are a mix of compacted stone and firm earth paths
- Appropriate footwear is advised
- The walks have a varied landscape with a steep section immediately north of Castell Coch.
- Paths are barrier free; however one kissing gate with access for medium mobility vehicles is situated at Forest Fawr car park.
- Be aware of horse riders as some of the paths cross permissive bridle routes.
- Be aware that there may be muddy puddles due to inclement weather.
- Please be aware that the Taff Trail follows part of the walk route and is a shared use path.



How to Get There

GPS Codes for the walk starting points: Fforest Fawr Car Park (GR 314167:183868) Castle Coch car park (GR313098:182675)

By foot/cycle: Follow the signs for Castle Coch from Tongwynlais to start the walk from the castle car park or continue further along Heol y Fforest road turning left onto the access road that takes you to the Fforest Fawr car park. There are information boards about the walks at both starting points.

By bus: The nearest bus stop is approximately 1km from the castle in the village of Tongwynlais. It is served by Stagecoach service 132, which runs every 30 minutes between Cardiff and Pontypridd. On Sundays the service runs every 60 minutes. For more detailed information go to <http://www.traveline-cymru.info/>

By car: Exit the M4 at Junction 32 onto the A470 and follow signs for Tongwynlais and then signage for Castle Coch. Off road parking is available at the bottom of Heol y Fforest Road and an information board about the walks is located in the Castle Coch car park. Otherwise continue along to the Heol y Fforest Road car park where you will find a second information board located.

Further Information

For all other enquiries or issues concerning this circular walk please contact the Cardiff Council Public Rights of Way Team on 029 20785200 or e-mail

Highways@cardiff.gov.uk

For other walks and outdoor activities in Cardiff visit Outdoor Cardiff website. Walk leaflets are downloadable from the website or available in print upon request. www.outdoorcardiff.com

