

Moel Arthur Summit, Vale of Clwyd & Cilcain.

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Route Summary



Climb to the summit of Moel Arthur on this 9 mile (you can shorten it) walk through beautiful countryside. See derelict cottages and visit the historic village of Cilcain.

Route Overview



Category: Walking

Length: 14.270 km / 8.92 mi

Last Modified: 2nd September 2020

Difficulty: Medium

Rating: Unrated

Surface: Moderate

Date Published: 7th May 2019

Description



Moel Arthur Summit Walk.

History:

Moel Arthur ("Arthur's Hill") is an Iron Age hillfort in Flintshire, Wales, about 5 miles east of Denbigh. It is on a prominent hill, height 1,495 ft. in the Clwydian Range and overlooks the Vale of Clwyd to the west. Offa's Dyke Path skirts the hill.

The oval fort is about 520 ft north–south and 140 metres (460 ft) east–west, enclosing an area of 4.4 acres. There are two large banks and ditches to the north, where the hill slope is not steep; above the steep south-west, south and east slopes there is a single bank.

There was excavation in 1849 by Wynne Ffoulkes. He found "coarse red Roman pottery" which has not been preserved; it is not known if it was Roman, which would suggest occupation into the Roman period, or prehistoric. He found traces of a drystone construction, destroyed during the excavation, near the south of the entrance. In 1962, three copper Bronze Age axes were found within the defences.

The Walk:

Start at one of the the car parks 1/2 mile due west of Cilcain Village. Head north-west, straight on over the cross roads and after a short distance on the road, join a track towards Moel Arthur.

Turn left when you reach the road and at the car park, take the path to the summit of Moel Arthur for spectacular views of the North Wales coast, the Vale of Clwyd and Snowdonia far to the west. A great place to watch the sun set in summer.

Return to the car park and take the small gate to the left of the cattle grid. Continue south-west heading gently down hill following a very quiet track. After a short section of road, fork left onto a track turning south and following the contours towards two derelict cottages.



After the ruins of the second cottage (on your right) bare left and head uphill heading south-east towards the Offa's Dyke path.

At the high point you cross the Offa's Dyke path and head east, downhill to the right of the reservoir. Join a farm track and pass a second reservoir (Cilcain 1 & 2) constructed in 1896.

At the old grey pumping station turn left an head up to Cilcain Village.

Visit the historic church, well worth going in to view the roof structure.

After the church you will pass the Village Hall and shop/cafe and then the village pub. Good food and ales! (You can cut your walk short here if the White Horse has served you well. The car park is 1/2 mile due west).



Turn left in the village centre and head north looking out for a footpath sign on the left heading across a field.

Join the minor road where you will see a water pumping station. Walk past it and turn left walking uphill past some stone cottages. Take the next left turn then fork right onto a track for a short distance before turning right towards the walker's car park.

All proceeds from the sale of my walks (most cost 50p) goes to Nightingale House Hospice. I highly recomend installing Viewranger on your phone so that you always know precicely where you are on these routes. Thanks for

looking.

Waypoints



St Mary's Church

(53.17728; -3.23427)

Wonderful historic church. Be sure to go inside.

Water Pumping Station

(53.18276; -3.23950)

Water Pumping Station



START: Car Park

(53.17740; -3.24524)

Recomended start at the walker's car park.



Moel Arthur

(53.18453; -3.28049)

Break off the route for a few minutes and make your way to the top of Moel Arthur for spectacular views



Parking

(53.18213; -3.27806)

Parking



Offa's Dyke Path

(53.16754; -3.27962)

Offa's Dyke Path



Small Parking area

(53.17340; -3.24064)

There is a small parking area by the old water pumping station

