



Penallt Circular Walks – Woodpecker

Length:	3.1 km; total ascent: 115 m
Time:	40 to 60 minutes
Grade:	Gradual climbs, several stiles
Starting point:	Pentwyn Green, Penallt's village green situated above the 17 th century Bush Inn.

A varied and picturesque route with stunning views across the Wye Valley. The route takes in old meadows and pastures, ancient trees, quiet lanes, historic buildings and an arboretum.

THE ROUTE

- a. From the village green, facing the Bush Inn, take the small green lane to the right past Pentwyn Cottage. After 200 metres or so you come to Lone Lane where you turn left.
- b. Continue down the lane, for approximately 350 metres passing several cottages until you see a sign for Lone Farmhouse hanging from the wall alongside the road. Turn right into the gravel private drive (which has public footpath access) just before Lone Farmhouse (see photo). Passing behind the buildings after about 80 m you'll see a stile on the right into the field, where an information board is sited outlining some of Penallt's history.
- c. With the hedgerow on your left head for the ancient lime tree on the horizon, where the next stile is located. Take a moment to admire this magnificent ancient tree clothed in mistletoe.
- d. Over the stile, and the view across the Wye Valley opens up; don't miss the picnic bench up on the right that takes in one of the best views in Penallt and is a perfect spot for a break.
- e. Continue in a south easterly direction across the field to a stone stile; to the left of this stile is another ancient tree, a lovely old oak. Walk through the next field, dropping downslope below the property on the right, head towards the yellow waymark on the stone gatepost, continue straight for approximately 50m and turn right up to the small gate.
- f. Turn left onto the stone track. At the end of the track bear right onto the lane, follow the lane for 230 m until you see a house on the left.
- g. Just before you reach the house take the footpath on the right through the trees and then over a stile into the field. Cross the field to the stone stile onto the lane and turn right.
- h. Follow the lane, and, where the road turns to the left, follow the footpath that leads straight on and through a metal gate on the left. Turn right and, keeping the fence on your right, continue straight on and over a stile.
- i. Follow this path until you reach a kissing gate, go through this gate and you are in the grounds of the Argoed, an impressive country house, dating from the 1860s with earlier origins from the late 16th and early 17thC. Follow the path straight through the grounds of the Argoed and the arboretum to another kissing gate. Cross the drive and, keeping the same direction, pass immediately through a gap in the wall straight ahead, joining another drive. Continue past several magnificent Wellingtonias and, where the drive swings left, continue straight on along a small path and then over a stile. Follow the path over a small cattle grid until meeting the road at a gap in the hedge where you turn right.
- j. Follow the road straight through the village of Penallt, passed St Mary's Church (1868) and The Old School (1834). Both are now converted to residential accommodation.
- k. At the war memorial, bear right to return to the village green.



[see overleaf for map]

MAP

