Explore Gower's Ancient Woodlands

Welcome / Croeso

Discover the magic of ancient woodlands in this series of six walks around the Gower area.

Rich in wildlife, beauty and atmosphere, ancient woodlands are one of our most precious habitats.

Over centuries of continuous woodland cover they have developed complex communities of trees, plants, fungi, and microorganisms, which support a whole host of animal species.

They can also be rich in archaeological remains - clues to their historic importance to people as a source of timber, fuel and food.

Although always fascinating, ancient woodlands are perhaps at their finest in spring when the flowers of the woodland floor are at their peak.

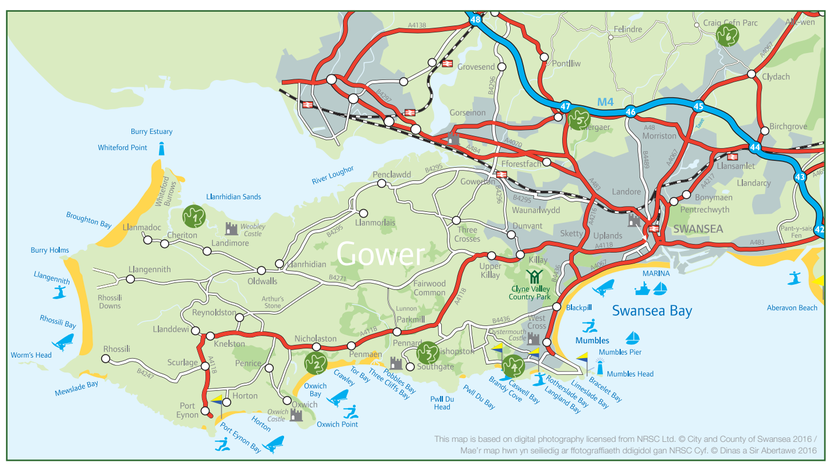
Dewch i ddarganfod cyfaredd coetiroedd hynafol yn y gyfres hon o chwe thaith gerdded o gwmpas ardal Gŵyr.

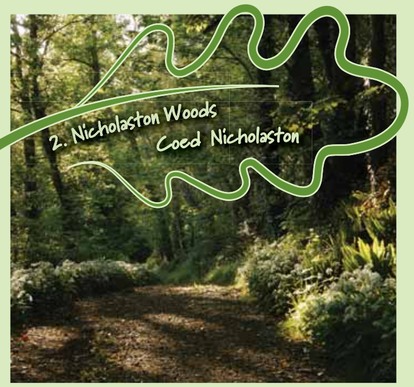
Gyda chyfoeth o fywyd gwyllt, harddwch ac awyrgylch, mae coetiroedd hynafol yn un o'n cynefinoedd mwyaf gwerthfawr.

Dros ganrifoedd o orchudd coedwigol di-dor, maent wedi datblygu cymunedau cymhleth o goed, planhigion, ffyngau a micro-organebau sy'n cynnal llu o rywogaethau anifeiliaid.

Gallant hefyd gynnwys cyfoeth o olion archaeolegol - cliwiau ynglŷn â'u pwysigrwydd hanesyddol i bobl fel ffynhonnell pren, tanwydd a bwyd.

Er eu bod bob amser yn ddiddorol, mae'n debyg bod coetiroedd hynafol ar eu gorau yn y gwanwyn pan fo blodau llawr y coetir yn eu hanterth.


Gower
Swansea Bay
SWANSEA
M4
Burry Estuary
Whiteford Point
Broughton Bay
Burry Holms
Llangennith
Rhossili Bay
Worm's Head
Mewslade Bay
Llanrhidian Sands
Weobley Castle
Oxwich Castle
Oxwich Bay
Oxwich Point
Port Eynon
Port Eynon Bay
Horton
Rhossili
Knelston
Parkmill
Reynoldston
Penrice
Nicholaston
Penmaen
Pwll Du Head
Mumbles
Mumbles Head
Mumbles Pier
Blackpill
Clyne Valley Country Park
Singleton
Cathedral
Fairwood Common
Llanmadoc
Cheriton
Llanrhidian
Llanmorlais
Penclawdd
Gowerton
Grovesend
Pontlliw
Felindre
Fforestfach
Landore
Morriston
Clydach
Birchgrove
Llansamlet
Llandarcy
Pontarddulais
Crofty
Loughor
River Loughor
Burry Port
Pembrey
Llanelli
Pembrey Country Park
Craig-cefn-parc
Mawr
Aberavon Beach
MARINA
A4118
A4067
A4216
A4121
A4138
A483
A4067
A4118
A4216
A4121
A4138
A483
A4067
A4118
A4216
A4121
A4138
A483
A4067
A4118



A secluded walk through varied woodland on south-facing slopes overlooking the sea

Mature specimens of oak and ash are scattered throughout the wood, sections of which have been planted with beech and conifers which add to the diversity of the woodland.

Look out in spring for spectacular carpets of wild garlic or ramsons and dense patches of bluebell. Throughout the year, the shiny evergreen fronds of harts-tongue fern are abundant.

There are particularly luxurious growths of old-man's beard - our only native *Clematis* - which climbs among the canopy and forms liana-like hanging stems.

At the highest point of the walk is a fine view southwards over Oxwich bay and the dunes and marshes of Oxwich National Nature Reserve.

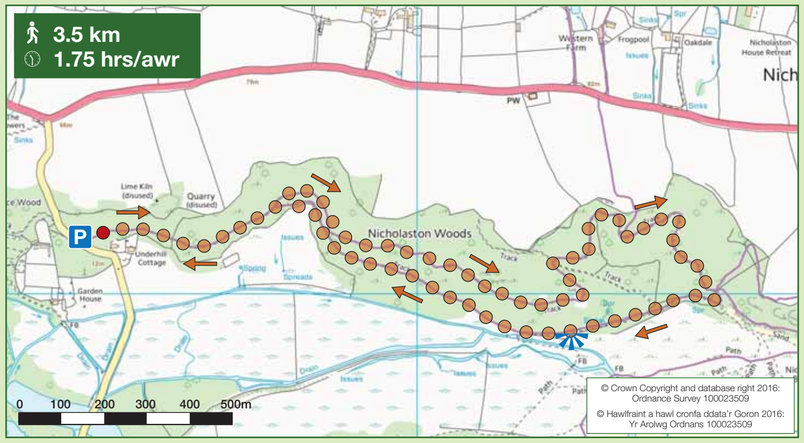
Taith gerdded ddiarfforddd trwy goetir amrywiol ar lethrau dehevol sydd â golygfeydd dros y môr

Mae enghreifftiau aeddfed o dderw ac ynn ar wasgar trwy'r coed, y mae rhannau ohono wedi cael eu plannu â bedw a chonwydd sy'n ychwanegu at amrywiaeth y coetir.

Cadwch lygad yn y gwanwyn am orchudd ysblennydd o graf y geifr a chlytiau trwchus o glychau'r gog. Trwy gydol y flwyddyn, mae ffrondau bytholwyrdd sgleiniog tafod yr hydd yn doreithiog.

Ceir toreth o dyfiant barf-yr-hen-ŵr - ein hunig clematis brodorol - sy'n dringo ymhlith y canopi a ffurfio coesynnau crog tebyg i lianas.

Ar bwynt uchaf y daith gerdded mae golygfa dda tua'r de dros Fae Oxwich a thwyni tywod a chorsydd Gwarchodfa Natur Genedlaethol Oxwich.



Trail Information / Gwybodaeth am y Llwybr

START / DECHRAU (GR/CG - SS 503 881)
From the A4118 a secondary road leads south to Oxwich - start point 300m on left
O'r A4118 mae ffordd eilaidd yn arwain i'r de i Oxwich - man dechrau 300m ar y chwith

PARKING / PARCIO
Room for two cars, NB poor visibility
Lle ar gyfer dau gar, DS gwelededd gwael

PUBLIC TRANSPORT / CLUDIANT CYHOEDDUS
Bus stop (Oxwich Towers) 300m away
Safle bws (Oxwich Towers) 300m i ffwrdd

There are steps to get into the wood. The path is generally level and firm underfoot but with some short inclines, and muddy sections.

Mae grisiau i'w dringo er mwyn cyrraedd y coed. Yn gyffredinol mae'r llwybr yn wastad ac yn gadarn dan draed ond mae rhai llethrau byr a rhannau mwdlyd.

A fascinating walk through a hidden valley

The ancient woodland cloaks a mysterious landscape of limestone caves, underground rivers and historic mine workings.

The trees are mostly mature ash and oak with a hazel understorey; the rare wild service tree and small-leaved lime can also be found. Ancient woodland indicator plants abound. The valley sides and floor are strewn with limestone boulders which can make for challenging walking but provide superb habitat for mosses and ferns.

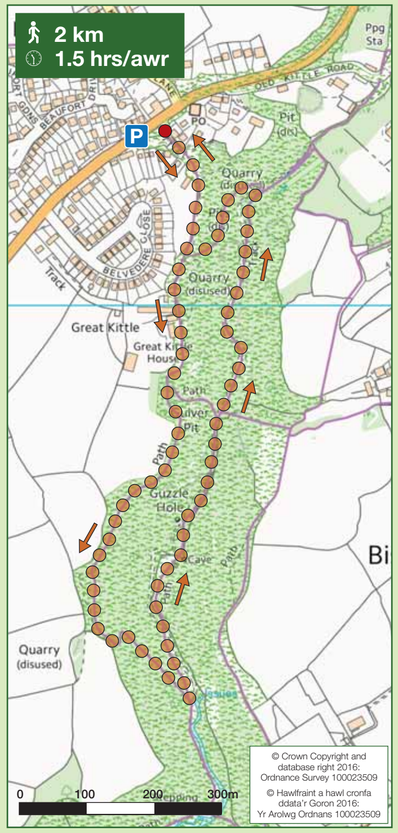
Leading along the upper edge of the woodland, with good views over the canopy, the trail then drops to the emergence point of the underground river. Follow the valley floor upstream, passing the aptly - named Guzzle Hole - listen for the underground stream - and the huge collapsed cavern of Daw Pit before climbing the valley side back to the start point.

Taith gerdded ddiddorol trwy ddyffryn cudd

Mae'r coetir hynafol yn gorchuddio tirwedd ddirgel o ogofeydd calchfaen, afonydd tanddaearol a gweithfeydd mwyngloddio hanesyddol.

Ynn a derw yw'r rhan fwyaf o'r coed yma gyda haen is o goed cyll; mae'r gerddinen wyllt a'r bisgwydden dail bach, ill dwy'n brin, i'w gweld yma hefyd. Mae digonedd o blanhigion sy'n tystio i goetir hynafol. Mae llethrau a llawr y dyffryn yn frith o glogfeini calchfaen sy'n gallu rhoi her i'r cerddwr ond sy'n gynefin wych ar gyfer mwsoglau a rhedyn.

Gan ymestyn ar hyd ymyl uchaf y coetir, gyda golygfeydd da dros y canopi, mae'r llwybr wedyn yn disgyn i le mae'r afon danddaearol yn dod i'r golwg. Dilynwch lawr y dyffryn i fyny'r afon, gan fynd heibio ogof ac iddi enw addas, sef Guzzle Hole - ceisiwch glustfeinio am y nant danddaearol - a cheudwll cwympedig anferth Daw Pit cyn dringo llechwedd y dyffryn yn ôl i'r man dechrau.



Trail Information / Gwybodaeth am y Llwybr

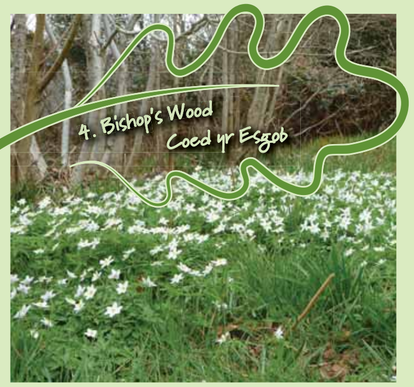
START / DECHRAU (GR/CG - SS 573 892)
Public footpath opposite Beaufort Arms, Kittle
Llwybr cyhoeddus gyferbyn â'r Beaufort Arms, Kittle

PARKING / PARCIO
On the road in village / Ar y ffordd yn y pentref

PUBLIC TRANSPORT / CLUDIANT CYHOEDDUS
Bus stop by start point (25m)
Safle bws ger y man dechrau (25m)

Steep paths, steps, uneven rocky paths, can be wet and muddy. Not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs. NB - in times of high rainfall the valley floor route can flood - take care!

Llwybrau serth, grisiau, llwybrau creigiog anwastad. Gall fod yn wlyb ac yn fwdlyd. Anaddas i gadeiriau gwthio neu gadeiriau olwyn. DS - pan fo glaw trwm, gall llifogydd ffurfio ar lawr y dyffryn.



A short walk through mature ancient ash woods, with a fine sea view

From the start point steep steps on the left lead to a viewpoint overlooking the Bristol Channel.

Continuing on, the woodland contains fine specimens of ash and oak trees with abundant hazel. Look for well-worn badger runs leading to the fields above. Visit in spring for stunning displays of bluebell, wild garlic and wood anemone. You may also find other ancient woodland indicators such as spindle, woodruff and dog's mercury.

After approximately 500m, wooden steps lead down beneath huge beech trees - the laughing call of green woodpeckers is often heard here.

The wooden roundhouse was built in 2002 using local green oak timber as an outdoor classroom and shelter.

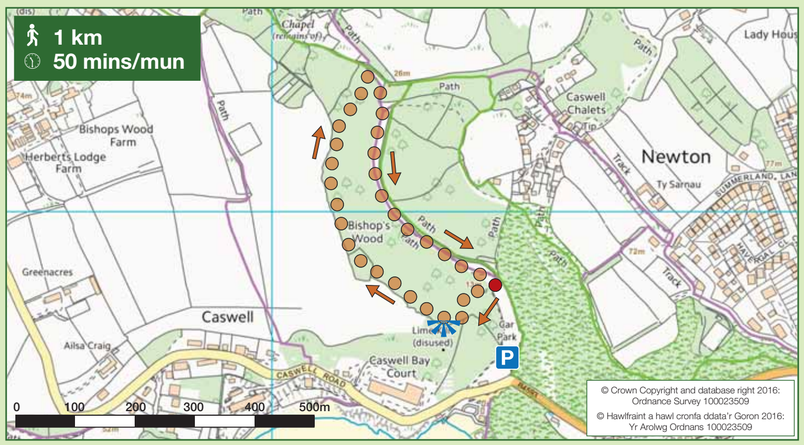
Taith gerdded fer trwy goed ynn hynafol aeddfed, gyda golygfa braf dros y môr

O'r man dechrau mae grisiau serth ar y chwith yn arwain i lecyn â golygfa dros Fôr Hafren.

Wrth fynd ymlaen, mae'r coetir yn cynnwys enghreifftiau ysblennydd o ynn a derw gyda digonedd o gyll. Chwiliwch am draciau moch daear treuliedig sy'n arwain i'r caeau uwchben. Ewch yno yn y gwanwyn i weld yr arddangosfeydd trawiadol o glychau'r gog, craf y geifr a blodau'r gwynt. Efallai byddwch hefyd yn dod ar draws tystiolaeth arall o goetir hynafol megis piswydd, briwydd bêr a bresych y cŵn.

Ar ôl oddeutu 500m, bydd grisiau pren yn arwain ar i lawr islaw coed ffawydd anferth - yn aml clywir galwad chwerthin y gnocell werdd yma.

Adeiladwyd y tŷ crwn pren yn 2002 gan ddefnyddio coed derw glas i fod yn ystafell ddosbarth awyr agored ac yn lloches.



Trail Information / Gwybodaeth am y Llwybr

START / DECHRAU (GR/CG - SS 594 878)
From the nature reserve entrance at the north end of Caswell Bay car park
O fynedfa'r warchodfa natur ym mhen gogleddol maes parcio Bae Caswell

PARKING / PARCIO
Pay and display car park
Maes parcio talu ac arddangos

PUBLIC TRANSPORT / CLUDIANT CYHOEDDUS
Bus stop opposite car park entrance
Safle bws gyferbyn â mynedfa'r maes parcio

Steep steps, uneven rocky narrow paths. Can be muddy. Valley floor section of route is flat and suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs.

Grisiau serth; llwybrau cul, creigiog, anwastad. Gall fod yn fwdlyd. Mae'r rhan o'r llwybr sydd ar lawr y dyffryn yn wastad ac yn addas i gadeiriau olwyn a chadeiriau gwthio.

Once the private estate of John Dillwyn Llewelyn, the site is a mosaic of ancient woodland, Victorian plantings and modern forestry.

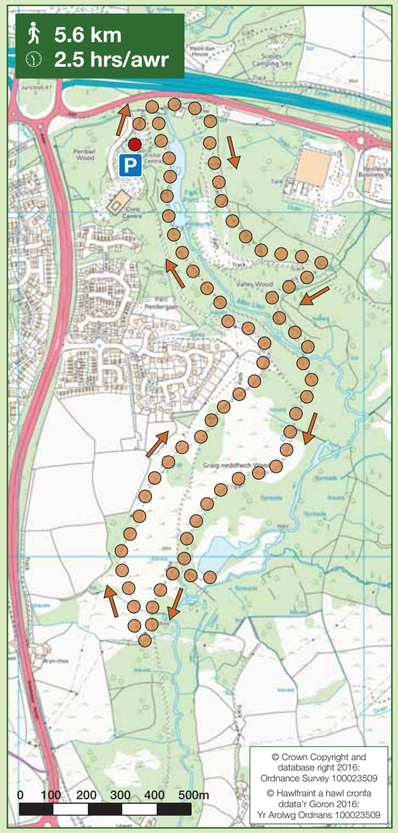
The route skirts the north end of the site then heads south through the aptly-named Bluebell Wood before descending a steep stream valley with splendid specimens of planted conifers. Follow the river through semi-natural ancient woodland crossing the first bridge (Sapper's Bridge) to gain a wide track which brings you (via a short detour) to the lower lake.

Back on the main track turn right just after power-lines up the slopes of Graig Neddfwch to a fine viewpoint over the varied woodland canopy. The route then descends to join the old Carriage Drive for the original mansion. Follow this until a small path drops steeply to the right to join the valley floor track leading past the waterfall and upper lake to complete the circuit.

Ac yntau'n ystâd breifat John Dillwyn Llewelyn ar un adeg, mae'r safle'n amrywiaeth o goetir hynafol, coed a phlanhigion a blannwyd gan y Fictoriaid a choedwigaeth fodern.

Mae'r llwybr yn dilyn ymyl pen gorllewinol y safle cyn troi i'r de trwy Bluebell Wood sydd wedi'i enwi'n addas, cyn disgyn trwy ddyffryn nant serth gydag enghreifftiau gwych o gonwydd wedi'u plannu. Dilynwch yr afon trwy goetir hynafol lled-naturiol gan groesi'r bont gyntaf (Sapper's Bridge) i gyrraedd llwybr llydan a fydd yn eich arwain (trwy ddargyfeiriad byr) i'r llyn isaf.

Yn ôl ar y prif lwybr, trowch i'r dde yn union ar ôl y llinellau pŵer gan ddringo llethrau Craig Nydfwch i lecyn sy'n rhoi golygfa braf dros ganopi'r coetir. Mae'r llwybr wedyn yn dilyn yr hen rodfa a oedd yn arwain at y plasty gwreiddiol. Dilynwch hon nes bod llwybr bychan yn disgyn yn serth i'r dde i ymuno â llwybr llawr y dyffryn gan fynd heibio i'r rhaeadr a'r llyn uchaf i gwblhau'r gylchdaith.



Trail Information / Gwybodaeth am y Llwybr

START / DECHRAU (GR/CG - SS 623 991)
At Penllergare Trust visitor centre off the A48
Yng nghanolfan ymwelwyr Ymddiriedolaeth Penllergare oddi ar yr A48
(SA4 9GS)

PARKING / PARCIO
Purpose built car park with toilets and café
Maes parcio pwrpasol â thoiledau a chaffi

PUBLIC TRANSPORT / CLUDIANT CYHOEDDUS
Bus stop 900m to the east on A48
Safle bws 900m i'r dwyrain ar yr A48

Steep sections, muddy paths, natural obstacles, steps. Shorter routes on site. Maps available from visitor centre.

Rhannau serth, llwybrau mwdlyd, rhwystrau naturiol, grisiau. Llwybrau byrrach ar y safle. Mapiau ar gael o'r ganolfan ymwelwyr.