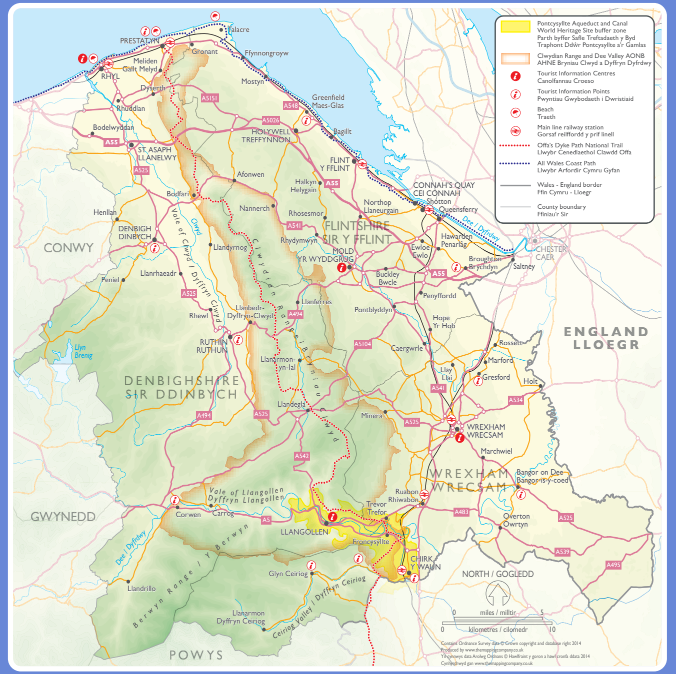
Darganfod Sir Ddinbych
Discover Denbighshire



01978 860828

discoverdenbighshire.co.uk
northeastwales.co.uk
medieval-wales.com
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Darganfod Sir Ddinbych
Discover Denbighshire

Cyngor sir ddinbych denbighshire County Council

NORTH EAST WALES
Denbighshire. Flintshire. Wrexham
Altogether brilliant

GOGLEDD DDWYRAIN CYMRU
Sir Ddinbych. Sir y Fflint. Wrecsam
Gwych gyda'n gilydd

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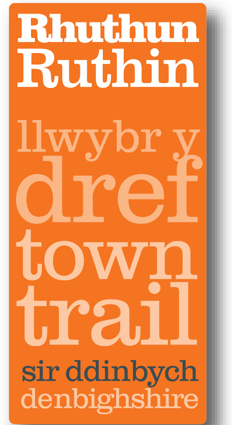
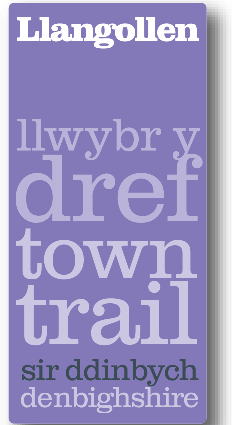
dylunio/design White Fox 01352 840898 www.whitefox-design.co.uk

A town for every day

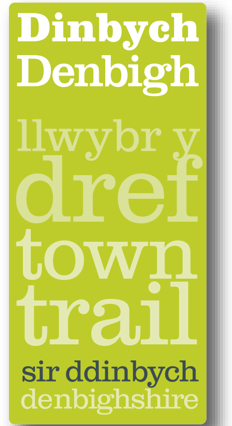
Nid Prestatyn yw'r unig dref yn Sir Ddinbych gyda llwybr ei hun. Mae saith llwybr arall – pob un yn llawn o ddiddordeb hanesyddol. Ond pob un yn wahanol iawn, gyda'r gobaith y byddwch yn darganfod hynny dros eich hunain. Cyn belled â bod gennych wythnos neu ddwy arall i'w sbario.

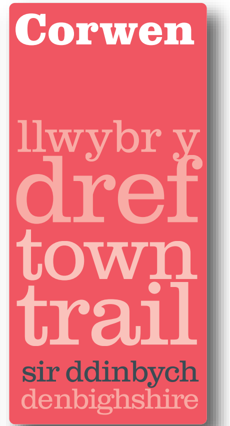
Ewch i Rhuthun i weld yr oriel celfyddydau cymhwysol gorau yng Nghymru, Llangollen am ei rheilffordd stêm estynedig newydd, Corwen i weld cofeb un o arwyr mwyaf Cymru a Dinbych am ei chastell ar ben y bryn a muriau tref atgofus.





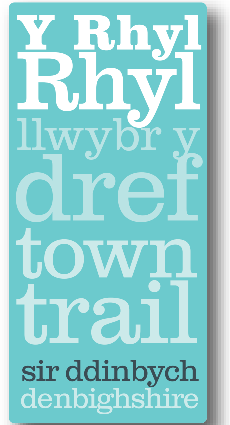
Ewch i'r Rhyl ar gyfer ei phromenâd a thair milltir o dywod euraidd, Prestatyn ar gyfer dechrau Llwybr Cenedlaethol Clawdd Offa, Rhuddlan am ei chastell ar lan yr afon a Llanelwy i weld y gadeirlan hynafol leiaf ym Mhrydain.

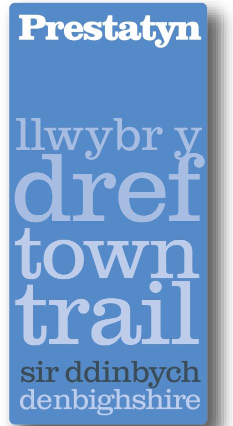




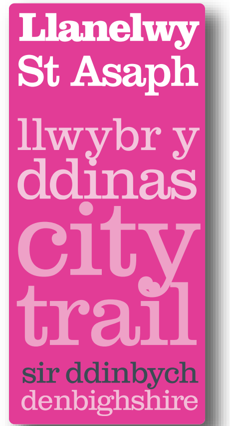
A town for every day

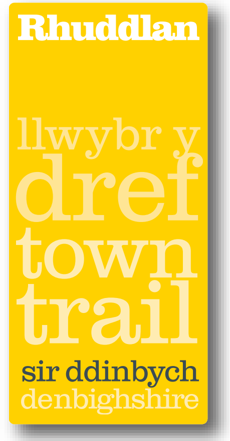
Prestatyn isn't the only town in Denbighshire with its very own trail. There are seven others – all packed with historic interest. But all very different, as we hope you'll discover for yourself. Just as long as you have another week or so to spare.





Visit Ruthin for the best applied arts gallery in Wales, Llangollen for its newly extended steam railway, Corwen for a stirring memorial to Wales's greatest hero and Denbigh for its hilltop castle and evocative town walls.





Visit Rhyl for its promenade and three miles of golden sands, Prestatyn for the start of Offa's Dyke Path National Trail, Rhuddlan for its stupendous riverside castle and St Asaph for the smallest ancient cathedral in Britain.

Eich antur yn Sir Ddinbych

Trefi marchnad llawn prysurdeb. Diwylliant Cymreig unigryw. Bwyd a diod blasus. Un o'r tirweddau gwarchodedig harddaf yng Nghymru.

Bydd y syniadau'n byrlymu ar gyfer pethau i'w gwneud yn Sir Ddinbych. Ond rhag ofn... dyma ychydig o anturiaethau y dylech roi cynnig arnynt – a gallwch eu llwytho i lawr yn syth i'ch ffôn symudol.

Efallai yr hoffech roi cynnig ar weithgaredd greadigol, cael hwyl gyda'ch plant neu ymweld â hen adeiladau. Efallai bod gennych ddiddordeb mewn hanes cymdeithasol, teithiau cerdded yng nghefn gwlad neu deithiau trefol. Beth bynnag sydd at eich dant, mae 'na Antur Ddigidol Sir Ddinbych ar eich cyfer chi.

Gallwch chwarae gêm hangman yn Rhuthun, hwylio cychod dail ar Gamlas Llangollen neu wneud cwningod yn Ninbych. Ewch i'r wefan i weld yr holl bethau sydd gan Sir Ddinbych wledig i'w gynnig i chi ar flaenau eich bysedd.

digidolsirddinbych.co.uk

Your Denbighshire adventure

Bustling market towns. A unique Welsh culture. Delicious food and drink. One of the most beautiful protected landscapes in Wales.

You won't find yourself too short of ideas about what to do in Denbighshire. But just in case we've come up with a few adventures for you try – and you can download them straight to your mobile.

You might like getting creative, fun with your kids or visiting old buildings. You might be into social history, country walks or urban strolls. Whatever you want, there's a Denbighshire Digital Adventure just for you.

You can play hangman in Ruthin, sail leaf boats on Llangollen Canal or make flopsy bunnies in Denbigh. Just visit the website to have the whole of rural Denbighshire at your fingertips.

digitaldenbighshire.co.uk

Prestatyn

llwybr y dref
town trail

sir ddinbych
denbighshire

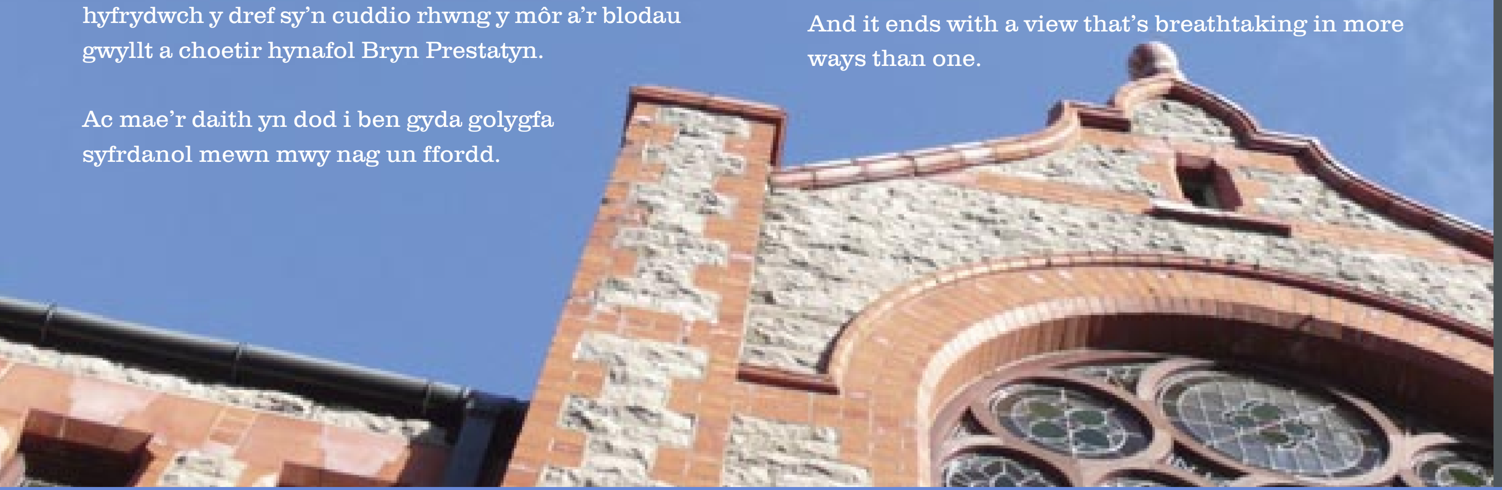
Darganfod Prestatyn

Mae Prestatyn wedi bod yn un o'r cyrchfannau glan môr enwocaf yng Ngogledd Cymru ers i'r trenau gyrraedd am y tro cyntaf ym 1848. Roedd tyrfaoedd lu o dwristiaid o'r dinasoedd llawn mwg Prydeinig Fictoraidd yn ymweld â'r ardal i fwynhau awyr iach Cymru ac i fwynhau'r poblogrwydd mawr o ymdrochi yn y môr.

Mae'r uchod yn dal i fod yn wir heddiw. Wedi'r cyfan, tydi promenâd godidog gyda thri traeth ar wahân a phedair milltir o dywod euraidd byth yn mynd allan o ffasiwn.

Ond mae llawer mwy i Brestatyn na gwylanod a chestyll tywod. Bydd y daith gerdded sy'n arwain mewn llinell syth yn bennaf yn mynd â chi o amgylch hyfrydwch y dref sy'n cuddio rhwng y môr a'r blodau gwyllt a choetir hynafol Bryn Prestatyn.

Ac mae'r daith yn dod i ben gyda golygfa syfrdanol mewn mwy nag un ffordd.



Exploring Prestatyn

Prestatyn has been one of the most famous seaside resorts in North Wales since the trains first arrived in 1848. Holiday-makers poured in from the smoke-filled cities of Victorian Britain to take the fresh Welsh air and follow the craze for sea bathing.

They're still doing much the same today. After all, a magnificent promenade with three separate beaches and four miles of golden sand never goes out of fashion.

But there's a lot more to Prestatyn than seagulls and sandcastles. This mostly linear walk will show you the delights of a town tucked between the sea and the wild flowers and ancient woodland of Prestatyn Hillside.

And it ends with a view that's breathtaking in more ways than one.

Beth sy'n ei wneud yn arbennig?

Mae sawl elfen yn perthyn i Brestatyn. Nid cyrchfan arfordirol mohono'n unig – ond mae hefyd yn ganolfan siopa brysur gyda pharc adwerthu newydd sbon a Stryd Fawr o siopau annibynnol ac unigryw.

Mae'n borth i'r awyr agored, ac yn gorwedd ym mhen gogleddol Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy sy'n Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol. Mae'n dref treftadaeth gyda gweddillion baddondy Rhufeinig sy'n agos iawn i fod yn 2,000 o flynyddoedd oed.

Ac yn fwy nag erioed mae'n gyrchfan i gerddwyr. Mae Prestatyn ar ddechrau Llwybr Cenedlaethol Clawdd Offa, ac mae'r llwybr yn olrhain gwaith cywrain y Brenin Offa o Mersia o'r wythfed ganrif sy'n ymestyn yr holl ffordd o dop Cymru i waelod y wlad.

Mae llwybr y dref yn ei ddilyn reit i fyny'r Stryd Fawr. Stopiwch wrth Gysgodfan y Bryn neu chariwch ymlaen yr holl ffordd i Gas-gwent, mae fyny i chi.

What makes it special?

Prestatyn has many layers. It's not just a coastal resort – it's also a busy shopping centre with a brand-new retail park and a quirky independent High Street.

It's a gateway to the great outdoors, lying at the northern tip of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It's a heritage town with the remains of a Roman bath house that's nearly 2,000 years old.

And more than ever it's a destination for walkers. Prestatyn is at the start of Offa's Dyke Path National Trail, which traces the eighth-century handiwork of King Offa of Mercia for the entire length of Wales.

This town trail follows it right up the High Street. Stop at the Hillside Shelter or carry on all the way to Chepstow, it's up to you.

Ble awn ni nesaf?

Dylai siopau, tafarndai, tai bwyta, adeiladau hanesyddol a thraethau euraidd Prestatyn fod yn fwy na digon i'ch cadw chi'n brysur. Ond os ydych chi'n penderfynu symud ymlaen, byddwch yn dod ar draws rhai o brif atyniadau Gogledd Cymru dim ond ychydig filltiroedd i ffwrdd.

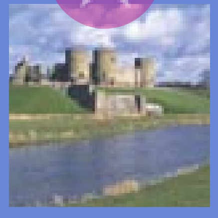
Where shall we go next?

The shops, cafés, pubs, historic buildings and sandy beaches of Prestatyn should be more than enough to keep you busy. But if you do decide to move on, you'll find some of the leading attractions of North Wales just a few miles away.

Castell Rhuddlan

Nid yn unig y bu i Edward I adeiladu Castell godidog Rhuddlan – dargyfeiriodd yr afon fel y gellid eichyflenwi o'r môr.

cadw.cymru.gov.uk 01443 336000



Rhuddlan Castle

Edward I didn't just build magnificent Rhuddlan Castle – he diverted a river so it could be supplied by sea.

cadw.wales.gov.uk 01443 336000

Eglwys Gadeiriol Llanelwy

Mae'r Eglwys hon nid yn unig yr eglwys gadeiriol hynafol leiaf Prydain, ond hefyd yn gartref i'r Beibl Cymraeg cyntaf erioed.

stasaph.churchinwales.org.uk 01745 582245

St Asaph Cathedral

Not just Britain's smallest ancient cathedral but also the home of the very first Welsh language Bible.

stasaph.churchinwales.org.uk 01745 582245

Castell a Pharc Bodelwyddan

Tŷ hanesyddol, amgueddfa a phartner yr Oriel Bortreadau Genedlaethol – gyda'i faes chwarae antur ei hun.

bodelwyddan-castle.co.uk 01745 584060

Bodelwyddan Castle and Park

Historic house, museum and outpost of the National Portrait Gallery – with its own adventure playground.

bodelwyddan-castle.co.uk 01745 584060

1 Parc Siopa Prestatyn

Dechreuwch yn y maes parcio y tu ôl i eglwys y plwyf a cherddwch i lawr i Ffordd Llys Nant.

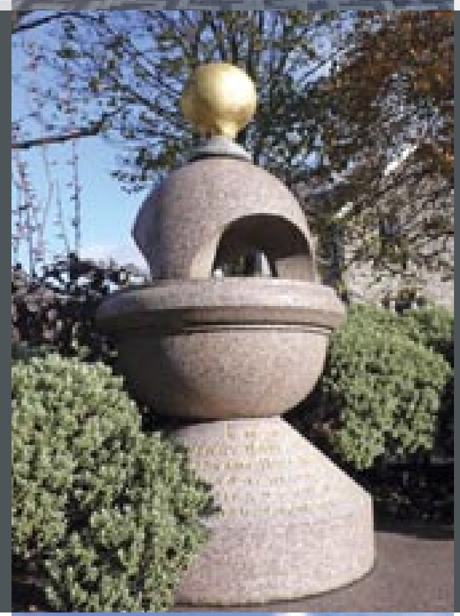
Adeiladwyd yr adeilad brics ar y chwith ym 1903 fel gorsaf dân a swyddfeydd y cyngor. Gyferbyn, mae hen orsaf yr heddlu – mae bariau i'w gweld ar y ffenestri i lawr yr ochr. Nawr croeswch Ffordd Llys Nant, trowch i'r dde ac yna i'r chwith i mewn i brif fynedfa Parc Siopa Prestatyn. Mae'n debyg y bydd 160,000 troedfedd sgwâr o ofod manwerthu llawn enwau cyfarwydd a brandiau mawr yn siŵr o dynnu'ch sylw. Nid oes rhaid i chi wrthsefyll y demtasiwn. Cymerwch eich amser cyn gwneud eich ffordd heibio'r "mur byw" i waelod y Stryd Fawr.

2 Hen Orsaf Rheilffordd

Ar ôl agor y rheilffordd o Gaer i Fangor ar 1 Mai, 1848 cafodd Prestatyn ei droi o fod yn bentref arfordirol cysglyd i fod yn un o gyrchfannau mwyaf ffasiynol Prydain. Dyma'r orsaf a'r sied nwyddau wreiddiol, dim ond un allan o bedwar gan y pensaer rheilffordd, Francis Thompson sy'n dal i fodoli yng Ngogledd Cymru. Erbyn 1897 nid oedd y ddau blatfform â'u golau lamp olew yn gallu ymdopi â'r traffig ychwanegol a chafodd gorsaf newydd ei adeiladu. Ar y naill ochr i'r bont droed mae dau gerflun dur. Mae'r cerflun pellaf i ffwrdd yn pwyntio tuag at y promenâd. Mae'r un o'ch blaen, gyda'r cerddwr bywiog, yn pwyntio i fyny'r Stryd Fawr oherwydd eich bod yn awr yn dilyn Llwybr Cenedlaethol Clawdd Offa.

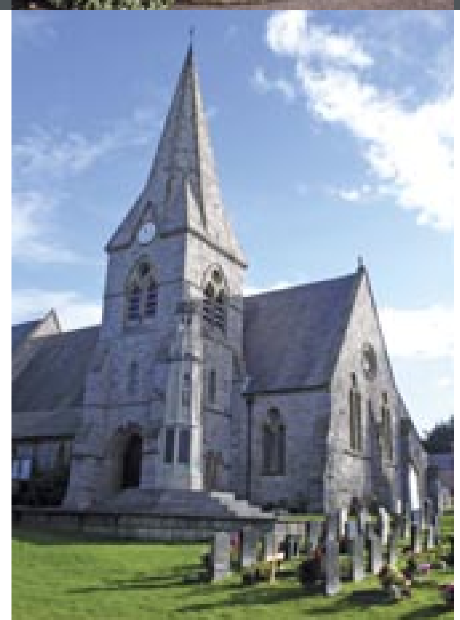
3 Ffynnon Pochin

Henry Davis Pochin yw creawdwr y Brestatyn fodern. Ym 1869 fe brynodd y cemegydd diwydiannol rhyfeddol 400 erw o dir – ac aeth ati i weithio gyda'r egni Fictoraidd nodweddiadol. Adeiladodd argloddiau i ddal dŵr y môr, a chario dŵr a nwy trwy bibell, yn ogystal â chyflwyno prif ddraeniad i'r dref. Tan hynny, rhesi o fythynnod to gwellt wedi'u gwasgaru i fyny'r bryn oedd y Stryd Fawr. Yn sydyn iawn fe drawsnewidwyd y dref i'r hyn a welwch heddiw – cymysgedd o siopau bywiog annibynnol, llefydd bwyta a thafarndai yn dyddio o ddiwedd oes aur Fictoraidd ac Edwardaidd y dref. Mae'r ffynnon hon, a arferai sefyll ar y blaendraeth, yn nodi cyflawniadau Pochin.



4 Eglwys Crist

Fe arweiniodd y twf cyflym ym Mhrestatyn i greadigaeth plwyf newydd – ac eglwys blwyf ysblennydd i gyd-fynd â hynny. Er tydi Eglwys Crist erioed wedi bod mor fawreddog a hyn. Adeiladwyd yr eglwys ym 1863, ac ychwanegwyd ei eil ddeheuol ym 1905 cyn rhoi estyniad ar yr eil ogleddol ym 1910. Cwblhawyd y trawsnewid gyda'r gangell newydd a Chapel y Merched ym 1926. Y tu allan mae beddi chwe o fechgyn côr rhwng 6 ac 11 oed a foddodd mewn damwain nofio cyn ymarfer côr ar 17 Gorffennaf 1868. Edrychwch am y rhes o groesau cerrig bychain y mhen pellaf y wal ddeheuol. Mae cofeb gwydr lliw i ddau o'r bechgyn, y brodyr Samuel a George Gilderoy, uwchben yr allor yng Nghapel y Merched.



Croeso i Gerddwyr

Prestatyn oedd y dref gyntaf yng Nghymru i ennill statws Croeso i Gerddwyr. A tydi hynny ddim yn syndod. Mae'r dref reit ar ddechrau, neu ar ddiwedd, yn dibynnu sut yr ydych yn edrych arno, o Lwybr Cenedlaethol Clawdd Offa sy'n 177 milltir o hyd. Mae'r dref ar drothwy Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy sy'n Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol (sy'n dechrau ym Mryn Prestatyn). Mae Llwybr Arfordir Cymru yn rhedeg drwy'r dref, heb anghofio am Lwybr Beicio Cenedlaethol 5, sy'n rhedeg reit ar hyd y promenâd – ewch i'r dwyrain i gyrraedd Twyni Gronant sy'n gyfoethog mewn bywyd gwyllt. Byddwch efallai yn teimlo ei bod hi'n ŵyl gerdded arnoch bob dydd ond bob mis Mai rydym yn gwneud hynny'n swyddogol.
prestatynwalkingfestival.co.uk

1 Prestatyn Shopping Park

Start in the car park behind the parish church and walk down to Nant Hall Road.

The brick building on your left was built in 1903 as a fire station and council offices. Opposite is the old police station – you can still see the bars on the windows down the side. Now cross Nant Hall Road, turn right and then left into the main entrance of Prestatyn Shopping Park. You may well find 160,000 square feet of retail space packed with big name brands a little distracting. No need to resist. Take all the time you like then make your way past the "living wall" to the bottom of the High Street.

2 Old Railway Station

The opening of the Chester to Bangor railway line on 1st May 1848 began to turn Prestatyn from a sleepy coastal village into one of Britain's most fashionable resorts. This is the original station and goods shed, one of only four by railway architect Francis Thompson still standing in North Wales. By 1897 its two platforms lit by oil lamps just weren't enough to cope with the extra traffic and a new station was built. On either side of the footbridge are two steel sculptures. The far one points towards the promenade. The one in front of you, with its jaunty walker, points up the High Street because you're now following Offa's Dyke Path National Trail.

3 Pochin Fountain

Henry Davis Pochin is the creator of modern Prestatyn. In 1869 this remarkable industrial chemist bought 400 acres of land – and got to work with typical Victorian vigour. He built embankments to hold back the sea and brought piped water, gas and mains drainage to the town. Until then High Street was mostly just rows of thatched cottages straggling up the hill. It soon became what you see today – a vibrant mix of independent shops, eating places and watering holes dating from the town's late Victorian and Edwardian golden age. This fountain, which once stood on the foreshore, marks Pochin's achievements.

4 Christ Church

Prestatyn's rapid growth led to the creation of a new parish – and a splendid parish church to go with it. Not that Christ Church was always quite so imposing. Built in 1863, its south aisle was added in 1905 and the north aisle extended in 1910. The new chancel and Lady Chapel of 1926 completed the transformation. Outside lie the graves of six choirboys aged between six and 11 who drowned in a swimming accident before choir practice on 17th July 1868. Look for the row of little stone crosses near the far end of the south wall. There's a stained glass memorial to two of the boys, brothers Samuel and George Gilderoy, above the altar in the Lady Chapel.

Walkers Are Welcome

Prestatyn was the first town in Wales to achieve Walkers Are Welcome status. And no wonder. It's right at the beginning, or the end depending on how you look at it, of the epic 177-mile Offa's Dyke Path National Trail. It's at the threshold of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which begins at Prestatyn Hillside. And the Wales Coast Path, not to mention National Cycle Route 5, runs right along the promenade – head east to reach wildlife-rich Gronant Dunes. You might think it's a walking festival every day but each May we make it official.
prestatynwalkingfestival.co.uk

Llwybr y dref

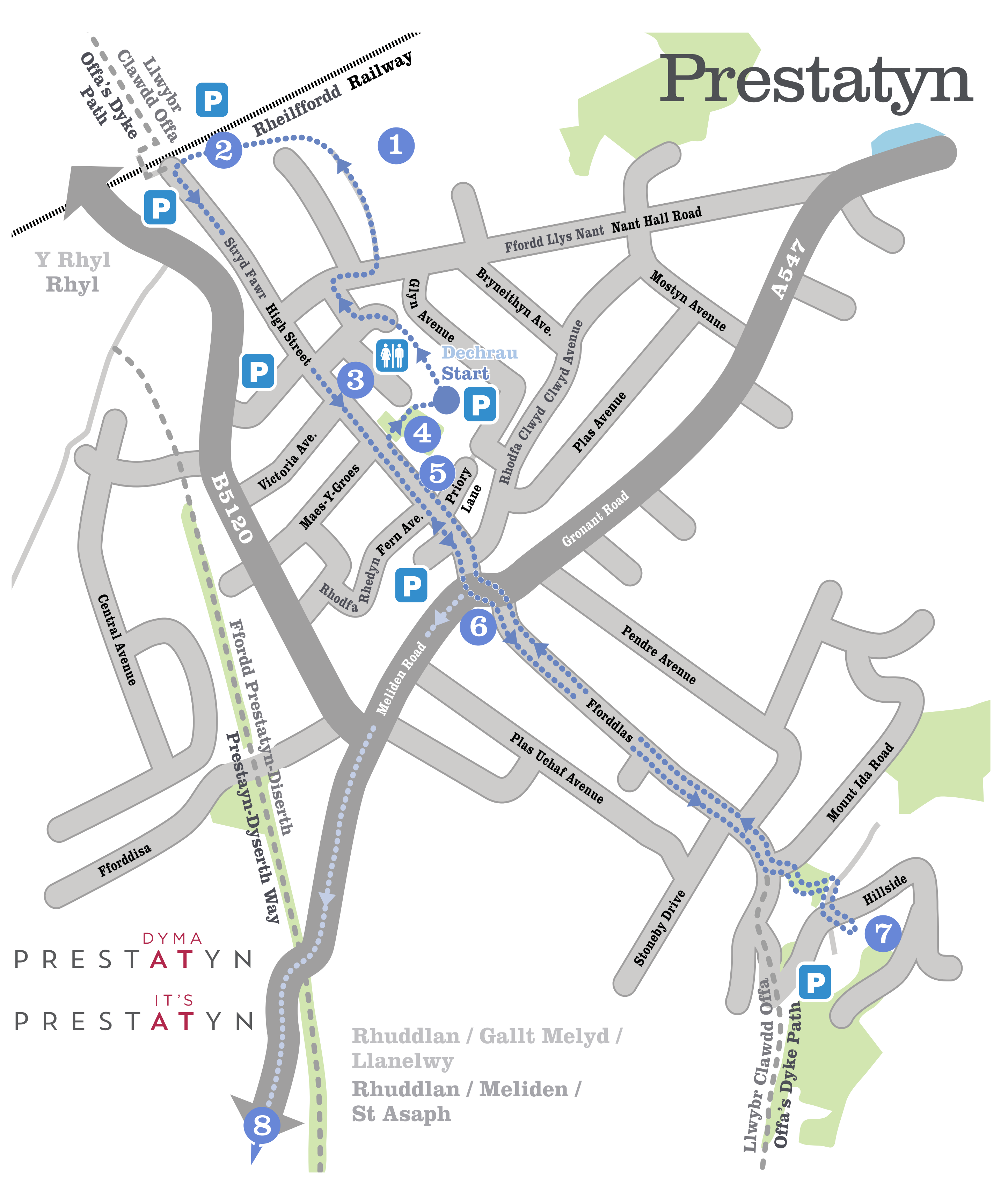
Pellter	2 filltir /3.2km heb gynnwys y Baddon Rhufeinig
Pa mor anodd yw'r llwybr?	Yn hawdd ar y cyfan ond mae'r daith i Erddi'r Bryn yn reit serth
Amser yn cerdded	2 awr
Man cychwyn	Maes parcio Ffordd Llys Nant LL19 9LG

Cludiant cyhoeddus Traveline Cymru 0871 200 2233, Ymholiadau Rheilffyrdd Cenedlaethol 08457 484950

Town trail

Distance	2 miles / 3.2 km excluding Roman Bath House
Difficulty	Mostly easy but walk to Hillside Gardens is quite steep
Walking time	2 hours
Start point	Nant Hall Road car park LL19 9LG

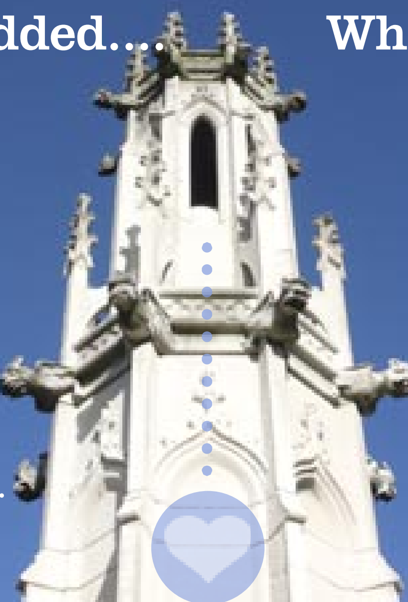
Public transport Traveline Cymru 0871 200 2233, National Rail Enquiries 08457 484950



darganfodsirddinbych.co.uk discoverdenbighshire.co.uk

Tra eich bod yn cerdded....

Allwch chi weld y gargoiliau yn amddiffyn y gofeb Rhyfel Mawr ysblennydd o galchfan ger Eglwys Crist? Dyluniwyd y gofeb gan L W Barnard mewn steil Gothig hwyr, ac mae'n gofeb rhestredig Gradd II oherwydd ei gerfiadau cain.



While you're walking....

See if you can spot the gargoyles protecting the magnificent limestone Great War memorial near Christ Church. Designed by L W Barnard in late Gothic style, it's Grade II listed for its fine carvings.

5 Capel Rehoboth

Adeiladwyd Capel Bresbyteraidd Rehoboth Cymru ym 1863 gydag estyniadau mawr ym 1894. Mae'n enghraifft wych o gapel Cymraeg ar dro'r ganrif. Gyferbyn y siop o'r enw "The Emporium" bu ffyniant mewn adeiladu gan ddisodli'r bythynnod a arferai fodoli ar y strydoedd mwdlyd a llychlyd heb eu goleuo. Yn Fforddlas mae modd gweld y gwter garreg agored a arferai redeg yr holl ffordd i lawr y Stryd Fawr, ac sydd hefyd yn gweithredu fel cenllif mewn tywydd garw.

Ar dop y Stryd Fawr, croeswch i Fforddlas. Mae gweddill y llwybr yn eithaf serth ond gallwch yrru i fyny a pharcio ger y lloches os y dymunwch.

6 Cross Foxes

Adeiladwyd y dafarn ym 1664, a dyma'r dafarn hynaf ym Mhrestatyn ac un o'i ychydig adeiladau cynnar sydd wedi goroesi. Roedd merched yn heidio yma ac yn edrych yn ffasiynol ar gyfer ymdrochi yn y môr ar ddiwedd y 18fed ganrif a dechrau'r 19eg ganrif. Un gwestai rheolaidd oedd Hester Thrale, wedyn Piozzi – awdur a ffrind agos i Dr Samuel Johnson. Yn ôl yr hanesydd lleol Harry Thomas roedd Prestatyn yn lle "rhamantus iawn, a gwirioneddol unig". Ond mi ddifethodd y peth braidd trwy gwyno nad oedd lle i droi.

Ar dop Fforddlas, trowch i'r chwith i mewn i Mount Ida Road a throi yn syth i'r dde i mewn i Erddi'r Bryn.

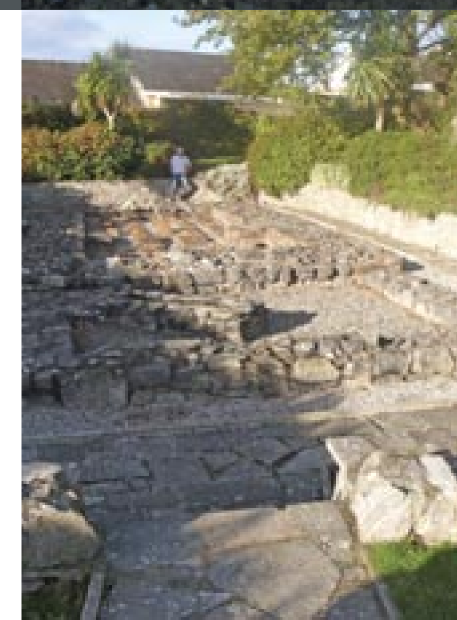
7 Gerddi'r Bryn a'r Gysgodfan

Ni allwch fethu'r cerflun gwych o'r helmed, gyda siâp dail derw digoes arno. Mae'n dathlu treftadaeth Rhufeinig y dref a harddwch yr amgylchedd o gwmpas y dref yn Bishop's Wood a Bryn Prestatyn. Mae dringfa serth byr drwy'r gerddi yn datgelu cipolwg ar Uplands, a adeiladwyd gan y dyfeisiwr ecsentrig Thomas Thorp ym 1912 i ymgorffori arsyllfa mewn cromen sy'n cylchdroi. Roedd yn sicr yn gwybod ble i ddod o hyd i'r olygfa orau. Mae'r lloches concrid teras ei hun, a gyflwynwyd i'r dref ym 1929 gan gymwynaswr lleol cyfoethog JF King, gyda golygfa panorama 180-gradd trawiadol o arfordir Gogledd Cymru, Ynys Môn ac Eryri yn y pellter. Yr union fan i gael eich gwynt atoch.

8 Baddondy Rhufeinig

Efallai y byddai'n well i chi yrru'r daith yno ac yn ôl i'r Baddondy Rhufeinig sy'n 1.5 milltir / 2.5 km. Chwiliwch am yr arwydd brown oddi ar Meliden Road.

Rydych yn chwilio am weddilltion o Brydain yn ystod y Cyfnod Rhufeinig sy'n parhau i fodoli ac sydd bron i ddwy fil o flynyddoedd oed. Felly, efallai y byddwch yn meddwl na all y tro i mewn i Melyd Avenue fod yn gywir. Ond dyfalbarhawch. Dyma faddondy hynod, a adeiladwyd tua 120AC gan ddatodiad yr 20fed Lleng wedi'u lleoli yng Nghaer, ac sydd i'w gael yng nghanol stad o dai gwbl gyffredin. Yma byddai ymdrochwyr yn chwysu'n sylweddol, yn rhoi olew ar eu cyrff ac yna'n crafu eu hunain yn lân gyda offeryn crwm o'r enw strigil. A hyn i gyd gan fod neb wedi dyfeisio sebon.



Meliden a Dyserth

Peidiwch â methu'r pentrefi hanesyddol hyn ychydig i'r de. Mae gan Meliden gofeb mwyngloddio atmosfferig ac eglwys ganoloesol brydferth. Mae Dyserth yn enwog am ei rhaeadr 70 troedfedd ac am ei ras hwyaid ar Ŵyl y Banc mis Awst (gyda hwyaid plastig). Y ffordd berffaith o weld y cyfan? Ar droed neu ar feic. Mae Ffordd Prestatyn-Dyserth yn mynd am dair milltir fwy neu lai heb unrhyw draffig ar hyd yr hen reilffordd a arferai wasanaethu mwyngloddiau plwm Talargoch ym Meliden, gan ddilyn llwybr ychwanegol er mwyn gallu rhyfeddu ar dŷ Clive Engine House o 1860. Mae'n ffordd wych o gyfuno ychydig o hanes diwydiannol gyda golygfeydd syfrdanol o'r môr.

5 Rehoboth Chapel

Rehoboth Welsh Presbyterian Chapel, built in 1863 with major extensions in 1894, is a fine example of a turn-of-the-century Welsh chapel. Standing opposite a shop named "The Emporium", it was part of the construction boom that swept away the cottages lining this once unlit, sooty and muddy street. In Fforddlas you can still see the open stone gutter that once ran all the way down the High Street and became a torrent in wet weather.

At the top of High Street, cross into Fforddlas. The rest of the trail is quite steep but you can drive up and park near the shelter if you like.

6 Cross Foxes

Built in 1664, this is the oldest pub in Prestatyn and one of its few surviving early buildings. Fashionable ladies clustered here while exploring the vogue for sea bathing in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. One frequent guest was Hester Thrale, later Piozzi – author and close friend of Dr Samuel Johnson. According to local historian Harry Thomas, she described Prestatyn as "very romantic, truly solitary". But she spoiled it a bit by complaining there was no room to swing a cat.

At the top of Fforddlas, turn left into Mount Ida Road and immediately right into Hillside Gardens.

7 Hillside Gardens and Shelter

You can't miss the superb sculpture of the helmet, embossed with sessile oak leaves. It celebrates the town's Roman heritage and the beauty of surrounding Bishop's Wood and Prestatyn Hillside. A short steep climb through the gardens reveals a glimpse of Uplands, built by eccentric inventor Thomas Thorp in 1912 to incorporate a revolving dome observatory. He certainly knew where to find the best view. The terraced concrete shelter itself, presented to the town in 1929 by wealthy local benefactor J F King, commands a stunning 180-degree panorama of the North Wales coast, Anglesey and distant Snowdonia. Just the spot to get your breath back.

8 Roman Bath House

You may prefer to drive the 1.5 mile / 2.5 km round trip to the Roman Bath House. Look for the brown sign off Meliden Road.

You're searching for Romano British remains nearly two millennia old. So you might well think the turn into Melyd Avenue can't possibly be right. But persevere. This remarkable bath house, built about AD120 by a detachment of the 20th Legion based in Chester, really is in the middle of a perfectly normal housing estate. Here bathers would sweat profusely, oil their bodies and scrape them clean with a curved tool called a strigil. All because no one had invented soap.

Meliden and Dyserth

Don't miss these historic villages just to the south. Meliden has an atmospheric mining memorial and pretty medieval church. Dyserth is famous for its 70-foot waterfall and August Bank Holiday duck race (with plastic ducks). The perfect way to see it all? By foot or bike. The Prestatyn-Dyserth Way runs for three mostly traffic-free miles along the old railway line that served the Talargoch lead mines at Meliden, with a detour to marvel at the towering Clive Engine House of 1860. It's a great way to combine a spot of industrial history with staggering sea views.