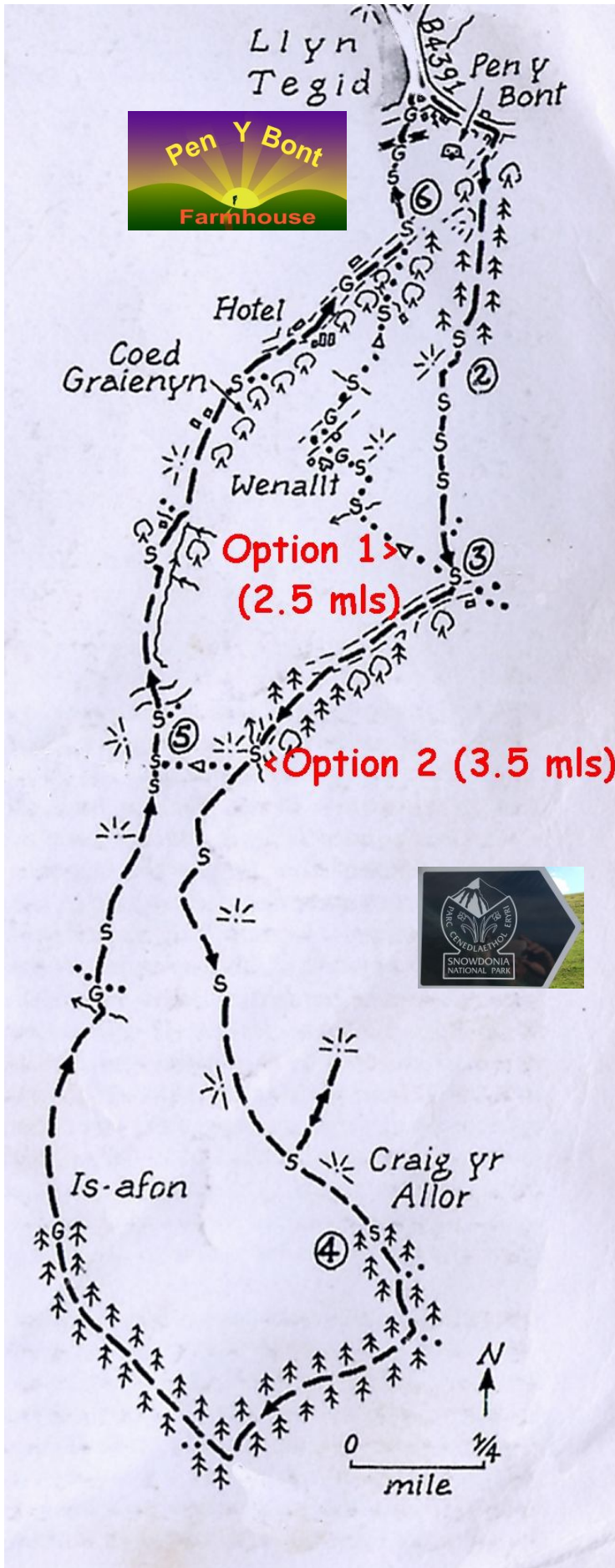


A walk direct from the door of Pen Y Bont Farmhouse with panoramic views of the lake



A superb 7 mile walk from the door of Pen Y Bont Farmhouse with outstanding panoramic views of the lake and surrounding mountains. Also including shorter 2½mile walk (option 1) and 3½mile walk (option 2).

1. Turn RIGHT out of Pen Y Bont Farmhouse and continue along the pavement past the entrance to Pen y Bont touring and camping park, then turn RIGHT along a track on a signposted bridleway. After about 100 yards, take a signposted path on the left angling up through the wood. At the bend of a track, continue on the sign- posted path up through the trees to cross a stile at the wood edge.
2. Go up the slope to a waymarked fence corner and continue on the path beneath the fence - great views. At the fence corner, follow it up to cross a stile at the top of the slope. Go half-RIGHT to cross a stile in the field corner. Continue along the next field edge and over a ladder-stile into Open Access land. Now go up the slope ahead and on with a clear level path across the partly gorse-covered terrain, soon joining another path to cross a ladder-stile just before a white cottage - a former 19th century chapel. (For **option 1**, just before the stile, turn sharp right to follow a faint path through the edge of gorse, later towards a telegraph pole on the skyline, to cross a ladder-stile. Go half-right up between gorse, then bear left across a small top and descend to a ladder- stile and through a gate to pass the front of Wenallt. Go down its access track, soon bearing right. Just beyond a stone barn, enter a field on the left and continue to cross a ladder-stile. Go half-LEFT to pass beneath a small crag and on to cross a stile 50 yards to the left of a bungalow. Descend through the wood to a track. Turn right and rejoin at point 6.)
3. Follow the path to a nearby stony track. Turn RIGHT along the track through an area of replanted mixed woodland, soon passing a track on the left. After another few hundred yards, go up a waymarked path on the left between young trees, then follow a green track up to cross a ladder-stile at a great viewpoint. Continue with a faint green track rising across upland pasture. (For **option 2**, after 75 yards head half-right down the hillside for about 250 yards to a ladder- stile and resume text at point 5.) Continue up the track, then just before a gate, bear LEFT with the fence for about 100 yards to cross a ladder-stile. Continue ahead through a narrow reedy cutting and after a further 100 yards, gradually bear LEFT to follow a distinct green path up the hillside to cross a ladder-stile near a fence corner into Open Access land. Follow the good path across the tussocky terrain, later rising to follow the fence on the right up to a ladder-stile on the skyline. Here, turn LEFT alongside the fence to reach an initial viewpoint, then head to the highest point, marked by a small pile of stones — offering panoramic views of Llyn Tegid (Lake Bala), Y Bala (Bala town), the Berwyns, the Arans, Cader Idris, and the Arenigs. Return along the broad ridge, then head back towards the fence and cross the ladder-stile. Continue ahead across the open pasture of Craig yr Allor to cross a ladder-stile into a forest.
- 4 Follow the path through the conifers and, at a waymark post, keep ahead. At the next waymark post, turn RIGHT to follow a path on a long steady descent through the forest, later levelling out to reach a waymarked old gateway by cleared forest - offering a good view across to the Arans. Descend, initially beside old fence posts at an embanked corner, bear LEFT down the old boundary to a yellow-topped pole by a waymarked gateway. Turn RIGHT and follow the waymarked bridleway through the part-cleared forest for ½ mile, eventually leaving it by a gate into Open Access land. The bridleway now contours the bracken-covered slopes of Is-Afon guided by waymark posts, later crossing a stream and going through a bridle gate. Just beyond, turn LEFT along a green bridleway, keeping to its level right fork, soon descending following a fence to a ladder-stile. Continue near the fence, soon steadily descending to a stile/gate. Follow the fence down to a ladder-stile below - offering a superb panoramic view of Llyn Tegid.
- 5 Do not cross the stile. Instead, follow a green track near the fence down to cross a ladder-stile then descend the slope to cross a road. Follow the signposted path across the open hillside towards Y Bala, across a stream and a reedy area, after which it steadily descends, and meanders down to a stile. Follow the fence down to a stream near a cottage, from where the path bears RIGHT up to an old fence corner. Continue down alongside the fence, then go past the corner of Coed Graienyn and down a field past a house to a stile in the bottom corner. The path descends to a driveway which you follow up to nearby Bala Lake Hotel. Pass behind the main building, through the car park and continue along a track past farm buildings.
- 6 About 40 yards after passing a signposted path on the right, cross a stile on the left. Go along the field edge, over a ladder-stile and go half-RIGHT down to another ladder-stile and across a footbridge over the Bala Lake railway line. Continue to the road beyond and turn right to Pen Y Bont.