

Pen-y-ffordd is an active village community, set in rolling countryside, just inside the Welsh border, where the land rises up from Cheshire. It includes Penymynydd, which has long since been absorbed and Dobshill.

This border walk crosses the disused railway line which was closed in 1962 because the diesel engines were unable to climb the hill to Pen-y-ffordd up one of the steepest railway gradients in the country.



On the Farm

Look out for many horses, cattle and sheep on your walk. The village is popular for riding stables.



Birdlife

There are Buzzards, Tawny and Barn Owls, Lapwings in season, Goldfinches, Bullfinches, Heron and Kingfisher have been seen along Blackbrook.



Flora and Fauna

Oak, Beech, Hornbeam, Willow, Poplar, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Bluebells, Sloe Berries...

History

Today a cluster of 34 houses in the field east of Vounog Hill was once a grand house called Fownog Hall, that became Meadowslea hospital before the Great War and continued as a much loved Cottage Hospital until it was demolished in 2008.



Getting Here

By Rail

Pen-y-ffordd station is on the Wrexham-Bidston line. Alight at Pen-y-ffordd station. Cross the roundabout and walk along Corwen Road / Rhos Road, past the Red Lion pub. Turn right at the T-Junction and start the circular walk at number 2, opposite Meadow View.

By Car

The A550 links Pen-y-ffordd to the A55 North Wales Expressway. Coming from the Expressway, you will go straight across 3 roundabouts, then take the next left, signposted Pen-y-ffordd, and immediately right into Platt Lane, where there is space to park.



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PEN-Y-FFORDD CIRCULAR WALKS

Walk Number One



BORDER VIEWS

On this gentle 4 mile circular walk on country lanes, farmer's fields and bridle paths, you will enjoy beautiful views across Cheshire to the Beeston Hills and over to Hope Mountain.

Distance

4 Miles

Difficulty

Moderate
★★☆☆☆

Accessibility

Some livestock
Stiles to cross
Soft ground

Footwear

Some wet or
soft ground
at times

2 Turn off the road opposite Meadow View and the Willow tree. Walk directly across the fields, across the small bridge over Black Brook until you reach Terrace Lane.



3 At Terrace Lane turn right and you will immediately reach a wooden styal on your left. Cross the field here, past the riding stables.



4 Lower Mountain Road, turn right for 50 metres until you reach the cottage at the entrance to Model Farm. The path goes to the left around the farm then follow the hedgerow.



1 We start at the top of Vounog Hill. There is a layby for parking on Platt Lane. Head down Vounog Hill, past Min-y-Ddol, the entrance to the old hospital, towards the centre of Pen-y-ffordd.



8 With the majestic trees guarding Nant Farm marking the entrance, walk up Platt Lane to return to the start of the walk.



At the top of the bridle path, you reach Lower Mountain Road once again. Turn right for the short walk to Platt Lane.



7 The bridle path is on the right just after the white house.



5 When you reach Model Farm, you arrive at double gates. Pass through the gate on the left and into the field beyond. Head straight ahead.



6 You arrive at Bramley Lane across a metal style and a farmers gate. Turn right and walk past Willow Tree Farm, over the old railway line.

