

Nant Fawr Corridor

Maps: OS Explorer 151 Cardiff & Bridgend

Start Point: Wild Gardens Road at the top end of Roath Park Lake.

Distance: 10 km / 6 m

Time: 3-4 hr

Facilities: None on the walk but facilities can be found at the bottom end of Roath Park Lake and The Griffin Inn is in Lisvane near point E.

Difficulty: Easy, mainly on pavements and good paths but with some stiles. However one section (C-D on map) is prone to flooding (an alternative route is provided) and one section (D-E on map) can be waterlogged and muddy in wet weather.

All information correct at time of publication January 2010



View across Lisvane reservoir with Craig Llysfaen in the background



Lisvane Church and The Griffin Inn from point E

Please ensure you are fit enough and suitably equipped for the walk you undertake.

Getting there from Cardiff central:

By bus: to Lakeside Road West (or East)

By rail: from Llanishen Station go across the road and start the walk at point F)

By car: parking possible at Wild Gardens Road.



cardiff walks

A series of walks in and around Cardiff created by Ramblers Cymru Cardiff Group

Nant Fawr Corridor



View from Wild Gardens Road south to the Scott Memorial

Cardiff Ramblers are the local group of Ramblers Cymru

The Cardiff Group organises walks in the south Wales area and beyond, mainly on Wednesdays (3 different distances), weekends and Thursday evenings (in summer). We also organise coach trips, weekends away, footpath maintenance and campaigns and the occasional social event.

There is no charge for non-members to join our walks - but we would like you to join if you take part regularly.

You can learn more about us at: www.cardifframblers.org.uk

The Ramblers Association is a registered charity (England and Wales no. 1093577; Scotland no. SC039799) and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales (no. 4458492). Registered office: 2nd floor, Camelford House, 87-90 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TW.

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Summary

This walk starts at the top end of Roath Park Lake, one of Cardiff's most popular parks. At the bottom end of the lake can be found a cafe, toilets and play area.

The walk explores one of Cardiff's four river corridors and encompasses woodland and open meadows. Much of the woodland along the Nant Fawr is maintained by The Friends of Nant Fawr (contact: www.nantfawr.org.uk).

The walk passes Llanishen and Lisvane Reservoirs, which are both SSSIs (Site of Special Scientific Interest): Lisvane Reservoir is noted for the wildfowl that over-winter there and the embankments of both Reservoirs are home to a wide spectrum of waxcap fungi. However, Western Power, which owns both reservoirs, has put forward plans to drain Llanishen Reservoir and create a residential development. This has been strongly opposed by local communities as well as political and other organisations. The southern entrance to the Reservoirs (near point C) is now permanently locked and access to the Reservoirs and their SSSI sites prevented by high iron railings.

A: In Wild Gardens Road and facing Roath Park Lake, turn left and go to the end of the road where it meets Lake Road East. Turn left to reach the roundabout and cross two roads to reach the continuation of the road (which is now Llandennis Road). Go past Cardiff High School and take a tarmac footpath on the right which has the school on the right and the Nant Fawr on the left; where a path crosses, continue straight ahead into Wood's Covert (part of the Nant Fawr Woods) and follow the broad unmade path as it goes through the wood to reach Rhydypenau Road.

B: Take the kissing gate that is on the opposite side of the road but slightly offset to your left and follow the path to a T-junction. Turn right here onto a path that crosses the Nant Fawr and leads into Nant Fawr Woods. Follow this path to a further kissing gate.

C: Go through this and take the kissing gate opposite which allows access to a path following the perimeter of the Reservoirs. The straight path goes down a dip

which in wet weather can be a deep lake and an alternative path through a grove of trees has been created. Follow the path along the reservoir side (about halfway along there is a viewing platform giving a fine panorama over the water to the Graigs north of Lisvane - see photo) to reach a stile.

D: Cross the stile and go straight over the field to reach a further stile at the far end which gives access to a sunken lane. Turn left and follow the lane to reach a field, over a stile and keeping field boundaries on your left, continue through another two further fields to reach a kissing gate giving access to a lane. Turn left and almost immediately come out at a mini-roundabout just below Lisvane Church and the Griffin Inn.

E: Turn left and follow Lisvane Road to the railway bridge by Llanishen Station.

F: On the other side of the bridge immediately turn left down a lane that after about 100m reaches open ground. Follow the track between the open area and the railway to reach Fidlas Road. Turn left under the bridge and turn left after Yapps Garage into Usk Road, after 150m this swings round to the right and becomes Towy Road, where this too swings to the right (becoming Ewenny Road) look for a concealed path on the left which provides access to Rhydypenau Rark. Follow the path down towards the Nant Fawr Woods and the kissing gate onto Rhydypenau Road.

G: To retrace your steps back to Wild Gardens Road, cross the road, veering slightly left to reach the path through Woods Covert. Follow the path to reach Llandennis Road.

H: Turn left and follow the road to the roundabout which marks the top end of the Wild gardens and proceed through the Wild Garden to reach your start point in Wild Garden Road.

