



Prestatyn Hills Circular



Prestatyn

Route detail

A walk that takes in the Prestatyn-Dyserth Way and the northern terminus of the Offa's Dyke Path. An extended walk to Dyserth Waterfall can be made..

Distance:	6 miles / 9.7km (with 2.2 miles / 3.5km extension)
Start location:	Prestatyn Railway Station
Start Grid Ref:	SJ 06417 83079
Start What3Words:	treatable.draining.mint

Start

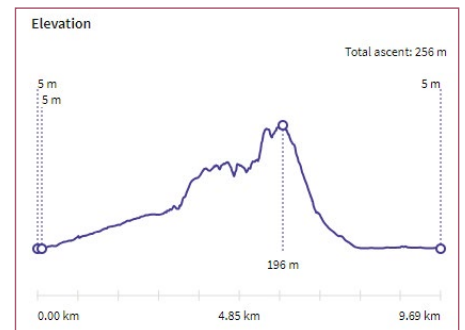
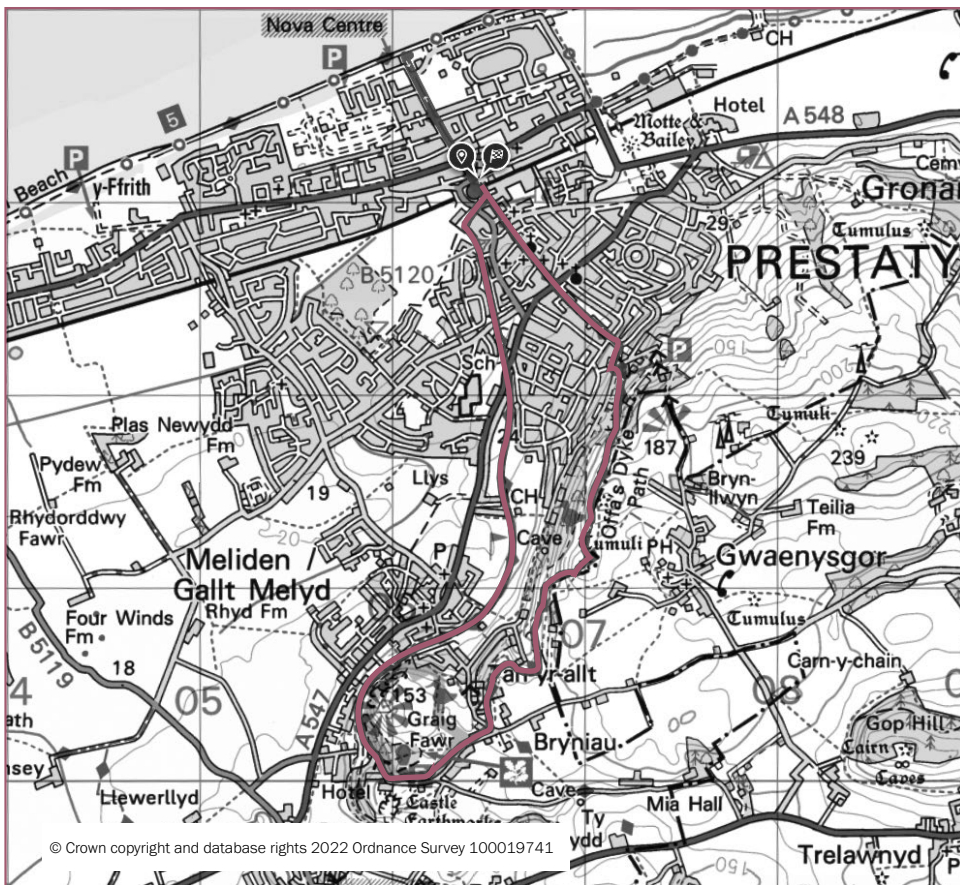
Start at Prestatyn railway station, where the footbridge above the platforms offers good views. Walk towards the town centre, but turn right at a mini roundabout to walk along Bridge Road. Go straight through a

crossroads with traffic lights, using a pedestrian crossing. Pass the little bus station and walk along Gas Works Lane, which becomes a narrow concrete road. Turn left along a tarmac cycleway marked as a 'Community Miles Route'. This is flanked by bushes, making it a wildlife haven in an urban area. Cross a road and continue along the tarmac path as signposted for Dyserth. This used to be a railway line, but now serves as the Prestatyn-Dyserth Way.

Follow the path under a road bridge and keep straight ahead through an intersection of paths. Go under another road bridge and keep walking gently uphill away from the suburbs, passing a golf course where food and drink are available. The path later passes a sculpture that looks like an old-fashioned bellows camera, where you are invited to take a picture. Later, cross a bridge

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over a road at Meliden and reach Y Shed, which is an old railway goods building now serving as a heritage centre, cafe and bakery. There are even shoes for sale and a podiatry service, should you need either on this walk!

The old railway line continues through woods, then a stretch of it has been cut out of the steep limestone slopes of Graig Fawr. When another bridge crosses a road, a decision needs to be made. Either turn left just before the bridge, along a woodland path, or continue along the line for an extended walk and an opportunity to visit a fine waterfall.

For the extended walk – continue along the old railway line, which goes through a rocky cutting in the woods. Reach a stone arch carrying a road over the old line, and note that you will be returning here later. Continue along the line, passing beneath another stone arch. Pass a small crane and a barrier gate to reach a small car park and the A5151 road. Turn right up the road, then follow it downhill as the High Street through the village of Dyserth. Pass a pub called Y-Bodunig, then turn right at a road junction along Bryn-y-Felin. Turn right at a crossroads, down another road that ends at a house called Pen Rhaeadr. Turn left down a concrete path with 124 steps, joining a road at the Waterfall Shop and its little cafe.

A 50p donation is requested to follow a short path to

Dyserth Waterfall, viewed from a footbridge looking into a narrow gorge. Immediately ahead are two stout stone walls that probably once held a waterwheel. Climb 140 steps, first between the stone walls then up the rugged slope above. Go down a dozen wooden steps into woodland. Turn right to follow a path and cross a long footbridge over a river. A concrete path with 38 steps climbs back to the house passed earlier, Pen Rhaeadr. Walk up the road, turn left at the crossroads, then left again to retrace steps up through Dyserth along the A5151 road. After a short walk downhill, turn left into the small car park to retrace steps along the old railway line. Pass beneath one stone arch, but turn right immediately before the next stone arch. A path leads up to a road, then turn right to follow the road uphill. When a junction is reached at a house called Haulfryn, turn left to reach another junction, then left again, and almost immediately right to enter a small car park. Go through a gate and avoid a path signposted for a viewpoint, instead turning right to follow a path parallel to the road.

To omit the extended walk – turn left to leave the old railway line and follow a woodland path. Go up a few steps and go through a kissing gate. The woodland path climbs parallel to a road, then continues through bracken and goes through another kissing gate into a field. Pass a small car park and avoid a path signposted for a viewpoint. Stay on a path running parallel to the

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road, climbing until a kissing gate gives access to the road at Mount House.

Turn left along the road, following it downhill and uphill, then turn left at a road junction to spot an Offa's Dyke Path signpost on the right, along with the acorn logos that mark the trail. Follow a track down to a house then keep right of the house to walk up a woodland path. This is obvious and well-marked, but take care to spot a marker post pointing up to the right at a fork. Next, a signpost points to the left and a grassy brow is reached overlooking Prestatyn. Walk along the fenced-off edge of a quarry and the path crosses a steep, open slope. When a signpost is reached, climb as indicated for the Offa's Dyke Path and Prestatyn.

Walk up through a kissing gate and climb steeply up a path where crude stone steps have been shaped by the actual limestone bedrock. Go down a flight of wooden steps, continuing through a small gate in a fence. Walk downhill a bit further, then uphill, keeping straight ahead as signposted through another small gate. A narrow path crosses an open hillside overlooking Prestatyn. Go through a kissing gate and follow the path gently downhill past bushes. After going down flights of steps, the path has a fence alongside as it runs down a well-wooded slope. After the fence ends, a chunky marker post indicates a left turn down a winding path and steps to a small car park in an old quarry.

Walk down a steep road as signposted, turning right at the bottom along a level road. Turn left down another steep road, which is mostly lacking a pavement as it descends into Prestatyn. Go through a crossroads with traffic lights and take note of a noticeboard explaining about the Offa's Dyke Path. Walk straight down High Street, passing several shops and businesses, spotting Offa's Dyke Path acorn logos set into the pavement, as well as fixed above eye level on lamp posts. Walking straight ahead leads back to the railway station where the walk started, but it is recommended that you walk to the coast and back.

Cross the footbridge over the railway, noticing likenesses of King Offa of Mercia etched onto glass panels. Coming down from the footbridge, walk straight ahead along a road, using a pedestrian crossing at a busy crossroads, then continue straight along Bastion Road. This leads to the Nova Centre and Central Beach. A signpost for the Offa's Dyke Path points back to distant Chepstow on the south coast, giving the distance as 177 miles (285km). A towering steel sculpture is called 'Dechrau a Diwedd', or 'Beginning and End', depending on what direction you follow the trail. (The 870 mile (1400km) Wales Coast Path passes on its way from Chester to Chepstow.) All that remains is to follow the road back to Prestatyn railway station to finish. Before catching a train, wander along the platforms to spot a sculpture of 'Rhodri the Rambler' standing beside an Offa's Dyke Path signpost.

Parking: Car park at Prestatyn railway station, Parc Prestatyn, Nova Centre, Central Beach and other locations around town.

Bus: Daily bus services link Prestatyn with Chester and Llandudno, and a service linking Prestatyn with Rhyl also stops at Dyserth.

Train: Daily North Wales Coast train services link Prestatyn with Holyhead and Chester.