

Llyn Crafnant and Geirionydd from Capel Curig

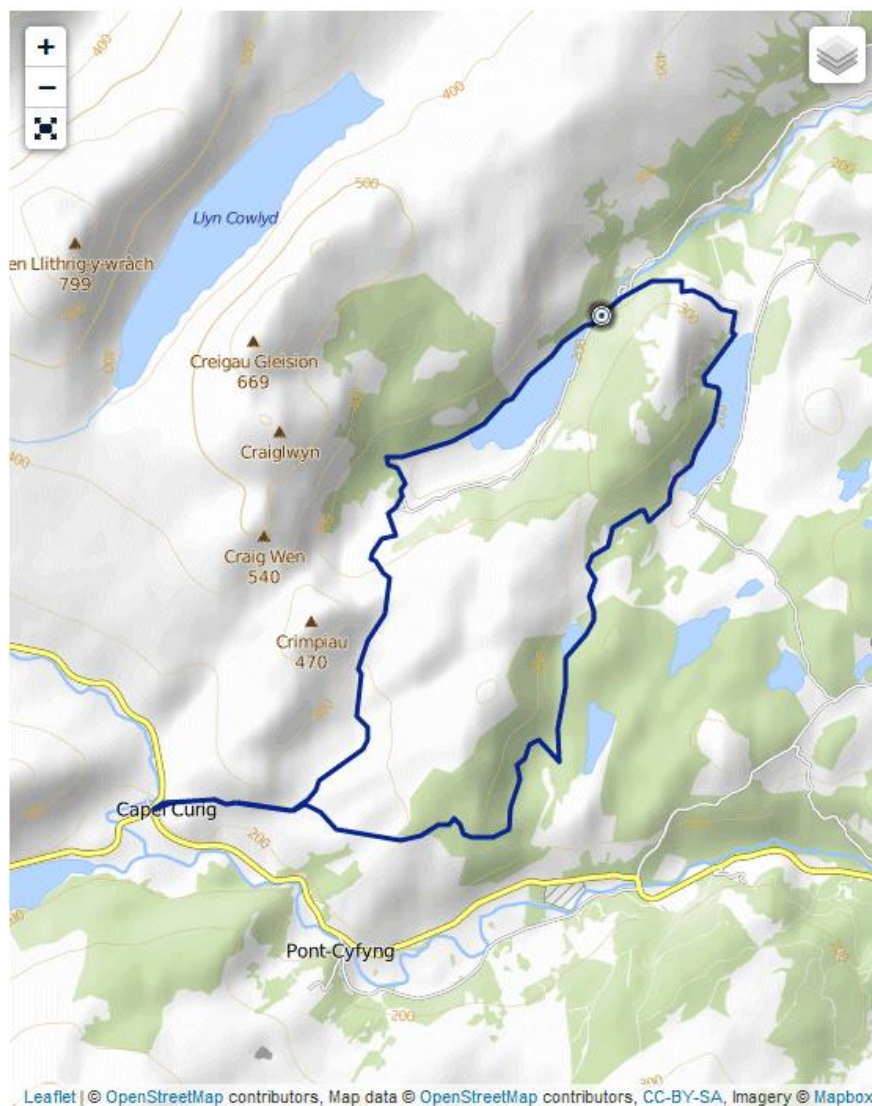
Route Summary: This is a straightforward circuit that you can do at almost any time of the year. Starting from Capel Curig, the route travels over moorland, into two beautiful valleys containing lakes, and finally some forestry (there's got to be a down side!). Its highest point is only about 340m, and the distance about 15km.

Credit for this walk goes to Mr Andrew Jones, who used it several times when the weather was too poor to take us into the higher mountains. The walk begins at Capel Curig, and then goes over grassy ground to Llyn Craftnant. You walk around the lake, and then after a walk through trees reach Llyn Geirionedd, which is used for water sports. The walk goes along the length of the lake, and then cuts back through the forest. The original route went down the road to the Ugly House, but I feel that the forest route is more enjoyable.

Distance	Ascent	Time
15.45 km	586 m	4-5 hours

Start and Finish: Capel Curig

Facilities: Pubs, shop and cafes in Capel Curig. Cafe on the shores of Llyn Crafnant.



The Route

This was the second time I completed this circuit, and after a couple of silly errors in navigation last time (all caused by enthusiasm), I was determined to complete this simple walk without problems.



The route starts opposite the Pinnacle cafe, and you pass the church (now a decent B&B) on the right up a field, where navigation is relatively straightforward. Just ensure you don't embark on any steep climbs to the ridge just yet, and the path takes you through woodland and onto wet moorland. Last time I was here there were people restoring the footpath (this page has details of the [Snowdonia Society](#) who did this work and a pic of the path itself. Browsing the site, they're also trying to ban powerboats on Llyn Geirionydd), so the boggy parts may be no more.



From here the objective becomes clear, the track stretches off towards the col for a steady climb. When you reach it, then you are rewarded with views of Creigiau Gleision and Llyn Crafnant. The descent to the valley is quite steep, and the only part of the walk i could see being difficult in snow etc.



You then skirt the lake, through trees to your left, or the minor road to the right, especially if you fancy a cuppa or even a Bud in the cafe here. Though it was closed this time of year. Once you reach the end of the lake, then you follow the road for a short distance before veering right along a forestry track. This leads to a footpath, and you follow this uphill initially to reach Llyn Geirionydd. The lakeside walk is superior here, hugging the shore, but tree roots are an obstacle.



Finally, you pull up a forestry track (again) and this leads you eventually over to Capel Curig, and you arrive in Capel Curig by the same path you left. It's a low leveller, but ideal when that's what you're after. I really want to do this circuit in light snow, but getting the timing right!