



TR Register Shropshire Group

Clwydog and Bala

12th July 2019



Summary

We'll meet at the Churchstoke shopping centre and then drive to the picturesque Clywedog reservoir via Newtown and Llanidloes. After Climbing above the reservoir, we'll take the Dylife mountain road over to Machynlleth. We'll then turn North towards Dolgellau passing through the slate mining area around Corris. After Dolgellau we'll pass alongside Llyn Trawsfynydd and the decommissioned Nuclear power station. We'll turn before Ffestiniog and drive past Llyn Celyn before dropping into the Plas-yn-Dre for lunch in Bala. After lunch, we'll drive past the end of the lake and then climb the Milltir Gerrig pass before descending into the Tanat valley at Llangynog. We'll finish by joining the A5 at the Wolfshead Roundabout.

The itinerary shows cumulative running time rather than expected arrival/leaving times. The running time is according to Google which assumes you are travelling at normal road speeds. The start time is fixed and Lunch is arranged for 2:00 which means you have an extra 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before lunch to fit in visits and any comfort/tea/coffee/photo stops you wish to make. Some possible places to visit or stop for a break are highlighted in the itinerary. This is an Open Road run meaning we will run individually or in small groups and we will not be running a "sweeper" at the back. If you run into trouble please phone one of the organisers.

Itinerary:

Running Time	Distance (m/s)	Meet at Church Stoke shopping centre at 9:30 for a 10:00 start. If you arrive earlier, there is a petrol station and a café for breakfast/teas/coffees/snacks.
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Getting to Clwedog		
0 mins		Turn Left out of the shopping centre and follow the A489 all the way to the Newtown Bypass.
	11.3	Turn left at the bypass roundabout towards Llanidloes and Caersws
	14.0	At the end of the bypass, bear left at the roundabout to join the A489 to Caersws and Llanidloes.
	17.8	Just before the rail crossing at Caersws, turn right off the A489 onto the A470 following the signpost into Caersws.

	18.2	In Caersws turn left after the Texaco petrol station onto B4569 signed Trefeglwys.
41 mins	26.6	As you enter Llanidloes, turn right onto the B4518 just after Huws Gray. The junction is just before the bridge over the River Severn, it has a brown sign for Clwedog that was completely hidden by a tree when I drove past. If you miss the turning, you can turn around at the roundabout on the other side of the bridge.

Clwydog Reservoir and Dylife Mountain Road		
	30.4	Continue along the B4518, sweep down and up over the Bwlch-y-Gle dam and then up to a viewpoint on the left just before the top of the hill. Ideally, turn into the 2 nd entrance just after the brow of the hill at the Llyn Clwedog Brown sign.
		After the viewpoint, continue on the B4518 through Staylitttle
	34.8	A mile or so after Staylitttle turn left onto the Dylife Mountain road signposted Dylfe and Machynlleth.
		The mountain road climbs to 509m. It is the 7 th highest pass in Wales and has a number of viewpoints , the best are: after a mile on the right down the Twymyn valley; the Cadair Viewpoint on the left of a sharp bend just after you have started the steep descent towards Machynlleth.
	45.7	In Machynlleth, turn left at the crossroads onto the A489. This is the Main road and there are a number of possible cafés before the clock tower.

Machynlleth to Bala		
73 mins	46.1	At the Clock Tower turn right onto the A487
	46.9	Bear right following the A487 as you cross the River Dovey
		About 3 miles out of Machynlleth is the Centre for Alternative Technology. It is accessed by a funicular and has a café as well as some short walks.
		3 Miles further on is Corris, a slate mining village. There is a café and craft centre on the left but most of Corris is on the right. To visit Corris itself, you will need to turn right. If you have turned into Corris (the railway museum will be closed) there is an impressively large hole in the mountainside at Aberllefenni 5-10 mins further on. You will need to return to Corris to rejoin the A487.
		Continue on the A487, pass the turn to Talylyn and climb alongside Cadair Idris. There is a parking spot and viewpoint at the top of the climb.
	58.9	Decend towards Dollgellau turning left onto the A470 at Crossfoxes "T" junction.

	61.5	Stay on the A470 past Dolgellau or take a 5 minute detour into Dolgellau to one of the local cafés .
		Continue on the A470 past Llyn Trawsfynydd and the decommissioned nuclear power station.
120 mins	80.0	As you descend into Ffestiniog, turn right onto the B4391 to Bala just after entering the 30mile limit and immediately before the railway bridge.
		Enjoy the views as you climb on the B4391.
	88.2	At the end of the B4391 turn left onto the A4212 following the signs to Bala and drive alongside Llyn Celyn before dropping down into Bala.
	98.1	In Bala a quick right left takes you back onto the B4391 and a carpark on your left. Park here for lunch.
145mins 14:00		Lunch is in the Plas-yn-Dre along the High Street. We are booked in for 2:00 pm

Milltir Gerig and Tanat valley		
		Leave Bala by continuing on the B4391 past the end of Bala lake
		After a short while begin the climb up to the Milltir Gerrig pass. This rises to 486m and is the 12 th highest mountain pass in Wales.
		Continue on the B4391 descending steeply into the Tanat valley and Llangynog.
169 mins	113.2	Arrive in Penybontfawr. Those who want to go North of Oswestry may want to head left toward LLanraeadr-Ym-Mochnant and Llansilin.
	114.5	A mile outside Penybontfawr, turn left onto the B4396 towards Oswestry. Those heading to South Shropshire may want to continue on the B4391 towards Welshpool.
199 mins	132	Continue on the B4396 all the way to the Wolfshead roundabout on the A5. Note the road becomes the A495 for a few miles before the crossing the A483 at Llynclys.

This is a non-competitive run for likeminded participants where there is no other purpose than the camaraderie of motoring in company to a predetermined point. Consideration for other road users must be shown and speed limits complied with.

Contacts:

Roger Critchley, 07811260166

Greg Washington, 07471913282

Peter Napier, 07710969069

