**Snowdon the Routes in Detail**

**Note these details are for general information only and are not meant to be used as a walk guide.**

**Llanberis Path Route:**

**1.** The Llanberis path starts at far end of Victoria Terrace, which leads down from the mini roundabout opposite the Royal Victoria Hotel at the southern end of the village.

**2.** Go through the gate next to the cattle grid and follow the steep road. The road will pass Pen y Ceunant Isaf, and then through a farmyard. Shortly after going through the farmyard, follow the prominent path on the left signposted ‘Snowdon’.

During the first part of the journey, you will see fantastic views back towards Dinorwig Slate Quarry on the slopes of Elidir Fawr. It is now the enormous site of the Dinorwig Hydro-Electric Power Station – the largest of its kind in Europe. Electricity is generated through releasing water from Marchlyn Mawr reservoir on Elidir Fawr, through underground tunnels to turn six turbines in a massive cavern deep inside the mountain. After passing through the turbine the water is stored in Llyn Peris before being pumped back up to Marchlyn Mawr reservoir to be used again.

If you walk this path during the summer months, you are sure to see one of the Snowdon trains on its way up or down the mountain. A rack and pinion system enables the engines to climb up the mountain, pushing the carriage in front of it. Some of the steam engines are over a hundred years old and have been climbing the mountain since the railway first opened in 1896!

**3.** The path climbs gradually, and in a while you will pass the ruins of an old cottage on your left, and Hebron station below on the right. You will shortly reach a mountain gate and a stile.

**4.** From the mountain gate the path will continue to climb gradually and parallel with the railway.

On your right, from left to right, are the hills and ridges of Moel Cynghorion, Foel Goch, Foel Gron and Moel Eilio. Below is Cwm Brwynog valley, where you can see the ruins of farmsteads and crofts of once an old close nit community who used to live here. The families of Gwaun Cwm Brwynog were tenants to the Faenol Estate, Y Felinheli, who also owned the Dinorwig slate quarry. Many of the men worked at the quarry during the week, as well as keeping animals on the smallholding.

There were twenty five dwellings in Gwaun Cwm Brwynog, but no school, or shop, or pub, and no electricity or telephone – but there was a chapel! The remains of the chapel, called Capel Hebron, can be seen over your right shoulder, on the far side of the railway and Hebron Station hut.

Before the chapel was built, religious services and Sunday Schools were held on local farms, but as the Sunday School membership increased, the farms became too small. The chapel was built in 1835 and at its peak there were 78 members. The chapel was the heart and soul of this unique community and all kind of social events were held there.

Early in the twentieth century, families began to emigrate from the valley, and one by one the crofts were left empty. By the mid twentieth century the community of Gwaun Cwm Brwynog had scattered, and the buildings left for the elements to decide on their fate.

**5.** Shortly, you will walk under the railway bridge.

**6.** After going under the bridge the path will continue to climb gradually with the railway on your left. You will shortly pass the Halfway House, where refreshments are sold in the summer months. From here on the path will begin to climb more steeply.

After passing the Halfway House, you can see the summits of Mynydd Drws y Coed and Garn beyond the Cwm Brwynog pass on your right.

**7.** In a while you will reach the bottom of Allt Moses, where the path forks. Keep to the left and follow the path that climbs up the slopes of Llechog.

The path to the right was originally used to reach the copper mines on the slopes of Clogwyn Coch, but today it is used to reach Clogwyn Du’r Arddu. This is, apparently, the most difficult rock climbing face in Wales!

As you climb Allt Moses you will see Llyn Du’r Arddu lake, and a large boulder known as Maen Du’r Arddu on its shore. Legend has it that anybody who spends a night under the rock, will be either a poet or insane by the morning!

**8.** At the top of Allt Moses you will walk under the railway bridge. Once you have walked under the bridge, Cwm Glas Bach will come into sight on your left. Be careful on this section.

The local name for this spot is Cwm Hetiau (translated ‘Valley of the Hats’). When Victorian visitors travelled in the train’s open top carriages, the wind would take hold of their hats and down they went to the bottom of the Llanberis Pass. Local children would collect the hats at the bottom and sell them to visitors in Llanberis!

**9.** After Cwm Glas Bach the path climbs steeply up the slopes of Carnedd Ugain with Clogwyn Coch on your right. Take care on this part of the path. You will shortly reach Bwlch Glas.

**10.** At Bwlch Glas a standing stone marks the spot where the Pyg Track and Miners’ Track join the Llanberis Path. Over your right shoulder, on the other side of the railway, you will see the Snowdon Ranger path rising up from Bwlch Cwm Brwynog and crossing the railway to join the Llanberis Path.

You are now on the final leg of your walk up Snowdon. Walking at a leisurely pace, you can expect to be on the summit in around a quarter of an hour.

From here there are fantastic views down to your left of Cwm Dyli and its lakes, Llyn Glaslyn and Llyn Lydaw. On the left hand side of the valley you can see the knife edge ridge of Crib Goch, which forms part of the famous Snowdon horseshoe.

From the summit on a clear day you will be rewarded with fantastic views - 18 lakes and 14 peaks over 914 metres (3000ft) can be seen. Sometimes, you can even see as far as Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Lake District.

**11.** On your way down from the summit, a little further down from the Bwlch Glas standing stone, keep left - the path to the right follows the Snowdon horseshoe which leads over Carnedd Ugain and Crib Goch.

**Pyg Track Route:**

**1.** The path starts in the far end corner of Pen y Pass car park, to the right of the car park entrance. Pass the helicopter landing site on your right, and go through a narrow gap in a stone wall. (The prominent path that starts opposite the car park entrance is the Miners’ Track).

The summit you can see from Pen y Pass car park is Crib Goch, not Snowdon as it is often mistaken. Crib Goch is a knife edge ridge with a steep drop on either side. It is very open to the weather and many walkers have got into difficulties on it, and sadly, many have lost their lives. By all means, this route should be left to experienced mountaineers.

**2.** The first section of the Pyg Track climbs quite steeply over rough and rocky terrain. Tread carefully to avoid an ankle injury, especially on your way down.

As you climb the first section of the path, there are fantastic views down to the right of the Glyderau mountain range and of the Llanberis Pass. In a while, Llyn Peris and Llyn Padarn lakes will come into sight in the far end of this ‘u’ shaped valley, which was carved out by ice at the end of the last Ice Age, after about an hour’s walking you will reach Bwlch y Moch.

**3.** As you reach Bwlch y Moch, Llyn Llydaw will come into sight below, and the slopes of Lliwedd rising above the far side of the lake. The path forks here, with the path on the right leading up Crib Goch. For Snowdon, bear left and over the two adjacent stiles.

The causeway across Llyn Llydaw was built in 1853 to serve the Brittannia Copper Mine. Before this, a raft was used to carry horses and wagons full of copper across the lake. So that the causeway could be built, the water level had to be lowered by 12ft, and during that process a prehistoric oak dug-out canoe, measuring 10ft by 2ft, was discovered – proof that man has roamed this mountain for thousands of years.

**4.** From Bwlch y Moch the path climbs gradually to the intersection of the Pyg Track and the Miners’ Track above Llyn Glaslyn, which is marked by a standing stone.

When you have reached just above Llyn Glaslyn, look at the fantastic view of Snowdon in front of you, towering almost 500m above the glacial lake.

As you walk around the cwm along the slopes of Carnedd Ugain, notice the ruins of the Britannia Copper Mine’s barracks on the shore of Llyn Glaslyn. This is where the miners used to stay during the week.

**5**. There is a standing stone to mark the spot where the Pyg Track and the Miners’ Track meet – remember about it on your way down. From this point the path climbs steeply until you reach Bwlch Glas.

Looking across Llyn Glaslyn, to the left of the summit of Snowdon you will see Bwlch y Saethau (translated Pass of the Arrows). Miners from Beddgelert used to climb over this pass to work, with the help of iron chains fixed to the rock.

Legend has it that this is the place where King Arthur was struck by an arrow in battle. He was then carried to the shore of Llyn Llydaw, where a boat with three maidens came to take him away through the mist to Afallon (Avalon).

**6.** In a little while, the path will zigzag up to Bwlch Glas.

This part of the path is known as Llwybr y Mul (mule’s path). Before the main road through Llanberis Pass was built, this path was used to carry copper up to Bwlch Glas and then down the other side of the mountain to Llyn Cwellyn.

As you approach the Zig-Zags, keep well away from the open mine shafts on your left.

**7**. At Bwlch Glas, you will be joining the Llanberis Path and the Snowdon Ranger Path. This junction is marked with a standing stone (remember about it on your way down).

When you join the paths you will see railway tracks running up the mountain along the right hand side of the path. This is the Snowdon Mountain Railway, which has been carrying visitors to the summit since 1896 on the only public rack and pinion railway in the UK.

 Follow the path to the left from the standing stone. You are now on the final leg of your walk up Snowdon. Walking at a leisurely pace, you can expect to be on the summit in around a quarter of an hour.

From the summit on a clear day you will be rewarded with fantastic views - 18 lakes and 14 peaks over 914 metres (3000ft) can be seen. Sometimes, you can even see as far as Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Lake District.

**Miners Path Route:**

**1.** The path starts at the far left hand corner of the Pen y Pass car park, opposite the entrance.

As you walk, enjoy the fantastic views of the Gwynant valley down to the left from the path. Shortly, you will see the famous Snowdon Horseshoe which is made up of Lliwedd (898m/2946ft), Snowdon (1,085m/3560ft), Garnedd Ugain (1,065m/3494ft), and Crib Goch (921m/3022ft).

In a while you will pass a small lake on your left, Llyn Teyrn. Look out for the ruins of the old miners’ barracks near the shore.

The pipeline you can see leading down the valley on the left supplies water from Llyn Llydaw to Cwm Dyli hydro-electric power station in the Gwynant valley. The power station, which is the oldest power station in Britain, was originally built to supply electricity for an electric railway through the Gwynant Valley. The railway would connect slate quarries and mines, but scheme was abandoned when it ran out of funds. The power station was commissioned a year later in 1906, and has been supplying electricity to the National Grid ever since.

**2.** The path forks near Llyn Llydaw. Bear right and you will reach a causeway across the lake.

Before the causeway was built, horses and wagons full of copper from the mine were carried across Llyn Llydaw on rafts, to shorten their journey down to Pen y Pass. But following an accident in which a horse drowned, in 1853 it was decided that a causeway was to be built. In order to build the causeway, the water level had to be lowered by 12ft, and during that process a prehistoric oak dug-out canoe, measuring 10ft by 2ft, was discovered – proof that man has roamed this mountain for thousands of years.

**3.** Cross the causeway and follow the path passed the ruins of the Britannia Copper Mine crushing mill on your right, before a steep climb to Llyn Glaslyn lake.

The ruins of the old crushing mill are near Llyn Llydaw, and amongst the remains are the large crushing hammers that were used to extract the valuable ores. Copper ore was taken down to the crushing mill by an aerial ropeway over Llyn Glaslyn; this reduced the distance the copper had to be transported, and avoided the steep climb between the two lakes.

From Llyn Glaslyn, look at the dramatic view of Snowdon rising almost 500m above the glacial lake. As you walk around the lake, you will pass the ruins of another row of barracks on your right, where the miners used to stay during the week. From Llyn Glaslyn, although you have walked almost three quarters of the route in terms of distance, you are only half way up the mountain, time wise.

**4.** From Llyn Glaslyn, go to the right just after the barracks, and follow the path that climbs steeply over scree. This part of the route is a hard climb and can be very slippery. When the path is covered with ice and snow, the rest of the route is best left to experienced walkers with the proper equipment.

Looking across Llyn Glaslyn, to the left of the summit of Snowdon you will see Bwlch y Saethau (meaning ‘pass of the arrows’). Miners from Beddgelert used to climb to work over this pass with the help of iron chains fixed to the rock.

Legend has it that this is the place where King Arthur was struck by an arrow in battle. He was then carried to the shore of Llyn Llydaw, where a boat with three maidens came to take him away through the mist to Afallon (Avalon).

**5.** Shortly, you will reach a standing stone that marks the junction with the Pyg Track (remember about it on your way down). From this point the path continues to climb steeply and loose underfoot until you reach Bwlch Glas.

In a little while, the path will zigzag up to Bwlch Glas. This part of the path is known as Llwybr y Mul (mule’s path). Before the main road through Llanberis Pass was built, this path was used to carry copper up to Bwlch Glas and then down the other side of the mountain to Llyn Cwellyn. As you approach the Zig-Zags, keep well away from the open mine shafts on your left.

**6.** At Bwlch Glas, you will be joining the Llanberis Path and the Snowdon Ranger Path. This junction is marked with a standing stone (remember about it on your way down).

When you join the paths you will see railway tracks running up the mountain along the right hand side of the path. This is the Snowdon Mountain Railway, which has been carrying visitors to the summit since 1896 on the only public rack and pinion railway in the UK.

 Follow the path to the left from the standing stone. You are now on the final leg of your walk up Snowdon. Walking at a leisurely pace, you can expect to be on the summit in around a quarter of an hour.

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**Watkin Path Route:**

**1**. To reach the start of the path, follow the main road to the left from the car park, over the bridge and cross the road. To the left of the entrance to the National Trusts’ farm, Hafod y Llan, you will see a ‘Llwybr Watkin Path’ sign and stone steps leading into the woods. Follow the path through the woods and in a short while, you will go through two large gates.

**2**. Shortly, you will come out into open countryside, and when you reach a bend in the path you will see Cwm Llan stretching out in front of you.

This location was used as the Khyber Pass in the well known film Carry on up the Khyber.

The crevice you can see through Clogwyn Brith is the old tramway that was used to take wagons full of slate from the South Snowdon Slate Quarry down to Pont Bethania, where they were then transported by cart to Porthmadog.

Before you cross the tramroad for the second time, keep an eye out for the ruin of Hafod y Llan Uchaf on your right, this was the original Hafod y Llan farmhouse.

**3**. After going through the mountain gate, you will pass the beautiful gushing waterfalls on your right.

As you come in to Cwm Llan, the ruin you can see on the far side of the river on your right is the old crushing mill of the Hafod-y-Llan copper mine. The copper mines themselves are up above on the slopes of Y Lliwedd on your right.

**4**. After passing the crushing mill the path forks. Keep to the right – the path to the left leads over Bwlch Cwm Llan towards the Yr Aran and the South ridge of Snowdon.

You will pass sheep pens made of traditional slate fencing on your right, and then the ruins of Plas Cwm Llan – which used to be the home of the South Snowdon Slate Quarry manager. Later on, during the Second World War, soldiers used this building as a target when training for “D Day”. The holes that you can see in the walls of the house are bullet holes.

**5**. You will shortly walk passed Gladstone Rock and its stone plaque commemorating the opening of the path to the summit.

As you skirt around Craig Ddu, the path will lead through the old works of the South Snowdon Slate Quarry. The long building you can see on your left is the ruins of the quarrymen’s barracks.

**6.** After passing the barracks, the path veers steeply to the right with Cwm Tregalan on the left. Follow the path that climbs very steeply to Bwlch Ciliau.

As you climb you will be rewarded with amazing views down towards Ardudwy and the Glaslyn estuary.

**7.** At Bwlch Ciliau, follow the path to the left. The path to the right follows the Snowdon Horseshoe and leads towards Y Lliwedd.

From the ridge, you can see down to the right into the basin of the Snowdon Horseshoe. At the bottom of the basin you will see Llyn Glaslyn lake, and on the horizon you can see Carnedd Ugain on the left, and Crib Goch on the right. Below Carnedd Ugain you can see the intersection of the Miners and Pyg Tracks above Llyn Glaslyn.

**8.** Before the next steep section, you will be at Bwlch y Saethau.

According to the legend it was here that King Arthur was struck by an arrow in battle. Bedwyr (Bedivere) carried his King down to Llyn Llydaw lake, and as he passed Llyn Glaslyn he threw Arthur’s sword, Caledfwlch (Excalibur) into the lake. From Llyn Llydaw, three maidens sailed Arthur away through the mist to Afallon (Avalon).

**9.** After passing Bwlch y Saethau you will reach the most difficult part of the path. It is extremely steep, and care must be taken as it is very loose underfoot. You will shortly reach a standing stone that marks the spot where the Watkin Path joins the Rhyd Ddu Path. (Remember to turn off the Rhyd Ddu Path by this stone on your way down from the summit.)

**10.** From the standing stone at the top end of Bwlch Main, which marks the junction with the Rhyd Ddu Path, follow the path to the right and the visitor centre, Hafod Eryri, will come into sight. You are now on the last leg of your journey up Snowdon, and only a few minutes from the summit.

From the summit on a clear day you will be rewarded with fantastic views - 18 lakes and 14 peaks over 914 metres (3000ft) can be seen. Sometimes, you can even see as far as Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Lake District.

**11.** On the way down, it is important to remember that the Watkin Path does not descend directly from the summit – it starts from the standing stone which is approximately 200 metres down the Rhyd Ddu Path.

**Rhyd Ddu Route:**

**1.** With your back to the main road, go to the left passed the public toilets and continue to the far end of the car park. Go through the gate on the right and cross over the railway – remember to shut the gates. Follow the track ahead.

In a short while you will see the remains of a round tower on your left. The tower was once the powder house of the Ffridd Slate Quarry that comes into sight on your right.

**2.** Go to the right when the track forks, and around the vehicle barrier. The private track to the left goes to Ffridd Isaf farm.

Shortly, you will pass the remains of the Ffridd Slate Quarry which was working until the 1860’s (keep well away from the quarry itself as it can be very dangerous).

At one time, quarrying as well as farming was the area’s main livelihood, the remains of which are still very evident. The waste heaps of Glan yr Afon Quarry can be seen behind you in the distance, and this path was used to reach the Bwlch Cwm Llan Quarry and the South Snowdon Slate Quarry in Cwm Llan. The village of Rhyd Ddu (where this path begins) like many of the areas’ other towns and villages, were built to house the miners and their families.

**3.** After going through the gate near a shed you will reach another gate. From here the path veers to the left and climbs gradually towards Pen ar Lôn. In a while, you will reach two adjacent gates.

After the two adjacent gates, keep an eye out for a gate on your left hand side. Go through the gate and follow the path that leads over rushy and marshy terrain. You will shortly reach another gate with sheep pens on the left on the other side.

Down to your right is the valley of Cwm Caregog and Allt Maenderyn hill on the far side. The Aran is to the right of Allt Maenderyn, with Bwlch Cwm Llan at the foothills between the two.

**4.** The path will shortly begin to climb steeper and rougher underfoot and eventually you will arrive at the ruins of an old stone hut where refreshments were sold to thirsty walkers.

On your left you will see a flat, grassy area, which is thought to be the site of an ancient temple called Mur Murianau. It is said that a row of stones encircles the site, and four large boulders are arranged in such a way that resembles an altar.

Look down towards Rhyd Ddu and enjoy the striking view of Llyn y Gadair and Llyn Cwellyn lakes in the wide valley below, with Dyffryn Nantlle through the pass between the two lakes. On the horizon from left to right are the summits of Moel Hebog, Moel yr Ogof, Moel Lefn, Mynydd Drws y Coed and Y Garn, with Mynydd Mawr behind Llyn Cwellyn lake.

Ogof Owain Glyndŵr (Owain Glyndŵr’s Cave) is on the slopes of Moel yr Ogof. Legend has it that when Owain Glyndŵr was being pursued by English soldiers, he climbed up a 300 foot rock crevice on Moel Hebog. The soldiers refused to climb the crevice after him so they returned to Beddgelert. Owain came across a cave nearby where he hid until the soldiers returned to England, and this cave has been known as Ogof Owain Glyndŵr ever since.

**5**. From the ruins of the old refreshments hut the path climbs steeply over rocky terrain. After the next gate you will come out on the shoulder of Llechog ridge. Follow the path that leads up to the right towards the ridge.

From here you can see across Cwm Clogwyn and through Bwlch Cwm Brwynog pass down towards Llanberis. Moel Cynghorion is to the left of the pass and Clogwyn Du’r Arddu to the right.

**6**. Follow the path that leads over open and rocky ground.

This side of Snowdon is extremely open to the elements, especially in winter, so the rocky terrain has been shattered by ice. Because of the extreme environment, not many vegetation can survive here – and those that can survive here grow low and shrivelled – species such as bilberries, parsley ferns and grasses.

**7**. The visitor centre and summit cairn will soon come into sight in the distance.

As you walk along the Llechog ridge you can see down to Cwm Clogwyn on your left, with its three tiny lakes – Llyn Glas (Blue Lake), Llyn Coch (Red Lake) and Llyn Nadroedd (Snakes’ Lake). Go through a gate in a stone wall, from the other side of the gate, enjoy the fantastic view of the Aran on the right, and the Glaslyn estuary with the Harlech coastline beyond.

**8**. From the gate the path continues to follow the Llechog ridge around Cwm Clogwyn, before zigzagging up towards Bwlch Main. At the top of the zigzag section the path becomes very narrow with a steep slope below. Take care on this section, especially in bad weather, and keep to the path. When there is snow and ice on the ground this final section becomes a serious undertaking and should only be attempted by experienced walkers carrying the appropriate equipment.

**9**. After traversing the slope you will see the South Ridge path join in from the right. The spot where the two paths meet marks the start of Bwlch Main, also known as the “Saddle” (on your way back down to Rhyd Ddu, remember to bear right here).

Bwlch Main means ‘narrow pass’, and as the name suggests, it is very narrow with steep slopes on either side. Take extreme care on this section and keep to the path. From here, you can see the Watkin Path leading through Cwm Tregalan on your right, and Cwm Clogwyn to your left.

**10**. Shortly, the Watkin Path will join the Rhyd Ddu Path from the right – at a spot marked with a standing stone. From here the path climbs steeply and rocky all the way to the summit.

**Snowdon Ranger Path Route:**

**1**. Across the road and to the right of the car park entrance you will see a bridleway sign. Follow the sign that directs you along the path to the right of the entrance to Cae’r Orsaf. Go through the gate and to the left along a fenced path. Go through another gate and turn right over the train tracks, through a gate beside the cattle grid and continue towards Llwyn Onn farmhouse.

When you reach Llwyn Onn farmhouse, you will see an old waterwheel on the gable end of the house. The wheel was driven by water from a small reservoir to grind corn and cut gorse to feed the farm’s working horse.

**2**. Once you pass the farmhouse the path will fork. Go to the right and through the gate. You will shortly reach another gate, after which the path will zigzag up the mountain pasture. Please keep to the path and don’t take shortcuts – the public right of way is along the path only.

As you climb, there are fantastic views down towards Llyn Cwellyn and the slopes of Mynydd Mawr rising from its shores. The prominent rock on the right at the far end of the lake is Castell Cidwm (meaning Cidwm’s Castle), and it is said that Cidwm was a giant who lived in a cave in the rock.

**3**. Shortly after going through another gate you will reach a sign providing information about biking restrictions on the path. The public footpath to the left from here leads through Bwlch Maesgwm which is between Foel Goch and Moel Cynghorion, and then down to Llanberis. You need to follow the path straight ahead.

After crossing a stream and passing through a gate, Maen Bras will shortly come into sight on the right ahead of you. This huge boulder is known locally as Maen Camp - ‘boulder of feat’ because climbing up this boulder is not an easy task!

**4**. In a while you will cross another fast flowing stream and reach another gate. From the gate the path will veer to the left around the lower slopes of Moel Cynghorion.

As you get closer to Bwlch Cwm Brwynog, Llyn Ffynnon y Gwas lake will come into sight on your right. The name means ‘the lake of the servant’s spring’, and it is thought that it was named after a shepherd who drowned in its waters while washing his master’s sheep. The remains of an old stone sheepfold can be seen on the northern end of the lake – perhaps proof that there is truth behind the story…

**5**. After walking around the northern end of Llyn Ffynnon y Gwas you will arrive at Bwlch Cwm Brwynog.

**6**. From Bwlch Cwm Brwynog the path climbs very steep and loose underfoot nearly all the way to the summit, so take care from now on. After walking parallel with Llyn Ffynnon y Gwas for a while the path will start to zigzag steeply up the shoulder above Clogwyn Du’r Arddu.

As you climb the shoulder of Clogwyn Du’r Arddu you will see a fantastic view of the Llechog ridge and Cwm Clogwyn with its three small lakes – Llyn Glas, Llyn Coch and Llyn Nadroedd. (Blue Lake, Red Lake and Snakes’ Lake).

To the right, the valley extends down towards Llyn y Gadair and Llyn Cwellyn, and between the two lakes is the pass of Dyffryn Nantlle. On the horizon, from left to right are the summits of Moel Hebog, Moel yr Ogof, Moel Lefn, Mynydd Drws y Coed and Y Garn, with the Beddgelert forest covering the lower slopes.

Over to your left there is a striking view down towards Cwm Brwynog with the Llanberis Path and Snowdon Mountain Railway on the other side of the valley. At the far end of the valley you can see the village of Llanberis on the shore of Llyn Padarn, with the slate heap of the old Dinorwig slate quarry on the other side on the slopes of Elidir fawr.

**7**. Above Clogwyn Du’r Arddu the climb levels out a little not very well defined so take care on this section, especially in misty or wintry weather. The path will begin to climb again shortly, but more solid underfoot. In a while you will reach a standing stone that marks the crossing of the Snowdon Railway line (remember about it on your way down – especially if it’s misty as the start of the path can be very difficult to locate otherwise).

**8**. From the standing stone, cross the Snowdon Mountain Railway line and walk straight ahead until you reach another standing stone that marks the junction of the Snowdon Ranger path and the Llanberis path.

You have just crossed the railway track of the Snowdon Mountain Railway which has been carrying visitors to the summit since 1896 on the only public rack and pinion railway in the UK.

**9**. Follow the path to the right and after walking around 50 metres you will reach another, much larger, standing stone at Bwlch Glas. This stone marks the spot where the Pyg and Miners’ tracks merge with the Llanberis and Snowdon Ranger paths. From the standing stone, walk straight ahead - by walking at a leisurely pace, you can expect to reach the summit in around a quarter of an hour.

From the summit on a clear day you will be rewarded with fantastic views - 18 lakes and 14 peaks over 914 metres (3000ft) can be seen. Sometimes, you can even see as far as Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Lake District.

There are numerous other routes to the summit of Snowdon, some a combination of the listed routes and some using little known paths, some people may choose to take in additional peaks on the way up or down. Then there is of course the famous classic the "Snowdon Horseshoe" this is a fantastic route that takes in the ridges of Crib Goch, Crib y Ddysgl, Snowdon and Lliwedd, **this route should only be undertaken by experienced mountain walkers with scrambling experience.**