2 | Bethesda to Llanberis

At Bethesda High Street, turn right until you reach the Spar store. Turn left into Station Road, past a row of grey pebble-dashed houses. Continue alongside the river. When you come to the bridge, cross it and go straight ahead, climbing steeply uphill. Turn left at the main road and pass the entrance to the Felin Fawr Works. In a short while, turn right past the Bradite works and walk all the way up the hill for about 1.4km until you reach a sharp 90° bend. Turn left along the road, Gefnan, and follow this to a gate at its end.

Go through the gate and walk along the track which bends to the right, following it to a kissing gate at the wall junction. Follow a slightly sunken track which veers to the left and crosses the open moorland. Following this track for a kilometre or so, cross a stream. The track meets another stream and follows its right bank; the path becoming more of an indistinct sheeptrack, past a pumping station which you'll be able to see on the horizon. Continue alongside the stream until an unusual stream "crossroads" is reached. Go straight across, following what appears to be the minor incoming stream. Ignore the stream coming in from the left. From here, the route can be indistinct, so follow any signs directing you straight on.

After crossing two small streams, make for an ancient slate and iron ladder stile just to the left of one of the telegraph poles ahead of you. Cross the ladder stile and make for a slate post in the middle moorland. Follow the wall, then a fence, on your right, avoiding the bog as best you can, passing a number of small ponds on your left just before a farm track is reached. Head for the access road to Marchlyn Mawr Reservoir. Ignore the first gate and pass around to the right. Go through the kissing gate and turn right down the road. Where the main road veers to the right, turn left and immediately right, down the lane. At the footpath crossing at the access to Tan-y-Buarth, take the path on the left. Cross the field and follow the wall, keeping it to your left. After some distance, go through a kissing gate up to a white house. Follow the footpath diversion signs. Turn left up the concrete drive and pass through the kissing gate at the top, turning right along the track to meet the road. Turn right and follow this road for about 700 metres. Ignore the cul-de-sac to the left and continue for another 50 metres to a footpath on the right passing in front of Sardis Chapel. Walk along the track, and take a narrow path alongside the slate fence on your left.

When you reach the road, cross it, and take the lane opposite which goes steeply downhill. After about 325m, take the narrow lane to the left which passes between two cream houses. Follow this lane until you reach a cottage, half sunken, on the right. Take the footpath immediately after the cottage, joining a track steeply downhill. At the sharp right hand hairpin bend, go straight ahead, through a kissing gate and into the woods, crossing a metal footbridge, and eventually through a gate into Padarn Country Park.

Keeping within the woodland, follow the Snowdonia Slate Trail signs on the yellow waymarkers until you reach a fork. Take the right path, which follows blue and yellow waymarkers. Ignore a green waymarked track going off to the right and follow the yellow and green waymarkers. At the next fork, take the green route to the right. At the next junction, take the wide track to the right, zig-zagging past a stone building which was once the quarry hospital and is now a museum. Follow the tarmac drive for a while until you reach a building. Leave the drive and take the rough path to its right, following the red waymarkers. Cross the base of the restored incline and make for the Lake railway station.

Take the road alongside the museum buildings and next to the railway. Before the railway crosses the road, near a white, blue and yellow waymarker, follow the footpath which runs parallel to the railway. At the main road, turn right, and then left towards Llanberis village centre. Continue along the High Street to Tŷ Du Road.

Incline at the Slate Museum

FUNDING: Magnox; Eryri National Park CAE Fund; Foyle Foundation; Garfield Weston Foundation; Oakdale Trust; Community Foundation in Wales; HF Holidays; Horizon; First Hydro; Laspen Trust; Bethesda Town Council; Ffestiniog Town Council; Elusen Ogwen; Llechi Cymru; Menter Môn; PAVO; Ninevah Trust; Gaynor Cemlyn-Jones Trust; Mantell Gwynedd; Ashley Foundation; Rehau Plastics; Blakemore Foundation; Dŵr Cymru.

Snowdonia Slate Trail Trust is a Registered Charity, Number 1182188