

Penrhys Pilgrimage Way Llantrisant to Tonyrefail



Start: Bull Ring, Llantrisant (CF72 8EB)

End: Concorde Drive, Tonyrefail (CF35 8NE)

Distance: 5 miles / 8km

N.B. There are temporary problems with the old railway track. At Step 10, enter the railway track but look for a broken stump on your right after half a mile with a short path to a stile. Cross the stile. Turn left, stay close to the boundary. Cross the next stile. Head for a patch of tarmac and some containers. As you get closer, you'll see the way onto a farm road. Follow the farm road till you reach a gate with a smaller gate, that takes you on to the road. Turn left. Cross the stream. Continue from Step 11.

1. From William Price's statue in the Bull Ring bear left and cross Swan Street.
2. Continue downhill along Heol-y-Sarn to reach Llantrisant Common and cross the cattle grid. The Royal Mint Experience can be found by taking the left fork and bearing left when the road widens. If you do visit the Royal Mint Experience, afterwards exit via the entrance to their car park, carefully cross the road. On your right is a timber yard. Walk through their car park and follow the right of way by the river, following Bunny Walk No. 1 markers. Cross the stile into the woods. At the second stile bear right into a raised field and follow the right of way towards the farm. Cross the two stiles, walk to the road through the farmyard, turn left and almost immediately you will see a boundary stone on your left. You will re-join the route at point 4.
3. Take the right-hand fork (a narrow, metalled road) across the Common. Follow this for just over a mile (1.8 km) until you reach an old boundary stone on your left. Alternatively, pass the boundary stone and keep on the road past the Castellau Independent Chapel. Turn left on to Heol Ddu (Black Road). You will re-join the route at point 6.
4. Turn left over the bridge and cross the stream. Head straight on up the track to the pylon and continue to the corner of the field. Turn right and follow the field boundary climbing slightly.
5. When the opportunity arises, go left through a gate across a field towards another gate (note this area is under development, so fences and gates may differ). Go through the gate and with the wooden fence line on your left continue ahead to reach a gate in the left-hand corner of the field, and emerge onto a country road.
6. Turn left on to the road (Heol Ddu), looking out for traffic.
7. Pass the Countryman Inn on your left.
8. After about 220 yards (200m) turn right along the lane marked Treferig Cottage Farm and Treferig Isha Farm. Treferig is the site of the former 19th century Quaker Meeting House. Follow the lane to the stone bridge.

9. Go over this and immediately cross the stile on your left. Do not take the track to the left just beyond the stile.
10. Join an old railway track alongside a stream (Nant Muchudd) and continue along this until it reaches a road by Treferig House. Turn left.
11. After about a quarter of a mile (400m), cross a stile by a gate on the right. Turn immediately left and follow the path, with the trees on your left. Cross over a lane (stiles on each side) and continue along a gravel track. Oaklands is on your left.
12. Cross another stile by a gate and continue straight on to another gate, where you meet Llantrisant Road. Immediately to the left you can see a stone tablet, dated 1909. This marks the spot where King Edward II is said to have been captured in 1326.
13. Turn right and follow the road through the hamlet of Pant-y-Brâd (Hollow of Treason).
14. After passing three large houses at the end of the hamlet, turn right down a track. Keep straight on, cross a stream (Nant Muchudd) and pass through double gates and approach Treboeth Farm.
15. Pass the large house on your right. Pass by a gate at the rear of the house, cross a bridge over the stream and go through another gate. Turn right uphill.
16. After about 30 yards (27m) turn left over a stile. Follow the path to the end, passing through a green kissing gate.
17. Go right and soon meet a paved path. Keeping the green railings on your right, follow this path up some steps as far as lamppost 59. Turn left along the short lane between houses. At the junction, go right up the hill and follow the road to a grassy bank on your right, just after the last house.
18. If you wish to stop at Tonyrefail, continue along Investiture Place (which becomes Concorde Drive) to the main road for buses. To reach the town centre, walk down the hill. The first turn right will take you into a pedestrianised road that leads into High Street and the town centre.

The passport stamps are in two places in Tonyrefail. One stamp is at Capel Hill Stores, Capel Hill, Heol Tyllwyd. Starting from where Investiture Place meets Llantrisant Road, cross over Llantrisant Road and turn right. The next left is Heol Tyllwyd, where you will see the Stores. The other stamp is at the Truly Scrumptious bakery. Continue to the end of the High Street and turn left into Mill Street. You will see the bakery just down Mill Street.

With thanks to Janet Sully and all who contributed to mapping the route.

Reviewed: 28/02/2020