

# The Five Waterfalls Walk

**Saturday 27 May 2017- 10.30am**

Savour the Serenity of these Outstanding River Valleys and Amazing Waterfalls.

For those who came on the Waterfall walk last year, this is the second half of the walk.

## Walk Description

Set in the Brecon Beacons National Park, this out and back or linear walk, of approximately 6km, starts by descending, from the lane, into the river gorge of the Avon Mellte, to the first waterfall, Sgwd Clun-gwyn (0.75km).

From the foot bridge, we follow the river downstream, over a short but demanding section, high above the river. A steep rocky path leads down to a wonderful view back up to the waterfall Sgwd Isaf Clun-gwyn.

A short walk along the bank leads to another broad fall, which is popular with “waterfall jumpers”.

We climb out of the gorge at this point in the walk, via two sets of steep steps with, a long flatish section in the middle (so we can get our breath back).

A flat, ten minute walk takes us to the top of another steep set of steps. These descend to the river Hepste set in its own gorge, and the most elegant water fall of the day, Sgwd yr Eira, (2.6km from the start). This is a good place to have lunch and take a stroll behind this magical fall.

This is the point in the walk where you have to decide if you are going to carry on, or turn back.

1. Turning back - climb back up those steps and return to the start of the walk by a high level route.

2. Carrying on - the linear route passes behind the waterfall and climbs out of the gorge. A long gentle descent (3km) over more open slopes, reveals the Vale of Neath below us. The walk ends at the Craig y Ddinas Car Park.

A lift will be provided back to your vehicle about 5km away.

Craig y Ddinas Car Park (Free) (A good place to meet afterwards).

From the Car Park there is a short flat walk (400m) to a lovely waterfall. Alternatively, you can cross back over the river bridge to the Gunpowder museum/tea shop/village hall and follow the River Neath (Afon Nedd) upstream, on a flat track, to the remains

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of the gunpowder factory. There are two footbridges crossing the river, providing ample opportunity to explore.

## Other options.

There is also a Car Park (£4), shop and toilets at Cwm Porth, about 2km from the start of the walk. This has an enormous cave entrance which is the start of a large pot hole, where the Avon Mellte disappears underground and reappears further down the valley. The steps down to the cavern are steep and uneven however, for the sure footed adventurers it is quite safe to enter the cavern.

## Additional Information

In Pontneddfechan, there are several pubs, a Visitors Centre and the public toilets.

There is a small shop just up the lane from the start of the walk and the possibility of refreshments at the Clyn gwyn bunk house (unsampled as yet) on the route but we can't guarantee they will be open.

## Be Aware.

There is no phone signal in the river valleys.

The rivers are tranquil and beautiful but there are still strong currents and slippery rocks in places; great care should be taken at all times.

Heavy rain turns these rivers into raging torrents and it might be necessary, in the interest of safety, to alter the route.

## What to bring and wear.

Walking boots are strongly recommended as the paths are rough and slippery in the wet. You will need to carry a small personal first aid kit, food, drink, and waterproofs. We will guide you to the best of our ability but ultimately you are responsible for yourself. Let us know of any medical condition that might affect you whilst out walking.

If you are interested in joining us, feel free to speak to:

**Gareth or Ceridy Owen - [ceridwen.owen@btinternet.com](mailto:ceridwen.owen@btinternet.com)**

01666 823252/07484104610/07847352606.

**Walking is a wonderful way to enjoy fellowship while appreciating Gods amazing creation. It is also a great opportunity to invite friends.**

**If you would like to join the Hope Waterfall Walk please let us know a.s.a.p.**