



Snowdonia National Park Authority Promoted Routes

# Watkin Path, Yr Wyddfa

**HARD/STRENUOUS**



## Route Overview

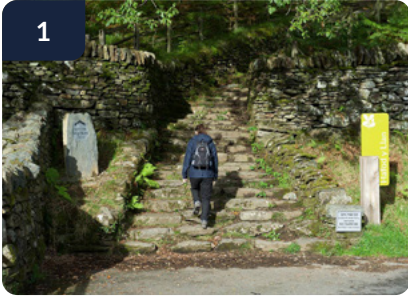
- Distance: 13km (8 miles)
- Duration: 6 hours
- Route type: There and back again

## Before you start

Read the safety and route grading information on the Snowdonia National Park Authority website before you start your journey.

[snowdonia.gov.wales](https://www.snowdonia.gov.wales)

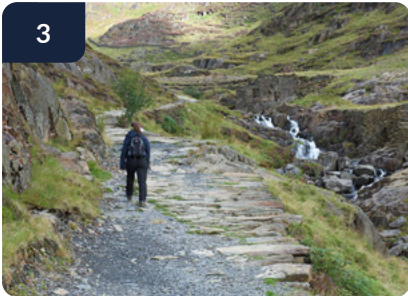




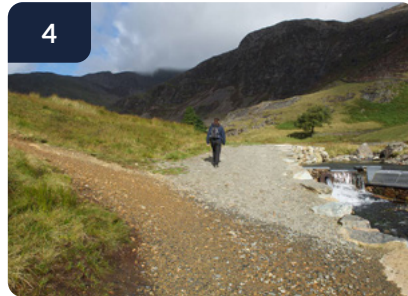
To reach the start of the path, follow the main road to the left from the car park, over the bridge and cross the road. To the left of the entrance to the National Trust's farm, Hafod y Llan, you will see a 'Llwybr Watkin Path' sign and stone steps leading into the woods. Go through the gate and follow the path through the woods and in a short while, you will go through two large metal gates.



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.



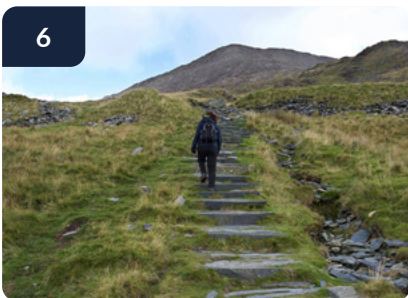
After going through the wooden mountain gate, you will pass the beautiful gushing waterfalls on your right.



After passing the crushing mill the path forks. Keep to the right – the path to the left leads over Bwlch Cwm Llan towards the Aran.



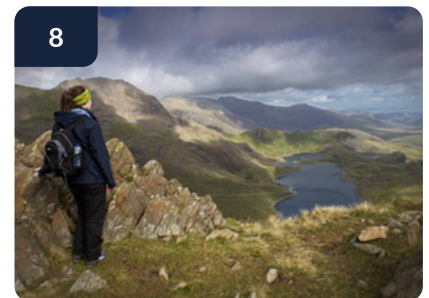
You will shortly walk passed Gladstone Rock and its stone plaque commemorating the opening of the path to the summit.



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.



At Bwlch Ciliau, follow the path to the left.



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



After passing Bwlch y Saethau you will reach the most difficult part of the path which is marked by a standing stone. It is extremely steep, and care must be taken as it is very loose underfoot. At the top of the hill you will reach another 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).



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.



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.