

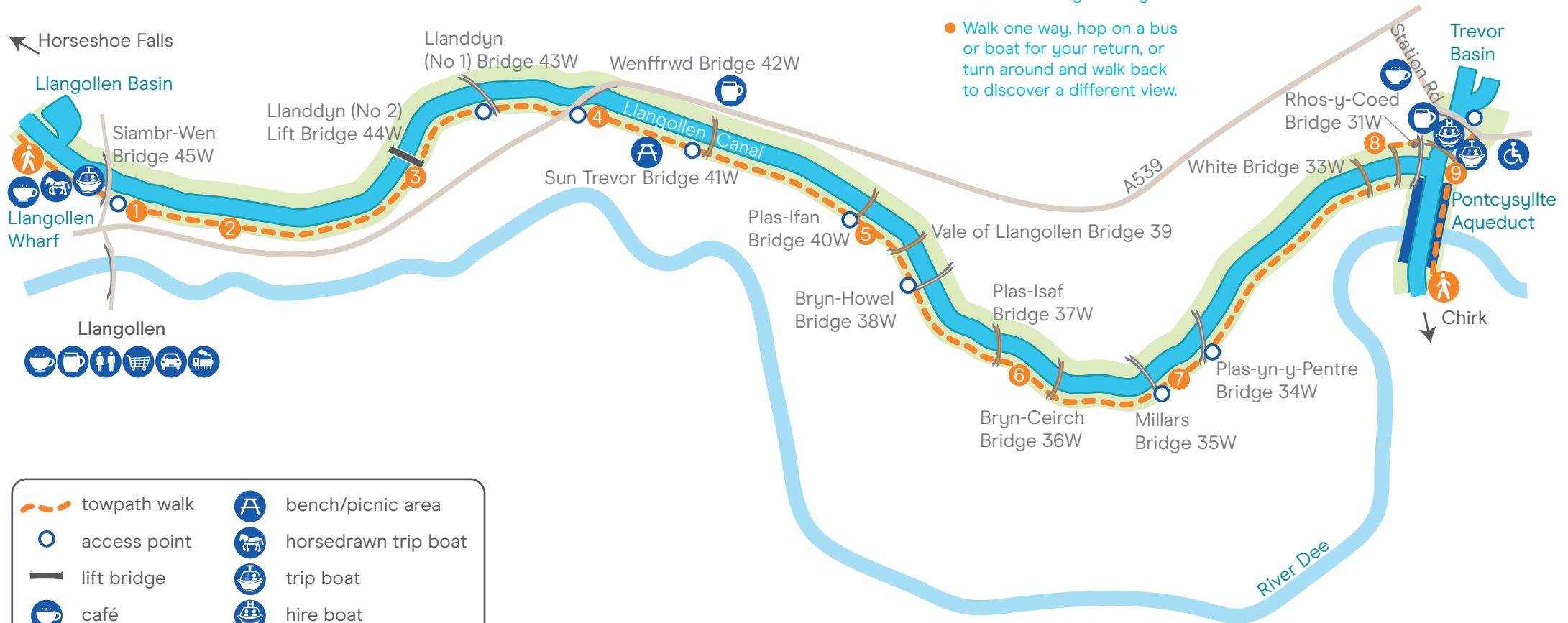
# Llangollen Wellbeing Walk

## Llangollen Wharf to Pontcysyllte Aqueduct

walk time 2 hours  
distance 6.4km / 4 miles

### WALKING TIPS

- Walking times are approx, measured on an average pace of two miles an hour.
- Follow the water and enjoy walking at your own pace... but allow time to simply sit and stare along the way.
- Walk one way, hop on a bus or boat for your return, or turn around and walk back to discover a different view.



towpath walk	bench/picnic area
access point	horedrawn trip boat
lift bridge	trip boat
café	hire boat
pub	Heritage Railway
toilets	parking
shopping	disabled parking

## The Walk - Step by Step


The big walk of Britain's canals - a mere handful of miles, yet a riot of thrills. Rare birds hide in big skies, wildfowl bob on the water, and munching sheep fill green fields. And this walk showcases the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, Thomas Telford's engineering marvel, the longest and highest aqueduct in the UK. 11 miles of the Llangollen Canal, built between 1795 and 1808, including Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Llangollen Wharf, are a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. Even for those too fearful to venture across, Pontcysyllte Aqueduct is the ultimate must-see event of Britain's canals.



High above the town, Llangollen Wharf is busy with boats, people and horses. Horse-drawn boats have become a rare sight on today's waterways, with only a handful still operating for tourism. The Wharf runs horse-drawn boat trips along the canal and motorised boat trips to Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.

- 1 Turn right to follow the towpath heading away from the wharf. The canal is very narrow here, often only wide enough for one boat.
- 2 When you've walked past the visitors' moorings, both canal and towpath widen as glorious views spread out in front of you.
- 3 One of the canal's many lift bridges is left open to allow for passing boats. It's blissfully solitary and the locals are sheep, herons and soaring kite.
- 4 The canal curves under bridge 42, then the trees clear and the view of the Dee valley below is breath-taking.
- 5 Once you've dragged yourself away from the view, the canal continues to wind its narrow leafy way past sheep-filled fields and under characteristic stone bridges.
- 6 The canal hugs the hillside with occasional peeks over the river valley below. Unusually, this canal has a 2mph

flow as it feeds water to other canals - so you may notice a slight current in the water heading downstream.

- 7 Look closely under the many bridges and tight corners and you'll see where towing ropes once gouged into the masonry as horses tugged their heavy cargo.
  - 8 Cross the narrow footbridge over the canal, pass some houses then cross over the road. Trevor Basin is busy with holiday and trip boats, and there is usually plenty of boating activity to watch. Cross the footbridge and turn right to reach the Aqueduct.
  - 9 One of the Wonders of the Waterways, Pontcysyllte Aqueduct is the longest and highest aqueduct in the UK, 1007ft long and 127ft high, and spans the river Dee in the valley below. Built by Thomas Telford and William Jessop, the Aqueduct was completed in 1805 and is considered to be one of Telford's greatest engineering achievements.
-  When you reach the other side, you could follow the road down to the river and get the awesome view from below (it's a steep hill back up to the Basin though). Relax on the grass by the water, explore the Aqueduct and Basin, hop on a bus or walk back to the Wharf from a different perspective.

**CANAL:** Llangollen

**START:** Llangollen Wharf  
OS Grid ref: SJ214423 Postcode: LL20 8TA

**FINISH:** Pontcysyllte Aqueduct  
OS Grid ref: SJ270421 Postcode: LL20 7TY

**DISTANCE:** 6.4km / 4 miles

**APPROX TIME:** 2 hours

**PUB/CAFÉ:** Wharf Tea Room at Llangollen Wharf, various in Llangollen, Sun Trevor at Sun Trevor Bridge 41, Telford Inn at Trevor Basin, Pontcysyllte Chapel Tearoom in Trevor

**PARKING:** Nearest car parks - Llangollen (postcode: LL20 8PW) & Trevor (postcode: LL14 3SG)

**TRAIN:** Nearest train stations - Chirk & Ruabon  
National Rail Enquiries  
Tel: 03457 484950 [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)  
Llangollen Heritage Railway  
[www.llangollen-railway.co.uk](http://www.llangollen-railway.co.uk)

**BUS:** Traveline Cymru  
Tel: 0871 2002233 [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info)

