

Young Planners Cymru Walking Tours Social Maps - Aberystwyth -

Follow a trail within Aberystwyth which highlights some interesting locations within the area as well as some important landmarks of planning merit.

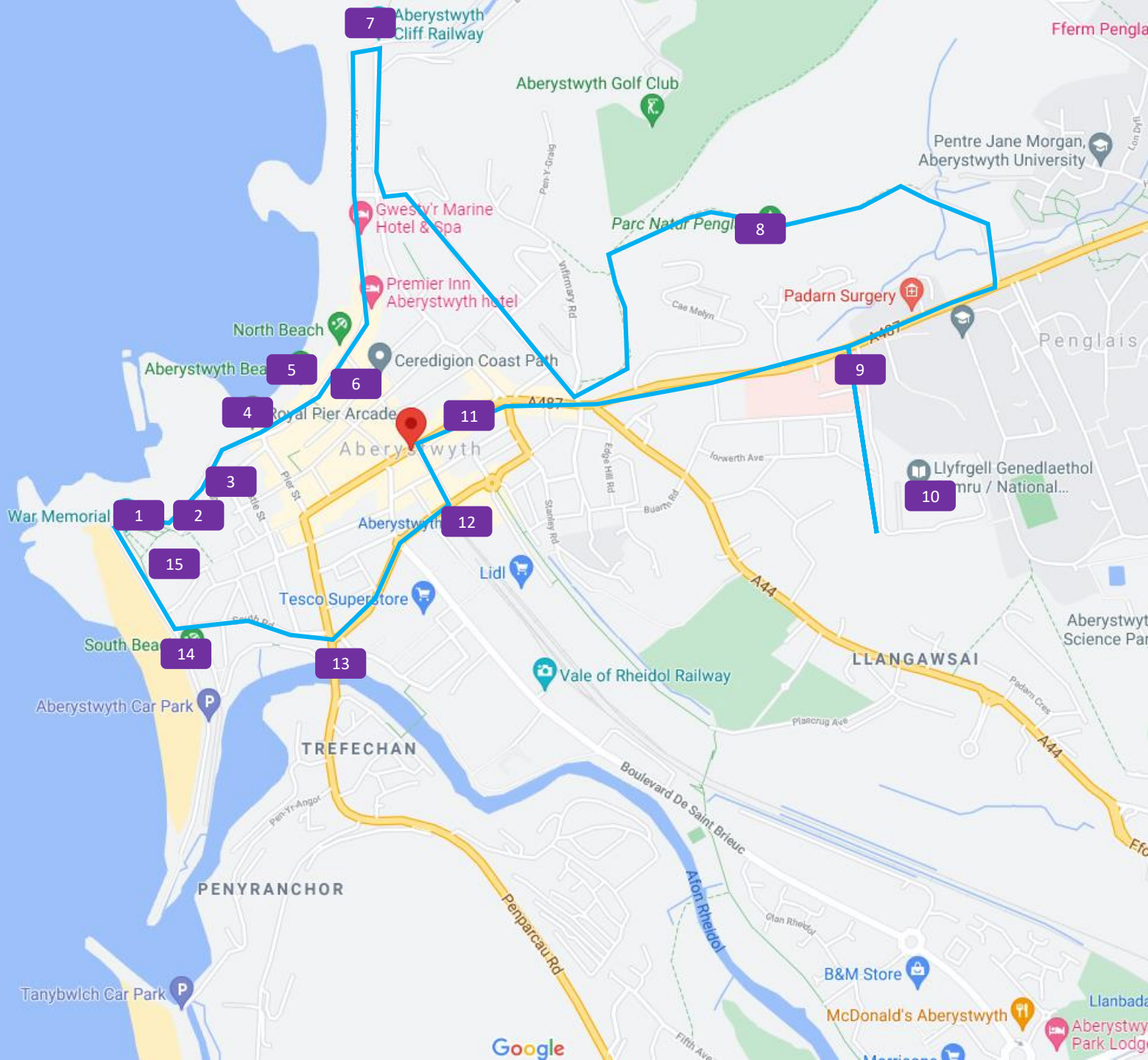
Young Planners Cymru have put this walking tour together to add a social activity to our armour during the pandemic (and after) and encourage us all to get outside and look at the richness some of our local places have to offer.

The Small Print

On undertaking this walk please take care of your personal safety and observe any local COVID restrictions.



Aberystwyth



1. Cofeb Rhyfel / War Memorial
2. Eglwys Sant Meical / St. Michael's Church
3. Yr Hen Goleg / Old College Aberystwyth
4. Pier Brenhinol / Royal Pier Arcade
5. Traeth y Gogledd / North Beach
6. Marine Terrace
7. Rheilffordd y Graig / Aberystwyth Cliff Railway
8. Parc Natur Penglais / Nature Park
9. Pantycelyn
10. Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru / National Library of Wales
11. North Parade Street
12. Gorsaf Drenau / Aberystwyth Railway Station
13. Pont Trefachan
14. Traeth y De / South Beach
15. Castell Aberystwyth Castle

Fact Sheet

1. The Grade II listed war memorial records the names of 111 Aberystwyth men who died as a result of action during the First World War and 78 men and women who died during the Second World War.
2. The church is noted to have had 567 pews and 634 free pews. The ruined vestry is a Grade II listed building. It is a single-storey, rubble stone structure, and was intended to be the base of a tower, which was never built.
3. The Old College is one of the most remarkable buildings in the old town. It is a gothic tour-de-force, built with Cefn stone and Bath stone dressings. It was originally intended to be a hotel but the owner went bankrupt, therefore in 1867 the building was bought by the University Committee as the first home of the University of Wales.
4. Built in 1864, Aberystwyth Pier's was once some 242 metres in length but time and marine storms have seen it reduced to today's 90 metres.
5. Aberystwyth's North Beach and seafront is a focal point of the town and a favourite attraction.
6. The development of Marine Terrace spans the whole of the nineteenth century and contains many interpretations of this important seaside building type, but there are many other examples on North Parade and Portland Street, for example.
7. The Cliff Railway was developed as an element of Constitution Hill, a Victorian business venture by the Aberystwyth Improvement Company in the 1890s. The funicular took visitors to the top of the hill, where attractions such as a camera obscura were established.
8. Penglais woods and disused quarry have long been a distinct feature of the Aberystwyth landscape. The woods formed part of the large Penglais Estate which dates back to the 18th century. The reserve is designated the only UNESCO Man and the Biosphere urban reserve in Wales.
9. Pantycelyn was first opened in 1951 as a hall for male students and became a Welsh medium hall in 1974. Over the years it has proved to be a crucible of literary and musical creativity, with many notable authors and poets amongst its alumni, and bands that have made their mark on the Welsh rock and pop scene.
10. Leading Welsh people and Members of Parliament worked hard to establish a National Library and a National Museum. Aberystwyth was selected as the location of the Library partly because a collection was already available in the College.
11. The earliest surviving buildings on North Parade were built in exposed local stone, laid in regularly coursed blocks. This style of building was quickly supplanted by the use of render as a finishing material, and the whole area contains excellent examples that trace development in its use throughout the nineteenth century.
12. The grand station frontage was erected by the Great Western Railway in 1924-1925.
13. The bridge, which has three broad arches, was designed by Sir James Weeks Szlumper in 1886. In February 1963 university students staged a protest here, blocking the road to vehicles. This was the first of many protests organised by Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (the Welsh Language Society) in its campaign for greater protection for Welsh.
14. Quieter than the town's North Beach, Aberystwyth's long South Beach is sandwiched between the town's castle and the harbour breakwater.
15. Aberystwyth Castle was built, along with Flint Castle, Rhuddlan Castle and Builth Wells castle, by King Edward I as part of his campaign against the Welsh. Aberystwyth Castle, started in 1277, was not completed by 1282 when the Welsh briefly captured and burned it. Construction was finally completed in 1289. The castle changed hands several times as the Welsh and English warred throughout Wales, including by Owain Glyndwr, who took possession of the castle in 1404. The English soon after recaptured the castle, but by 1408, peace having been struck, the castle began to fall into disrepair.