

A dynamic photograph of a kayaker in a black and orange outfit navigating white water rapids. The kayaker is wearing a black helmet and is captured in a powerful stroke, with water splashing around them. The background is a blurred view of the river and surrounding greenery.

WELSH RIVER DEE

GLYNDYFRDWY TO Tŷ MAWR

TIGHT LINES, WHITE WATER



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Design by White Fox 01352 840898.

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Cronfa Amaethyddol Ewrop ar gyfer Datblygu Gwledig: Ewrop yn Bwtsoddi mewn Ardalodd Gwledig
The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe Investing in Rural Areas



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

WELSH DEE PARTNERSHIP

The Welsh Dee Partnership Ltd was established in 2012 to promote good relations between anglers and canoeists on the Welsh Dee in the Llangollen area.

By arrangement with angling clubs, land and riparian owners, the Partnership has opened up access to some of the best white water rapids in Europe.

At agreed times and water heights, it's now possible to paddle without conflict from Glyndyfrdwy Bridge west of Llangollen to Tŷ Mawr Country Park some 14 miles downstream, with several access or egress points on the way.

The whole route is within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The River Dee itself is one

of the most important ecological sites in Europe and designated a Special Area of Conservation.



Meanwhile Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal, which begins at the Horseshoe Falls, is a World Heritage Site on a par with the Taj Mahal or the Acropolis.

So this is a wonderful place to explore – quite simply, one of the most beautiful and remarkable landscapes you will find anywhere in the world.

www.welshdeepartnershipltd.co.uk




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THE WELSH RIVER DEE



The Dee Valley around Llangollen is one of Britain's loveliest protected landscapes and the River Dee itself provides sport and pleasure for all sorts of people.

Anglers enjoy some of the best coarse and game fishing in the country with a variety of freshwater fish to supplement the famous salmon, brown trout, sea trout and grayling. There are day and weekly tickets for the casual visitor.

Watersports enthusiasts can try canoeing, kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding, white water rafting and white water tubing in a truly spectacular setting.

From Thomas Telford's remarkable 140-metre-long Horseshoe Falls at

Llantysilio, for example, you pass under the historic Chain Bridge towards an internationally famous Grade 4 rapid known as Serpent's Tail.

If that section seems a little too exciting, you can always pick up gentle Llangollen Canal instead and paddle off towards Telford's masterpiece at the other end of the World Heritage Site – mighty Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.

Away from the water, there's an astonishing array of bars, restaurants, cafés, guest houses and hotels, serving delicious local food and drink – and providing the warmest of Welsh welcomes.

This superb canoeing route stretches for about 14 miles but is broken into smaller sections. Start your journey at one of three access points – Glyndyfrdwy Bridge, Horseshoe Falls or Mile End Mill – and leave the river at any of the marked egress points.

Wherever you start, please adhere to the access conditions to avoid any conflict with other river users. You should also read and follow the Canoeing Code that starts on page 12.

Canoe rolls and other manoeuvres can cause disturbance but are acceptable to all in designated areas in the upper section of the run and the stretch next to Mile End Mill. These are marked on the river by



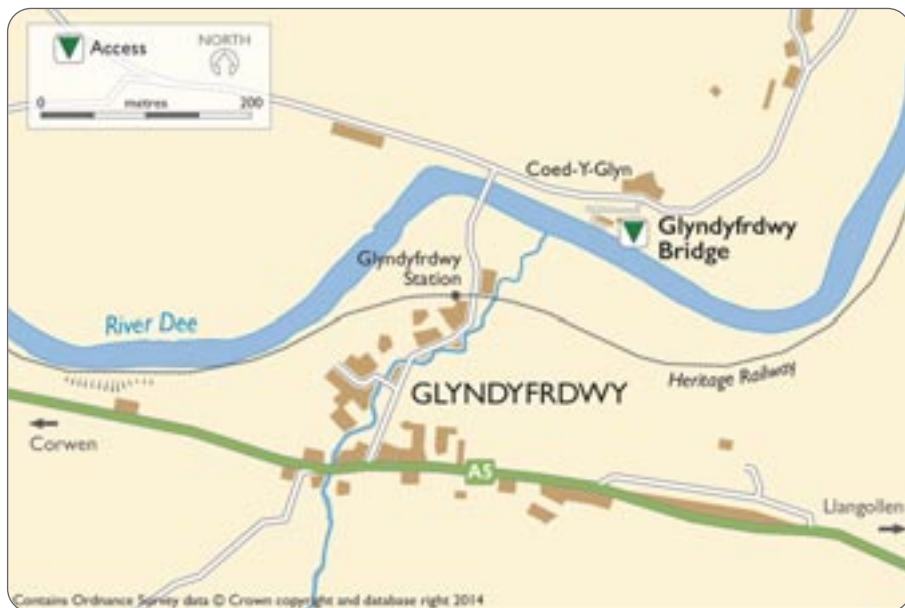
numbered posts with a bright green sleeve. Please refer to the Practice Areas Map, available at the Glyndyfrdwy access point or via the links page at www.welshdeepartnershipltd.co.uk.

River users are responsible for their own safety, should be suitably experienced and/or qualified and have appropriate safety equipment.



There is no canoeing and kayaking when other events are taking place on the river (please check www.welshdeepartnershipltd.co.uk/events). Rafting is only by arrangement.

GLYNDYFRDWY BRIDGE



Access at Coed-Y-Glyn Log Cabins in Glyndyfrdwy: LL21 9BP.

Paddling is allowed if the water level is at least 3ft (High Water) in the Coed Y Glyn gauge at 8am, at any time of the year.

Between 1st April and 30th August, paddling is allowed on Wednesdays and Saturdays irrespective of water height.

In all cases, launching is between 10am (9.30am for commercial operators) and 12.30pm.

Paddlers please be clear of Groeslwyd (see Practice Areas Map) by 1.30pm and vacate the water by 3pm at Llangollen Town Weir. There are special arrangements for egress at Mile End Mill but you must have reached that point by 3pm. If the water level is shown to be at least 3ft at 8am that day on the gauge at Mile End Mill, then you can carry on to Tŷ Mawr Country Park.

Strictly no tubes or rafts (other than duckies). Maximum two persons per canoe/duckie.

HORSESHOE FALLS



Access at Horseshoe Falls using the Llantysilio car park: LL20 8BS. Park here to paddle the Llangollen Canal as well.

Unrestricted access below the Horseshoe Falls (canal side), 365 days per year.

Launching between 10am (9.30am for commercial operators) and 2pm.

Water to be vacated by 3pm at Llangollen Town Weir. There are special arrangements for egress at Mile End Mill but you must have reached that point by 3pm. If the water level is shown to be at least 3ft at 8am that day on the gauge at Mile End Mill, then you can carry on to Tŷ Mawr Country Park.

Please avoid dragging boats down the hill between the Llantysilio car park and the river. Be aware there may be livestock in this field – close all gates.

Use of the Chainbridge Hotel upper car park is by prior arrangement and by express permission of the hotel (reception@chainbridgehotel.com). There is no parking or unloading allowed at the Chainbridge Hotel main car park.

MILE END MILL



Canoeing by arrangement with Llangollen Outdoors: LL20 8AD. Charges may apply, contact www.llangollenoutdoors.co.uk, 01978 897220. Being independent of dam releases, it has white water all year round.

Opening times: May-September 8.30am-5.30pm (10pm Monday and Wednesday) 7 days a week, October-April 8.30am-5pm every day.

Water to be vacated half an hour before closing times or by 3pm at Llangollen Town Weir. If the water level is shown to be at least 3ft at 8am that day on the gauge at Mile End Mill, then you can carry on to Tŷ Mawr Country Park.

LLANGOLLEN TOWN WEIR



Long stay car park behind Ponsonby Arms:
LL20 8RY.

Tŷ MAWR COUNTRY PARK



Parking at Tŷ Mawr Country Park Visitor Centre:
LL14 3PE.

INFORMATION FOR ANGLERS

The River Dee is fed by the headland lakes of Alwen, Brenig, Celyn and Bala and is one of the purest rivers in Europe.

Grayling are found in prolific numbers of high average size with plenty of 2lb+ fish. They are the truly wild fish of the Dee and have great fighting powers. Wild brown trout average about 1lb in weight although some specimens of 4lb have been landed.

Brown trout fishing on the Dee is from 3rd March to 30th September. Grayling fishing starts on 16th June and continues throughout the winter until 14th March.

The salmon and sewin (sea trout) fishing is underrated and, although the spring runs of salmon are not what they used to be, there are still plenty of summer and autumn fish with a good number over 10lb. Although there are fish in the river from early May, given favourable water conditions, the best months are September and October.

Grilse, a young salmon which has spent only one winter at sea before returning to the river, usually start running in July. There are meaningful numbers of sewin from June onwards.

Generally a 13-15 foot fly rod can be used throughout the season. However smaller rods

can be used for grilse and sea trout during the summer. The time of year will determine fly lines but a floating line, intermediate or sink tip and a medium sinker should cover all conditions.

Llangollen Maelor Angling controls about 10 miles of fishing in the Upper and Middle Dee and offers daily and weekly tickets for fishing. Please ensure that you have the appropriate national rod licence.

Tickets can be purchased from:

Watkins & Williams, 6 Berwyn St, Llangollen LL20 8ND, 01978 860252

Derek's Fishing Tackle, Cefn Mawr LL14 3AE (5 miles east of Llangollen), 01978 821841

Tŷ Mawr Country Park Visitor Centre, Cefn Mawr LL14 3PE, 01978 822780

Midland Flyfishers is a small private club with reaches on the upper section of the river below Glydyfrdwy. Four day-tickets are available each day for grayling and brown trout fishing, excluding 1st July to 17th October. Follow the link at www.welshdeepartnershipltd.co.uk/fishing to buy tickets online.



RESPECT, PROTECT AND ENJOY

The Canoe Code and the Angling Code are intended to help people enjoy the river without reducing the enjoyment of others or damaging the environment.

STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY

The Dee can be dangerous, especially when there are strong currents, high water levels or cold weather conditions. Don't take risks and never underestimate the power of the river.

You're responsible for your own safety and for others in your care, so be prepared for changes in the weather and other events. It's a good idea to check the river level just before your trip. The Welsh Dee Partnership website provides free live-feed river level information from two locations at www.welshdeepartnershipltd.co.uk (River Height).

Always ensure that:

- You use the river in a safe fashion and that you have the appropriate safety equipment
- Any groups of young novice canoeists are led by suitably experienced responsible persons – preferably a qualified instructor

CARE FOR WILDLIFE

One of the joys of time on the River Dee is watching its abundant wildlife. During winter, salmon spawn in the upper reaches of the Dee. Between 1st April and 31st July many coarse fish are breeding and some use shallow gravel beds for egg laying. Please do not land on

gravel beds during this period and always try to:

- Avoid disturbing nesting birds along the river banks, particularly in spring time, and avoid damaging beds of waterweed
- Stop your activity if you are clearly disturbing wildlife
- Take your rubbish away with you
- Avoid damaging banks, river bed and bank-side vegetation – this can lead to erosion

CONSIDER OTHER PEOPLE

Pay particular respect to local residents and avoid situations that could lead to argument. Remember to:

- Park sensibly without causing obstruction
- Keep noise to a minimum
- Always come ashore at recognised landing places; don't trespass on private property
- Have special regard for beginners
- Give way to those engaged in organised competition





CANOE CODE

If you're travelling in a group, please keep together and pass anglers in one go with as little noise and disturbance as possible. Always try to:

- Keep away from banks being fished and avoid loitering in pools if anyone is fishing
- Comply with reasonable directional requests
- Only perform canoe rolls and other manoeuvres in designated (green post) areas – see Practice Areas Map
- Get changed out of public view

ANGLING CODE

- Respect other anglers, make yourself known and find a spot that's an appropriate distance away
- Respect other water users and indicate to them where you're fishing so they can pass without disturbing you
- For game fishing, ensure you're within the March-October season
- Use strong line so you can play the fish quickly
- Don't discard any angling litter or tackle and be careful to take home all line that is no longer needed

Every angler in England and Wales requires a rod licence to fish any stretch of water. Ensure that you have also purchased a day or season ticket.

CHECK, CLEAN AND DRY

Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) including Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed, Signal Crayfish, Killer Shrimp and Zebra Mussels are threatening our environment, economy, health and general way of life. Please inform the Non Native Species Secretariat (www.nonnativespecies.org) if you encounter them.

Clothing and equipment that have not been thoroughly dried or disinfected can carry these invasive species. They can also carry diseases that infect water bodies, often with devastating effects.

So please follow three simple steps when you leave the water:

Check your equipment and clothing for living organisms. Pay particular attention to areas that are damp and hard to inspect.

Clean and wash all equipment, footwear and clothes thoroughly. If you come across any organisms, leave them at the water where you found them.

Dry all equipment and clothing - some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.

If you intend to reuse your canoeing equipment on different UK waters or abroad in less than a week, you must ensure that your clothing and equipment has been properly sterilised.

For the full Natural Resources Wales "Canoeing Code" and "Angling Code" visit:

<http://countrysidecode.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/default.aspx>



USEFUL CONTACTS

Commercial operators

Llangollen Outdoors
01978 897220
info@llangollenoutdoors.co.uk
www.llangollenoutdoors.co.uk

ProAdventure Activities Ltd
01978 861912
sales@proadventure.co.uk
www.proadventure.co.uk

Safe & Sound Outdoors
01978 860471
info@sasoutdoors.co.uk
www.sasoutdoors.co.uk
www.sas4schools.co.uk

Get Wet – The Adventure Company
07909 768950
admin@get-wet.co.uk
www.get-wet.co.uk

Fishing clubs and landowners

Llangollen Maelor Angling
01978 820608
info@llangollen-maelor-angling.com
www.llangollen-maelor-angling.com

Corwen & District Angling Club
01939 261100
secretary@corwenanddistrictanglingclub.co.uk
www.corwenanddistrictanglingclub.co.uk

Other contacts

Natural Resources Wales
0300 065 3000
enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk
www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB
01352 810614
clwydianrangeaonb@denbighshire.gov.uk
www.clwydianrangeanddeevalleyaonb.org.uk

The Wye and Usk Foundation
01874 711714
admin@wyeuskfoundation.org
www.wyeuskfoundation.org

Coed-Y-Glyn Log Cabins
01490 430345
info@coedyglyn-logcabins.co.uk
www.coedyglyn-logcabins.co.uk

BOPA (British Outdoor Professional's Association)
01497 847638
info@bopa-sport.co.uk
www.bopa-sport.co.uk /
www.bopa-whitewater.co.uk

Nomad Canoes
01978 869320
info@nomadcanoes.co.uk
www.nomadcanoes.co.uk