

## Castell ar fryn, muriau canoloesol, coedlannau a thir amaeth

**Pellter:** 7.2km / 4.5 milltir

**Amser:** Tua 2.5-3 awr (mwy i fynd i'r muriau a'r castell)

**Parcio:** Nifer o feysydd parcio tymor hir (£) - y mwyaf wedi'i arwyddo o Bwll y Grawys

**Cychwyn:** Llyfrgell Dinbych (Yr agoriadau i furiau'r dref o'r Llyfrgell am £5 o ernes - Ffoniwch: 01745 816313 am yr oriau agor- neu oddi wrth geidwad y castell yn yr haf.)

**Cyf. Grid:** SJ052661, Map OS Explorer 264

**Cyfleusterau:** Popeth yn nhref Dinbych

## Hilltop castle, medieval town walls, woodland and farmland

**Distance:** 7.2km / 4.5 miles

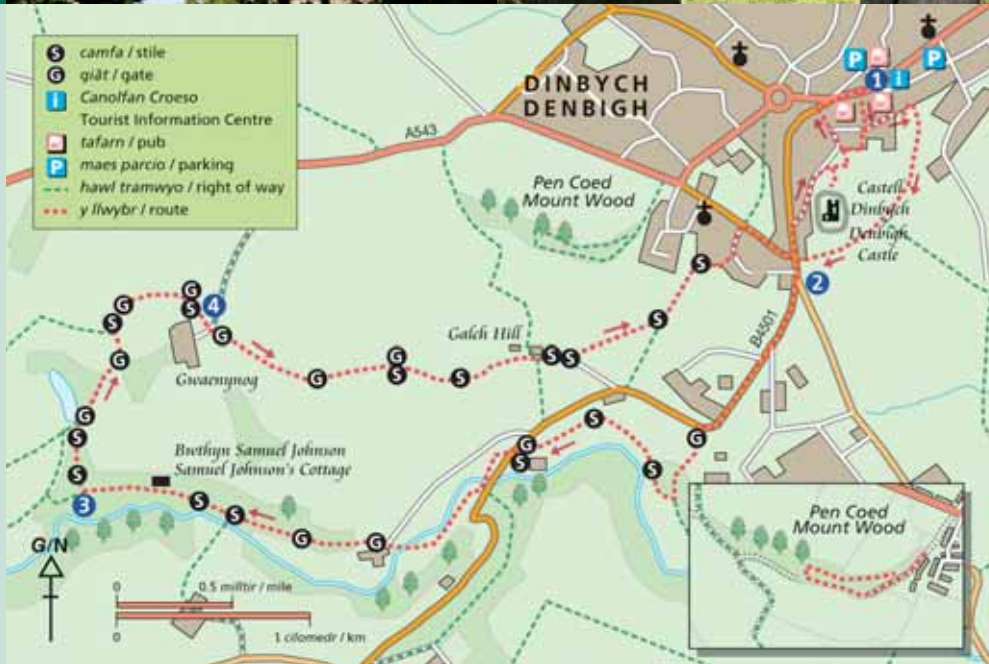
**Time:** Allow 2.5 - 3 hours (+ extra for town walls and castle)

**Parking:** Several long stay car parks (£) - the largest is signed from Lenten Pool

**Start:** Denbigh library (The key for the town walls is available from here for £5 deposit - Tel: 01745 816313 to check opening hours - or from the castle custodian during the summer.)

**Grid ref:** SJ052661, Explorer map 264

**Facilities:** All in Denbigh [www.visitdenbigh.co.uk](http://www.visitdenbigh.co.uk)



### Y Daith Gerdded

**1.** O'r Llyfrgell, ewch i fyny'r Stryd Fawr, ar yr ochr chwith. Trowch i fyny'r lôn gul a elwir Lôn Bronbil, wrth ochr tafarn yr 'Old Vaults'. Gwyrwch i'r dde a heibio gerddi teras cyhoeddus i fyny i Borth y Bwrdeisiaid. Cerddwch y tu isaf i'r giât, i fyny Teras Sant Ilan, ac i'r man gwyrdd y tu isaf i'r castell. Ewch heibio Tŵr Sant Ilan sy ar y llaw chwith (olion capel a godwyd i wasanaethu'r castell a'r dref ganoloesol), yna trowch i'r dde ac i'r castell (tâl mynediad yn yr haf). O'r castell, cerddwch yn ôl heibio Tŵr Sant Ilan ac yna gwyrw i'r dde ar hyd lôn a heibio adfeilion eglwys yr Arglwydd Dudley. Yn union islaw mynediad Plas Castell mae giât fechan haearn yn y wal gerrig sy'n arwain i furiau'r dref. Mae'n werth mynd i'w gweld, (cofiwch gloi'r giât a dychwelyd yr agoriad). Parhewch i lawr y ffordd a, pan fydd hi'n gwyrw i'r chwith, ewch ar y llwybr sy ar y dde y tu isaf i'r muriau. Ewch ar i lawr ar y llwybr am tua 80m ac, ar gyffordd y llwybrau, ewch ar y llwybr tarmac culach ac i'r dde, gan gydredeg â'r muriau. Ewch heibio i adeiladau Ysgol Howells o danodd a mynd o gwmpas y coed islaw, bydd y ffens ar eich llaw chwith. Dilynwch y llwybr drwy'r coed at y ffordd. Trowch i'r chwith ac yna i'r dde pan fydd y ffordd yn fforchio - arwydd Saron a Nantglyn.

**2.** Ysbyty'r meddwl o oes Fictoria yw'r adeilad mawreddog ar y chwith. Adeiladwyd yn yr arddull Jacobeaidd. Cerddwch ar hyd y ffordd am ryw 500m a, ble mae'n gwyrw i'r dde, ewch ar y llwybr wrth yr arwydd 'amgueddfa' ac i lawr llwybr llydan. Rhan o'r ffordd i lawr hwn, trowch i'r dde

wrth yr arwydd ac i risiau cul. Pan fydd cyffordd T ar y llwybr, trowch i'r dde i lwybr lletach. Yn union cyn y giât, ewch ar y llwybr bach gan wyro tua'r chwith i lawr a dros gamfa i gae sy wrth yr afon. Cerddwch wrth ochr yr afon a dros y cae. Ymlaen ar lwybr glas drwy'r cae nesaf gan fynd heibio tŷ gwyn ar eich llaw chwith. Croeswch y gamfa sy yng nghornel y cae ac i'r ffordd. Trowch i'r chwith ar hyd y ffordd ac yn fuan wedyn ewch ar y llwybr troed (arwyddwyd) ar y dde ar hyd dreif tŷ mawr. (Parchwch breifatwydd y perchnogion). Ewch heibio i ardd lysiau ar y dde a phrif fynedfa'r tŷ ar y llaw chwith. Trowch i'r dde rhwng yr ardd lysiau a bythynnod stabl i fynd drwy giatiau mawr pren i'r llwybr llydan. Trowch i'r chwith ac ar i fyny. Ymlaen ar y llwybr drwy'r caeau ar lan yr afon gyda choed ar y llaw dde, croesi camfa/giât. Anwybyddu'r bont ar y chwith. Croesi camfa arall a mynd ymlaen drwy'r cae gan fynd heibio adfeilion bwthyn Samuel Johnson.

**3.** Ar ben y cae hwn, trowch i'r dde pan fydd y llwybr yn fforchio a cherdded yn groesgornel i fyny drwy'r coed. Croeswch y gamfa i mewn i gae a, gan gadw'r ffin ar eich llaw dde, dringwch i ymuno â'r llwybr llydan. Gwyrwch i'r dde ar y prif lwybr hwn. Ewch drwy giât, gan anwybyddu'r gamfa i'r coed, tueddwch i'r chwith heibio chwarel fechan ar y dde, yna croeswch y cae at y giât sy yn y gornel. Ewch drwy'r giât ac yn syth ar draws cae llai at gamfa garreg yn y wal o'ch blaen. Ewch ymlaen i ymuno â'r llwybr llydan. Trowch i'r dde drwy giât ac ymlaen ar hyd y llwybr llydan gan gadw hen waliau brics Gwaunynog ar eich llaw





# Denbigh

dde. Yn syth ar ôl y wal, trowch i'r dde drwy'r giât/camfa a dilyn y llwybr llydan i'r brif ddeirif gan fynd heibio mynediad i erddi Gwaunynog.

**4.** Croeswch y dreif gan anwybyddu'r mynediad i'r tŷ ar eich llaw dde, ewch ymlaen ar y llwybr llydan a thrwy'r giât. Ewch drwy'r giât ar ben y cae mawr cyntaf ac ymlaen yn groes gornel i'r chwith i giât/camfa yng nghornel chwith bellaf y cae nesaf. Cerddwch ar hyd ffin chwith y cae nesaf. Croeswch y gamfa a mynd i lawr yr allt, ceir golygfeydd o Gastell Dinbych ar y chwith. Ewch heibio Galch Hill, tŷ o'r 16eg ganrif, ar eich llaw chwith. Dringwch y gamfa sy'n syth ar ôl y tŷ ac i'r lôn. Anwybyddwch y gamfa bren sy gyferbyn, a throwch i'r dde i lawr y lôn am ychydig o fetrau yna croeswch y gamfa garreg sy ar y llaw chwith ac i mewn i'r cae. Cerddwch yn groesgornel dde ar draws y cae, croesi camfa garreg i'r cae nesaf ac ymlaen at y gamfa sy o flaen y tai. Trowch i'r dde ar hyd y llwybr y tu ôl i'r tai. Ar ddiwedd y llwybr, trowch i'r chwith i'r ffordd a heibio'r tai. Ar ben y ffordd hon, trowch i'r dde ac yna trowch i'r chwith wrth y gyffordd T sy'n fuan wedyn gan ddilyn yr arwyddion 'Castell'. Trowch i'r dde unwaith eto ac ewch heibio Castle Lodge. Pan fydd y ffordd yn fforchio, tueddwch i lawr i'r chwith i Borth y Bwrdeisiaid ac i lawr yn ôl i'r Stryd Fawr.

## The Walk

**1.** From the Library walk up the High Street on the left-hand side. Turn left up the narrow alleyway of Broomhill Lane, beside the 'Old Vaults' pub. Bear right at top past terraced public gardens and climb up to Burgess Gate. Walk under the gate and up St Hilary's Terrace to the green below the castle. Pass St. Hilary's Tower on the left (the remains of the chapel built to serve the castle and medieval town) then turn right up to the castle (entry charge in summer). From the castle, walk back past St Hilary's Tower and bear right along the lane leading down past the ruins of Lord Dudley's church. Just below Plas Castell entrance a small iron gate in the stonewall on the right gives access to the town walls. They are well worth a detour (NB please lock the gate as you leave and return the key). Continue down the road and, where road bears left, take footpath right below the walls. Walk downhill along the path for about 80m and, at path junction, take the narrower tarmac path right, running parallel with the walls. Pass the grand buildings of Howell's School below and continue ahead, skirting through woodland below the walls with the fence on the left. Follow path to the road. Turn left and then right at road fork, signed Saron and Nantglyn.

**2.** The imposing building on the left was a Victorian mental hospital, built in grand Jacobean

style. Follow road for about 500m where it bends right, take a signed footpath left (beside Museum sign) down a track. Partway down track turn right at a waymarker onto a narrow stepped path. At path T junction turn right onto a wider path. Just before a gate take small path bearing left down the bank and over a stile into a field beside the river. Walk beside the river across the field. Continue on grassy path through the next field passing a white cottage on the left. Cross a stile in the corner of the field onto a road. Turn left along the road and very shortly take a footpath signed right along the drive of a large house. (Please respect the privacy of the owners.) Pass a vegetable plot on the right and the main house entrance on the left, then turn right between the vegetable plot and stable cottages and go through large wooden gates onto a track. Turn left and follow track uphill. Continue ahead through riverside fields with trees on the right, crossing a stile/gate and ignoring a footbridge on the left. Cross another stile and continue through field, passing the overgrown ruins of Samuel Johnson's cottage.

**3.** At the end of this field turn right at path fork and walk diagonally uphill through woodland. Cross stile into field and follow right-hand field edge, climbing uphill to join a track. Bear right on this track. Go through a gateway, ignoring a stile into the wood. Bear left past a tiny quarry, then cross field to a gateway in corner. Go through gate and straight across a smaller field to stone stile in the wall ahead. Continue ahead to a track. Turn right through a gate and follow the track, skirting the brick walls of Gwaenynog on the right. Just beyond the walls turn right through a gate/stile and follow track to the main drive passing the entrance to Gwaenynog gardens.

**4.** Cross the drive, ignoring house entrances on the right, and continue ahead on the track through a gateway. Go through a gate at end of first large field and head diagonally-left to a gate/stile in far corner of next field. Walk along left-hand edge of next field. Cross a stile and continue downhill with good views of Denbigh Castle on the left. Pass 16th century Galch Hill on the left. Climb stile just past the house onto the lane. Ignore wooden stile opposite and turn right down lane for few metres then cross a stone stile on the left into a field. Walk diagonally-right across the field. Cross stone stile into next field and continue ahead to stile in front of houses. Turn right along path behind houses. At end of the path turn left onto the road through housing. Turn right at end of this road and left at T junction soon after, following signs to the castle. Turn right again past Castle Lodge. At road fork bear left down to Burgess Gate to descend back to the High Street.

## Dinbych y Canoloesoedd

*Oherwydd ei safle ar fryn, roedd Dinbych yn lle delfrydol i godi caer yn ystod y Canol Oesoedd terfysglyd, yn wir, 'Din (caer) bychan' yw ystyr enw Dinbych. Y Tywysogion oedd y rhai cyntaf i godi caer yma, ond adeiladwyd y castell presennol gan Henry de Lacy ar gyfer Edward I ar ôl i'w filwyr orchfygu'r dref yn 1282. Roedd yn un o gestyll mwyaf Cymru ac iddo saith o dyrrau a phorth enfawr.*

*Saif y castell mewn cornel o fewn y muriau a adeiladwyd yn amddiffyniad ychwanegol. Tyfodd tref ganoloesol o fewn y muriau ond oherwydd y bryn serth a phrinder dŵr ni thyfodd yn ganolfan marchnata. Datblygodd tref newydd wrth droed y bryn. Erbyn y 16fed ganrif cafodd y dref furiog ei gadael i bob pwrpas.*

*Mae Samuel Johnson- llenor Saesneg y 18fed ganrif yn enwog am greu'r geiriadur Saesneg cyntaf. Roedd yn ddyd ffraeth ac yn foesolwr. Arferai aros mewn hen fwthyn, sy'n furddun heddiw, wrth iddo gerdded i weld y Teulu Myddleton yng Ngwaunynog.*

## Medieval Denbigh

*Denbigh's strategic hilltop position made it an obvious site for fortification during the turbulent Middle Ages - its name actually means 'little fortress'. The Welsh princes were the first to fortify the hilltop but the ruin you see today was built by Edward I after his troops took the town in 1282. It was one of the biggest castles in Wales with seven towers and a mighty gatehouse.*

*The castle sits in one corner of the medieval town walls, which were built for additional protection. The medieval town developed within the walls, but the steep gradient and shortage of water restricted the growth of a market centre, so a new settlement gradually developed at the base of the hill. By the 16th century the walled town had been largely abandoned.*

*Samuel Johnson, the 18th century writer is best known for producing the first English dictionary but was also a renowned wit and moralist. He stayed at the now ruined cottage on the walk when visiting the Myddletons of Gwaenynog.*

