



21 POWYS CRAIG-Y-NOS COUNTRY PARK

▶ Distance: 4¾ miles/7.6km ▶ Time: 2 hours ▶ Grade: Easy

SEE FEATURE ON PAGE 26

Stunning, varied Powys countryside.



PHOTO: TOM BAILEY



CHOSEN BY...

MATTHEW PIKE

The isolated Welsh hills may seem an

unlikely place for a 19th-century international music star to set up residence. But that's exactly what soprano Adelina Patti did. Patti was the most famous opera of her time and chose to buy Craig-y-nos Castle in what is now Brecon Beacons National Park. This short walk begins in the adjoining Craig-y-nos Country Park (once Patti's garden). Then a short, sharp ascent brings you somewhat unexpectedly to a wild, coarse limestone landscape, popular for caving. There's a wealth of mining history here as you pass old quarries and lime

kilns, while the deepest caving system in the UK is beneath your feet.

1 Start

From lower end of car park (walking directly away from main entrance), continue over footbridge, turn L and follow river. Just before next footbridge, turn R up hill to gate. Turn L and continue along track until farm.

2 ¾ mile/1.4km

Pass farmhouse and turn R after first small white barn, over stile, then diagonally R uphill over two more stiles. Head between two outcrops along grass path to stile in corner. Continue as path winds to gate at lane.

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Craig-y-nos Country Park car park, grid ref SN840155

Is it for me? Mostly grass trails and tracks with one short sharp ascent

Stiles 6

PLANNING

Nearest town

Ystradgynlais

Refreshments At start

Public toilets At start

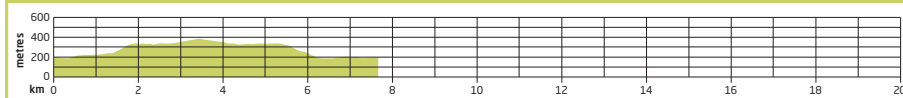
Public transport Hourly T6 service from Swansea, Neath, Ystradgynlais and Brecon (0300 200 22 33)

Maps OS Explorer OL12; Landranger 160

3 1½ miles/2.3km

Turn L, follow lane over old railway line, then take wide track veering R past old quarry to car park. Continue to R of car park and along track. Just before building, turn L along Beacons Way. This joins very

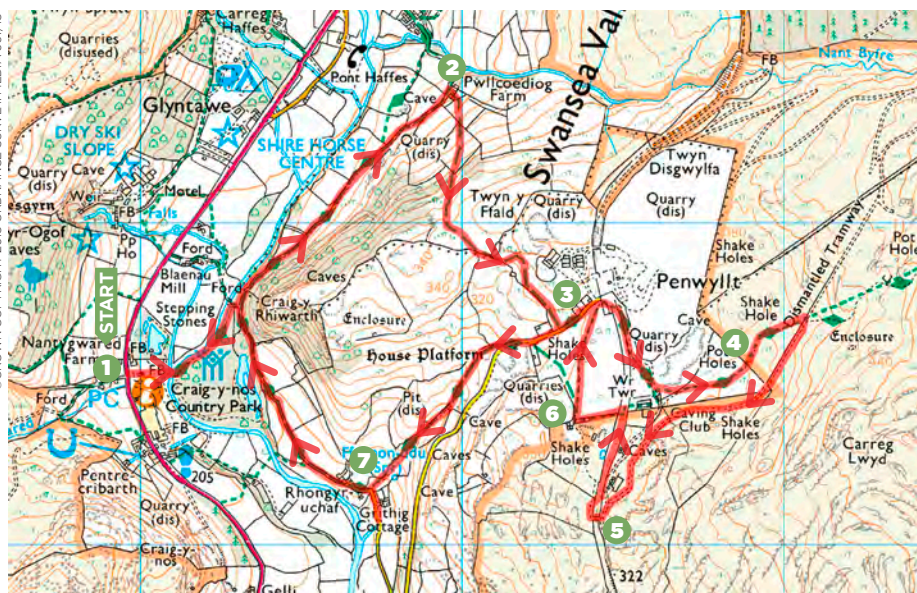
GRADIENT PROFILE



21 POWYS CRAIG-Y-NOS COUNTRY PARK

► OS Explorer map OL12 ► Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop

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DATE WALKED

TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING

DON'T MISS...



The chance to stay in Adelina Patti's house, Craig-y-nos Castle, next door to the country park.

obvious grass track (former tramline) leading gradually uphill between sinkholes to wall.

4 2 miles/3.2km

Cross unusual step stile, continue along tram trail until superseded by much larger one. Turn R here, following track past South Wales Caving Club headquarters on your R, then pass old kilns on your R

and the limestone quarry on your L, to concrete bridge.

5 2¼ miles/4.4km

Turn R over bridge, immediately R again, staying close to fence, then through small wooden gate and continue along old railway line. Opposite climbing club headquarters on R, turn L to stile in fence, then follow grass path to what used to be a pub.

6 3 miles/4.9km

Turn R through R of two gates, follow track to lane, turn L and follow for 400m. Then just before L bend, take obvious gate to track on R (Beacons Way). Follow path down hill to lane at bottom.

7 4 miles/6.2km

Turn L for quick look at Black Spring (the bottom of Britain's longest cave) then retrace steps and continue to end of lane. Take L fork through gate and follow track through wood. At interpretation board, turn L through gate down hill to main surfaced track at river, then turn L. Follow track then turn R over footbridge back to car park. [CW](http://www.cw.gov.uk)

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:

lfto.com/cwroutes

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



OS MAPS



Ordnance Survey