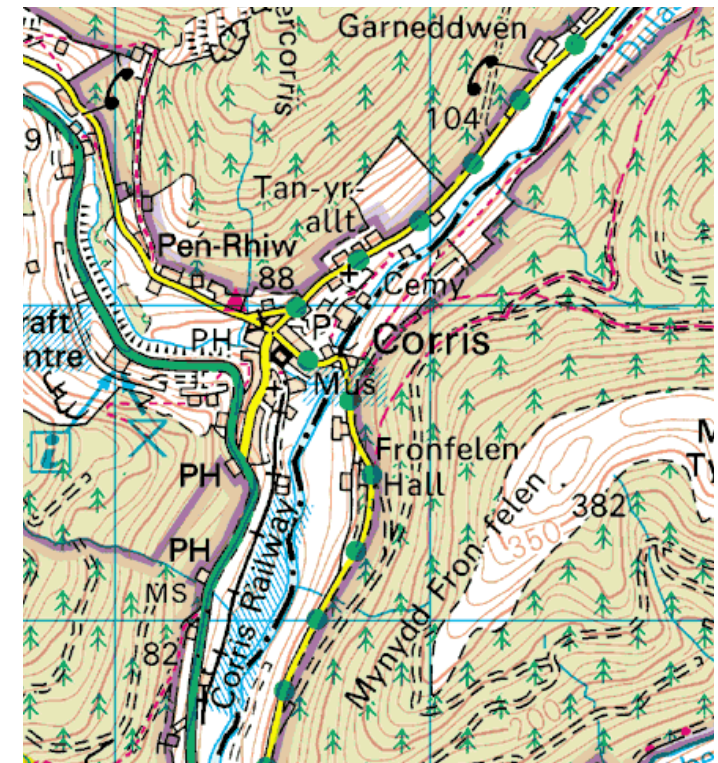
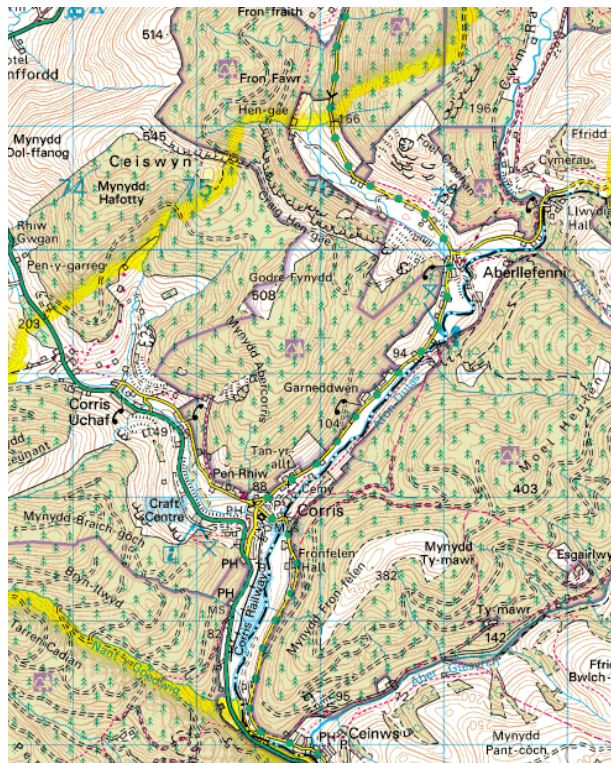


THREE CORRIS WALKS

Corris, probably named after Corus, a 7th Century monk, nestles in the Dulas Valley just south of Cader Idris, the most prominent peak in southern Snowdonia. A mixture of conifer and broadleaved woodland covers the slopes of the valleys with a rich variety of mosses, flowers, birds and mammals. Amongst the wooded slopes are obvious signs of the area's industrial past.

The Corris quarries are the most southerly of the North Wales slate quarries. At their peak they employed 800, but today only a handful remain. Quarrying started in the Corris area in 1810 though there is some evidence that it began in Aberllefenni in 1500. The numerous quarries were at their most productive between 1850 and 1900. Initially the slate was carried by horse and cart to Derwenlas, then transported by boat to Aberdyfi. The Corris Railway was built in the 1850s and from then on slate was transported to Machynlleth. The railway closed in 1948, but today a short section has been re-opened for tourists. The area has an excellent choice of tourist attractions as well as a system of paths and picnic sites. Don't forget you can order a picnic lunch from reception.

There are several walks which you can take in and around Corris.



The Slate Trail 2 Miles

If you are planning to arrive by car, drive past the Braich Goch Inn in Corris (on the A487), and turn left at the Corris Craft Centre. Park here, then cross back over the main road and walk back towards the village, taking the path down into the village by the war memorial.

Turn left on Corris High Street, past the Corris Railway Museum. The railway was originally built in 1859 as a horse-drawn tramway to take slate from the quarries to the river Dyfi. In 1879 steam engines were introduced, and the service carried passengers until buses became more common in 1930. It closed in 1948.

It is now maintained by the Corris Railway Society, who have laid 1 mile of narrow gauge track and offer a tourist service for rail enthusiasts in the summer. Carry on past the Corris Institute, and take a left by the Slaters' Arms.

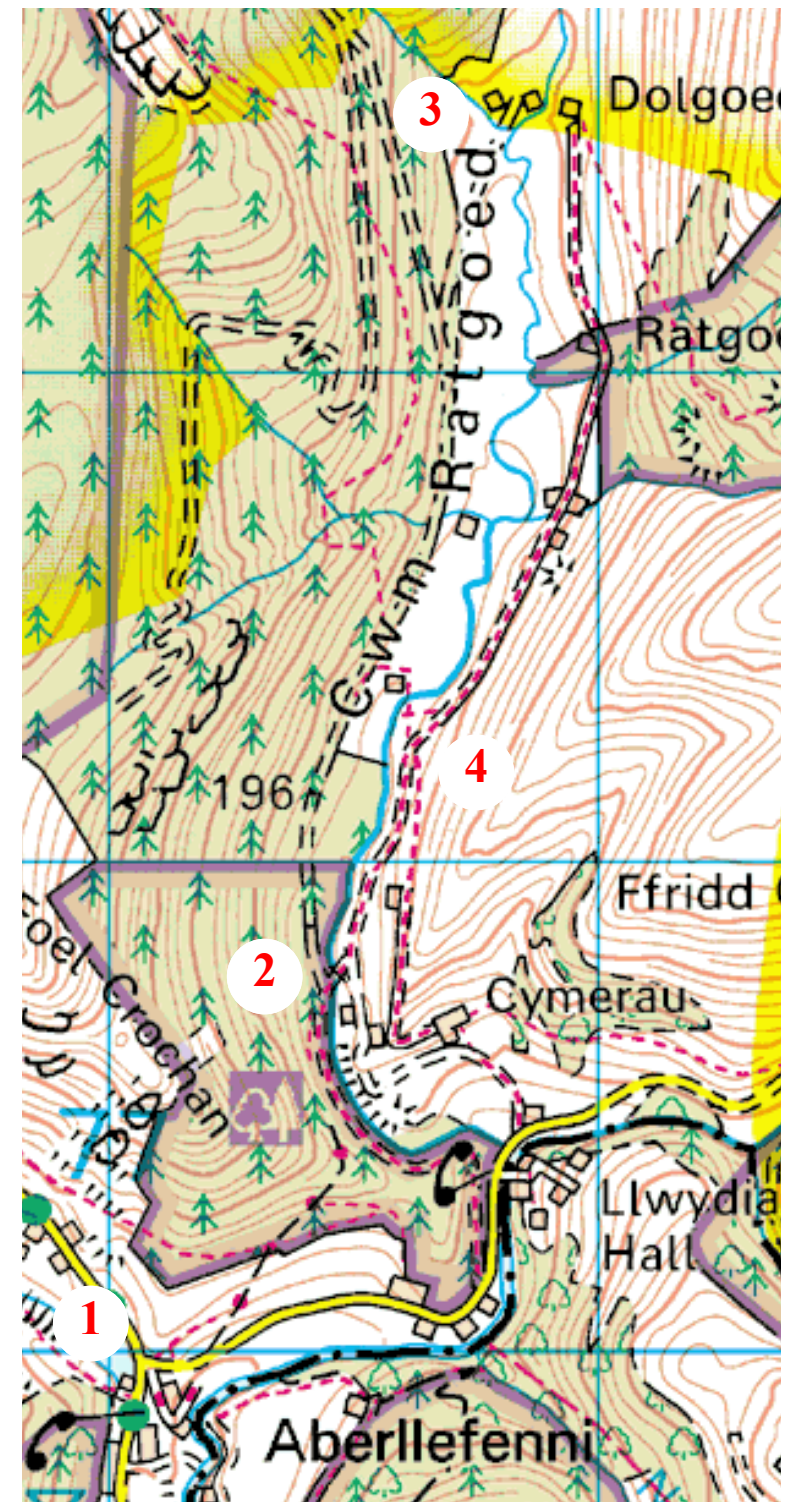
Cross the bridge back onto the road, and turn left, following the signs for Corris Craft Centre. The Centre showcases working crafts people producing and selling a wide range of of unique gifts. King Arthur's Labyrinth is a local tourist attraction, next to the Craft Centre. Visitors can explore the Braich Goch Slate Mine on a subterranean boat ride, where they will discover the myths and legends surrounding one of Britain's most mysterious historical figures.



Aberllefenni 4 Miles

To get to the start of this walk, turn right in Corris onto a minor road. signposted Aberllefenni. On reaching Aberllefenni you will see some road side parking just beyond the phone box at the top of the village.

1. Walk north and bear right at the junction. Round the bend and continue 100 yards to a rough lane on the left rising beside a gate. It climbs steeply into the fir woods continuing up to a gradual corner and the beginning of a descent. In a further 50 yards take the right fork down a steepening path marked by orienteering boards, this will lead you to a lane.
2. Go left a few paces and take the waymarked, wide forestry road. Follow the Yellow Waymark bearing right over a bridge and through a gate with a river on your left. The occasional waymark posts confirms your route, continue along this track as it gradually gains height. At a fork remain on the level, at the next keep left to rise gently around a bend, remain on the forestry road here. At the next major fork, at a wide clearing on the road, keep right, gently descending to the edge of the woods. In the distance is a remote house, this is your target.
3. At the first building you pass, follow the path in front of them which runs slightly uphill. Go through the gate on your right and follow the yellow waymarks guiding you up to a pasture above another derelict farm. Cross the field to pick up the line of a field road lined by gnarled old thorn and turn along this. Pass to the rear of Ratgoed Hall, almost immediately then pass a series of old slate tips and buildings. The track you are on is the bed of the former Ratgoed Tramway, built in the 1860's to serve the quarries that closed in 1951.
4. Go through the kissing gate and bear right at the fork, you will see a set of buildings on the left. Cross the bridge and follow the roadway as it rises above the river. Sweeping around a tight bend, the track merges with a lane near an old school. Keep ahead and return to Aberllefenni.



CORRIS

In Corris you will find the newly opened Corris Railway and Museum, Corris Craft Centre, King Arthur's Labyrinth and Corris Mine Explorers.



Ten craft workshops packed with unique handcrafted items.

Talented craftspeople can be seen producing a range of quality items ranging from traditional, rustic and contemporary. Visitors can see crafts people at work and buy directly from them.

Celtic and Contemporary Jewellery
Traditional Wooden Toys
Ceramics
Pottery
Hand Blown Glass
Rustic Furniture
Handmade designer cards
Turned wood

Some workshops offer the chance to make your own products.



King Arthur's Labyrinth



An underground story telling adventure. Sail underground through the great waterfall, deep inside the spectacular caverns of the Labyrinth and back in time. Once inside your hooded boatman guides you through tunnels and vast caverns, whilst you enjoy tales of King Arthur and other Welsh Legends.

A perfect all weather attraction.

Slate is the key to Corris's past. The village grew up alongside its slate quarries, which flourished in the second half of the 19th Century when 1000 men were employed there. Such was the size of the enterprise that the community spilled over into two villages, the other being Corris Uchaf.



Centre for Alternative Technology
Canolfan y Dechnoleg Amgen

Built in an old slate quarry in the foothills of Snowdonia the visitor centre has 7 acres of interactive displays, organic gardens, cafe, shop and adventure playground. It opened in 1974 when CAT was only a small community starting to put sustainable living to the test. Now the organisation has grown in size and is a popular day out for all the family.

Corris Railway and Museum



The Corris Railway was the first Narrow Gauge railway in mid Wales. Built in 1859 as a gauge horse-hauled tram road, steam locomotives arrived in 1878 and passengers were carried from 1883 to 1930. The Railway closed in 1948 and was dismantled soon afterwards.

The Corris Railway Museum opened in 1970 and passenger services resumed in 2002, with regular steam hauled services returning in 2005.

Well behaved dogs are welcome.



Corris Mine Explorers

Step back in time with Corris Mine Explorers in Mid Wales as you explore the workings of an old Welsh Slate Mine.

This rare opportunity takes you into the vast underground caverns of the disused mines and way back to 1836 when the mines were first worked. See the machinery and miners' tools, their candles and even a packet of cigarettes. It feels as if the miners have just gone with lots of things they left behind still in place.

Your guide will help you to discover the old Braich Goch Mine and give you a real insight into the tough working conditions endured by