

Twenty-three LLANDUDNO - Y GOGARTH (GREAT ORME CIRCULAR WALK).

This is an extremely rewarding walk for the practised walker. Good brisk exercise with tremendous views, and all that Llandudno has to offer afterwards.

Catch the Liverpool stopping train to Newton-Le-Willows and change there to catch the Llandudno/North Wales train soon after on the same platform. Alight at Llandudno Station.

Outside the station walk straight ahead to the sea front.

Turn left along the front towards the Great Orme.
Notice all the elegant hotels on the way.

Just past the way onto the pier curve right taking the road between the Grand Hotel and the colonnade on your left.

At the circle (*with the impressive lamp post*) bare left into Happy Valley.

Follow this road uphill - or *alternatively meander up the very pleasant park parallel to it*. The road and park rejoin just before a cattle grid. Cross the cattle grid.

Ahead is the 'ski resort' but go immediately right onto the stony stepped path uphill.

Half way up it bends right onto some steps. Take a few steps up and then go on to the steps left off this. *This is typical limestone scenery and vegetation.*

Follow the path through a small nick in the hill and up to the finger post. Go straight ahead towards St Tudno's Church (signed).

Go right through a gate and follow the path towards the church that you can see ahead.

Facing the churchyard gate the walk continues to the left. (*But you might want to look in the church and yard before continuing.*)

About a quarter mile up the hill, at a finger post, fork right over the grass – *you can see the cable car station ahead of you.*

Turn right along the stony road and follow this.

Where the track and wall start to curve left go straight ahead between two limestone boulders and keep straight on passing two more. *This area is liberally scattered with limestone rocks and boulders.*

Continuing ahead you will gradually meet the original track and wall. The wall does a right angle bend to the left but you keep straight on towards the car parking area.

Go through the right hand side of the car park and up to the edge. *Here you have splendid views of the mountains of Snowdonia (and beyond), and of Puffin Island and Anglesey.*

Go left along the broad mowed grass track. After two to three hundred yards take the fork right onto a narrower track. This track goes steeply down the hillside. *Below is a narrow flat coastal strip with some very large houses and gardens on Marine Drive.*

At the road go left and then take the first fork left onto a minor road. This eventually becomes a narrow path with a garden wall on its right. It clings to the hillside (*just*) going up and down.

At the crenellated gatehouse take the tarmac path left. *This is known as Invalid's Walk.*

Follow it into Haulfre Gardens. *Here you will find a delightful tearoom that is probably very welcome by now!*

Continue out of the Gardens at the same level until you come to the Great Orme Tramway. Turn right and follow it down to the Victoria Tram Station.

Cross straight ahead along Old Road and keep ahead down to opposite the splendid 'Palladium' *This is a Wetherspoon House offering real ales and food at reasonable prices.* Cross this road go right and then immediately left. Follow this road until you come to the railway station on the right.

CLASSIFICATION: LONG WALK, MODERATE DIFFICULTY. TERRIFIC VIEWS, SEASIDE, TEA ROOM, PUBS, FOOD
RAIL FARE: category **eight** (no day return).

Maps: OS 1:50 000 sheet 115