

The Snowdonia Skyline Route

Snowdonia Skyline is a new challenge route that does exactly as it sounds. It follows the skyline of Central Snowdonia, from Conwy to Nebo. The route is 39 miles long and involves over 16,000 feet of ascent and descent. The 24 tops comprise the full skyline of the Carneddau, Tryfan, Glyderau, the Snowdon range and finishing over the Nantlle Ridge. The route was devised by Chris Wearne, who, on 15-16 May 2014, completed a first recorded crossing, unsupported, bivvying at Foel Grach, in 23 hours 56 minutes. His start point was the National Park boundary at Conwy, finishing at the Park boundary at the other end of the Skyline. A full account appeared in The Great Outdoors in May 2015.

The principle of the route is simple; keep the Menai Straits to the right, the rest of Wales to the left and climb over those succeeding, surging ridges, the Skyline. The route runs, with satisfying continuity, North East to South West – yes, into the prevailing wind, but, yes, these are the best views. The route includes 7 Grade 1 scrambles, including Tryfan North Ridge, Bristly Ridge and Crib Goch, and all bar one are taken the best way, in ascent. There are provisions at 4 points, Ogwen, Pen y Pass, Yr Wyddfa and Rhyd Ddu, so no support should be needed. For maps use the 1:25,000 OS sheet and for guidance on the scrambles, refer to the Cicerone Guide, Scrambles in Snowdonia. There is accommodation at both end points and they are connected by public transport.

Chris will regularly collate any records of new record times and so on and he can be reached via chris.wearne@btinternet.com.

	Snowdonia Skyline - 24 tops in 24 hours	Height	Route notes and Scrambles (*)
	Conwy, start		
1	To Mynydd y Dref / Conwy Mountain	824' / 244m	Via Cadnant Park, Mountain Road then open fell
2	To Tal y Fan	2001' / 610m	Paths over MaenEsgob, to quarry then SW
3	To Foel Lwyd	1985' / 603m	Heathery ridge path
4	To Drum	2529' / 770m	Down to Bwlch y Ddeufaen and up again
5	To Foel Fras	3092' / 942m	Grassy then stony near top
6	To Carnedd Gwenllian / Carnedd Uchaf	3033' / 926m	Easy
7	To Foel Grach	3196' / 976m	Easy, refuge in rocks to left (NE) of summit
8	To Carnedd Llewelyn	3485' / 1063m	Ridge path
9	To Carnedd Dafydd	3427' / 1044m	Ridge path
10	To Pen yr Ole Wen	3210' / 978m	Easiest to turn East then follow AfonLloer
	To Ogwen		East end of lake, to start Tryfan North Ridge
11	To Tryfan	3010' / 917m	Tryfan North Ridge*
12	To Glyder Fach	3262' / 995m	Tryfan South Ridge* down, Bristly Ridge* up
13	To Castell y Gwynt / Castle of the Winds	3183' / 972m	Ridge path and scramble to top
14	To Glyder Fawr	3282' / 1000m	Ridge path
	To Pen y Pass		Path waymarked but not always obvious
15	To Crib Goch	3023' / 923m	Pyg Track then via Crib Goch East Ridge*
16	To Crib y Ddysgl / Carnedd Ugain	3493' / 1065m	Crib Goch Traverse*, Crib y Ddysgl East Ridge*
17	To Snowdon / Yr Wyddfa	3560' / 1085m	Ridge path
	To Rhyd - Ddu		Via Rhyd Ddu path
18	To Y Garn	2079' / 633m	Flat valley crossing then steep ascent
19	To Mynydd Drws-y-coed	2277' / 695m	Mynydd Drws y Coed ascent*
20	To Trum y Ddysgl	2324' / 709m	Ridge path
21	To Mynydd Tal y Mignedd	2143' / 653m	Ridge path, narrow for 50m
22	To Craig Cwm Silyn	2417' / 734m	Crags on ridge, can be bypassed to North side
23	To Garnedd Goch	2294' / 700m	Grassy
24	To Mynydd Graig Goch	2001' / 610m	Grassy
	To Nebo		Few paths but head to Llyn Cwm Dulyn