



Brechfa Forest Garden Walk– Abergorlech, Carmarthenshire, Wales

Distance: 5 miles, 8.3 km **Height gain:** 154 Metres

Duration: Roughly 4 Hours **Intensity:** Strenuous

Features: Ancient Forest, Managed Forest, Meadowland, Hills and Glens, Birds, Wildlife, Streams, Fords, Pub, Café, Coffee, Beer Garden, Great Views

Description:

This route to and through the Brechfa Forest Garden, situated within the Brechfa Forest, offers stunning views of the woodland landscape as well as an excellent hike with varying levels of intensity. Starting near the centre of the village Abergorlech, this largely sylvan path is just over eight kilometres and includes encounters with streams, birds, wildlife, and several different tree species found throughout Britain once you reach the Forest Garden proper.

The panorama from various points of the trail offers stunning views of the hills and glens of the ancient Glyn Cothi forest biosphere. This route is well labelled as “strenuous” given the widely varying intensity of the gradient, which at times proves challenging during the first half of the route. The Forest Garden Walk is thus suitable for both beginning and experienced walkers.

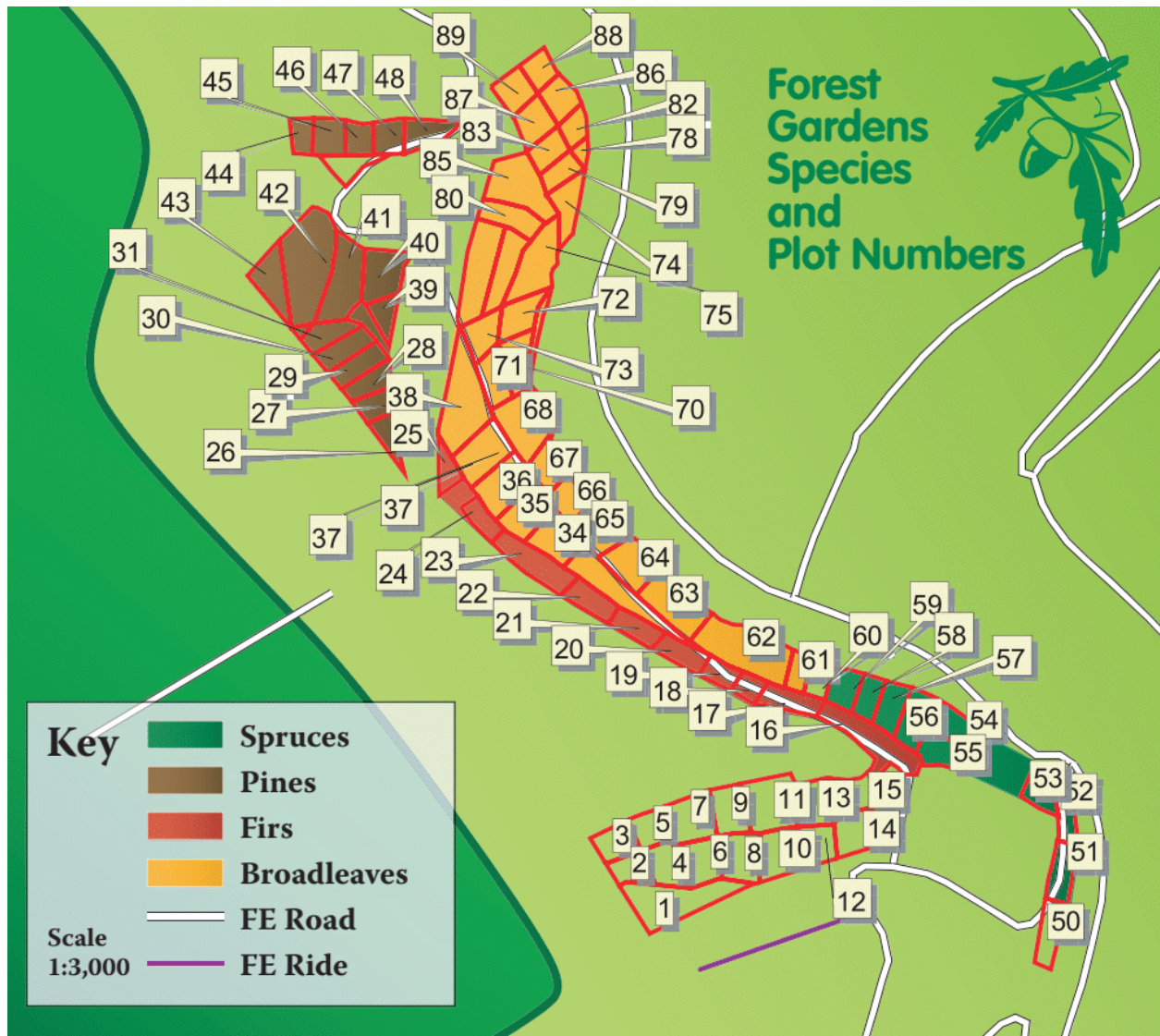
The Forest Garden itself was created as an initiative by the Forestry Commission to determine how well different tree species from around the world would grow in British environmental and climatic conditions. Walkers should thus keep their eye out for some of the world’s most iconic tree species which feature prominently along the Forest Garden path, including giant redwoods from California, eucalyptus from Australia, *nothofagus* from South America, firs from nearly every continent, and a variety of continental species, including oaks, walnuts and spruces.

The route is waymarked. and a GPX file is available to download from our website www.roam-brechfaforest-llanllwnimountain.co.uk For those who are visiting to study the trees in the forest garden below is a map of the plots and a list of the species.

Walkers can celebrate finishing this walk with libations in the lovely village of Abergorlech, an ancient village noted for its connection to the celebrated 15th century Welsh poet Daffyd Gorlech. Options include a pint or a coffee at *Y Llew Du* (The Black Lion), which also offers a beer garden. Visitors should also note the Grade II* listed village bridge over the Afon Cothi.

This route starts and ends at the car park in the Abergorlech Woodland section of Brechfa Forest, just off **B4310**

Information from out of print Forestry Commission on the plots in the Brechfa Forest Garden



Plot No.	Botanical name	Common Name
1	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Douglas Fir
2	<i>Larix decidua</i>	European Larch
3	<i>Larix occidentalis</i>	Western Larch
4	<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	Western hemlock
5	<i>Tsuga mertensiana</i>	Mountain Hemlock
6	<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>	Lawson Cypress
7	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	Western Red Cedar
8	<i>Abies fraseri</i>	Fraser's Balsam Fir
9	<i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i>	Monterey Cypress
10	<i>Sequoiadendron giganteum</i>	Sierra Redwood

11	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coast Redwood
12	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	Eucalyptus
13	<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Indian Cedar
14	<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway Spruce
15	<i>Abies koreana</i>	Korean Fir
16	<i>Abies grandis</i>	Grand Fir
17	<i>Abies procera</i>	Noble Fir
18	<i>Abies cephalonica</i>	Greek Fir
19	<i>Abies nordmanniana</i>	Caucasian Fir
20	<i>Abies concolor</i>	Colorado Fir
21	<i>Abies veitchii</i>	Veitch's Silver Fir
22	<i>Abies concolor</i> var <i>lowiana</i>	Low's White Fir
23	<i>Abies homolepis</i>	Nikko Fir
24	<i>Abies amabilis</i>	Beautiful Fir
25	<i>Abies delavayi</i>	Delavays Silver Fir
26	<i>Pinus nigra</i> var <i>pallasiana</i>	Austrain Pine
27	<i>Pinus nigra</i> var <i>Austriaca</i>	Austrian Pine
28	<i>Pinus muricata</i>	Bishop Pine
29	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	Weymouth Pine
30	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>	Red Pine
31	<i>Pinus uncinata</i>	Mountain Pine
32	<i>Pinus thunbergii</i>	Japanese Black Pine
33	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
34	<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak
35	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red Oak
36	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small Leaved Lime
37	<i>Nothofagus obliqua</i>	Roblò or Southern Beech
38	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech
39	<i>Pinus densiflora</i>	Japanese Red Pine
40	<i>Pinus peuce</i>	Macedonian Pine
41	<i>Pinus pungens</i>	Prickle Pine
42	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	Ponderosa Pine
43	<i>Picea asperata</i>	Dragon Spruce
44	<i>Pinus banksiana</i>	Jack Pine
45	<i>Pinus mugo</i>	Dwarf Mountain Pine
46	<i>Pinus Mugo</i>	<i>Pinus mugo</i> var <i>pumilo</i>
47	<i>Pinus contorta</i> var <i>contorta</i>	Shore Pine
48	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey pine
49	<i>Pinus jeffreyi</i>	Jeffrey Pine
50	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	Japanese Red Cedar
51	<i>Picea glauca</i>	White Spruce
52	<i>Picea engelmannii</i>	Engelmann Spruce
53	<i>Picea jezoensis</i>	Yeddo Spruce
54	<i>Picea orientalis</i>	Oriental Spruce
55	<i>Picea rubens</i>	Red Spruce
56	<i>Picea omorika</i>	Serbian Spruce

57	<i>Picea mariana</i>	Black Spruce
58	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	Eucalyptus
59	<i>Abies lasiocarpa</i>	Alpine Fir
60	<i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsam Fir
61	<i>Acer pensylvanicum</i>	Moosewood
62	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Wych Elm
63	<i>Quercus canariensis</i>	Mirbeck's Oak
64	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Silver maple
65	<i>Quercus lusitanica</i>	Lusitanian Oak
66	<i>Quercus cerris</i>	Turkey Oak
67	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore
68	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple
69	<i>Populus trichocarpa.</i>	Poplar
70	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small Leaved Lime
71	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree
72	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut
73	<i>Prunus avium</i> "Wildstar"	Wildstar Cherry
74	<i>Populus tricarpa</i>	Poplar
75	<i>Picea koyamae</i>	Koyama's Spruce
76	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	American White Ash
77	<i>Nothofagus procera (nervosa)</i>	Southern beech
78	Failed	
79	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False Acacia
80	<i>Populus robusta.</i>	Poplar
81	<i>Populus seritina.</i>	Poplar
82	<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	Leyland Cypress
83	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
84	<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut (prov. Lozeronne)
85	<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut (prov. Lozeronne)
86	<i>Alnus rubra</i>	Red Alder
87	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch var Mildenhall
88	<i>Betula maximowicziana</i>	Transcaucasian Birch
89	<i>Betula lenta</i>	Cherry Bark Birch