

Snowdon by Night



Activity: Trek **Grade:**  **(Demanding)** **Duration: 2 days**

Snowdonia National Park in North Wales is synonymous with beautiful, rugged landscapes and wonderful trekking and outdoor pursuits.

The highest mountain in England and Wales at 1085m, Snowdon's Welsh name is Yr Wyddfa, reputedly the burial place of a mythical giant. A popular summit trek by day-time, it forms a real challenge by night.

Standing at the summit by moonlight will be an unforgettable experience, as will seeing the sunrise from the mountain slopes. As we descend, we will be able to see the spectacular landscapes open up before us as the day grows lighter. We celebrate our huge achievement with a slap-up breakfast!

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive Llanberis

We'll meet in the evening in Llanberis, the popular village at the foot of Snowdon, and get ready for our trek. We'll have dinner and a full briefing and as it starts to get dark set off on our exciting night challenge!

We follow the Llanberis Path, which roughly shadows the route of the famous Snowdon Mountain Railway. It's the most gradual route up Snowdon with good conditions underfoot, and therefore best suited to our ascent in the dark! There is an initial steep section which will afford some good views in the fading light; after this our route continues quite gradually. As it gets darker we'll get out our head-torches, and our path up the mountain will show up quite easily most of the time. Trekking up at night is a very different experience than during the day; our senses grow used to the darkness and we can enjoy the silence and the remoteness of this mountain, and the views of the night sky.

After the Halfway House the gradient becomes steeper in places, but we know we're not far off the summit! We pass through a narrow railway bridge, and it's not long before we get to a standing stone, marking where other trails meet ours. A little further on we come to the summit at 1085m. We have gained approx 900m in height since we set off – quite an achievement!

Day 2: Descend and Depart

After some time to experience the summit – though it will probably be quite cold at the top, so you may not want to linger too long! – we leave the summit and return to Llanberis the same way. The sky will start to lighten on our way down, and we may be able to enjoy the wonderful views over the Menai Strait towards Anglesey while we are still high enough to enjoy them. As the sun

DETAILED ITINERARY (cont.)

rises and lights up our surroundings, we'll be amazed by what we climbed in the dark! The descent will be much quicker and less arduous, but still tiring and can be hard on the knees. We return to Llanberis for a big celebration breakfast! After saying our farewells to our fellow trekkers, we head home, tired but very elated!

Ascent approx. 5-7 hours; descent approx. 2-3 hours

Discover Adventure reserves the right to change the route or itinerary for safety reasons should local conditions dictate.

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CHALLENGE GRADING

Our trips are graded from Challenging (Grade 1) to Extreme (Grade 5).

This trek is graded **Demanding (2)**. The main challenge lies in the ascent in the dark, which makes the rugged terrain more taxing.

Many factors influence the Challenge Grading, such as terrain, distances, climate, altitude, living conditions, etc. The grade reflects the overall trip; some sections will feel more challenging than others. Unusual weather conditions also have a significant impact, and not all people are tested by the same aspects.

Our grading levels are intended as a guide, but span a broad spectrum; trips within the same grade will still vary in the level of challenge provided.

