

# Country Walks around Wrexham

Coedpoeth – Nant Mill Country Park – Clywedog Trail – Minera  
Lead Mines Country Park – Minera – Coedpoeth  
Approx 5 miles, 3 hours

## Directions to starting point by car

From Wrexham town centre take the A525 Ruthin Road, cross over the A483 and follow the road for approx. 2 miles into Coedpoeth.

## Parking

There is a car park in Coedpoeth, situated just off the A525, opposite the New Inn. The car park can be accessed via the High Street or Park Road.

## Public Transport

Bus numbers 9 & 10 of G. Edwards & Son and numbers 10 & 11 of Arriva link Wrexham town centre to Coedpoeth. Timetables are available at the Tourist Information Centre, Libraries, online via Wrexham County Borough Council's website and most Post Offices in Wrexham. Bus information: 01978 266166.

- It should be noted that this walk may be muddy and slippery in some places so please wear suitable footwear and take extra caution.
- This route is not suitable for wheelchairs or buggies.
- Please take the utmost care during this walk as some sections of the walk follow roads without pavements.

## WALK DIRECTIONS

Starting from the car park opposite the New Inn in Coedpoeth, (Grid Ref: SJ 283511) walk out of the car park and turn left onto Park Road. After 200m, take the first left onto Tudor Street (the road in front of the black and white house), after a short distance take the next right opposite The Golden Lion.

Approach Rock House and follow the footpath on the left eventually exiting once again on to Tudor Street. Turn right and follow it down to join Penygelli Road in 35m. Turn right on to Penygelli Road and after 220m metres go over the stone stile on the left hand side of the road and follow the footpath alongside the field boundary. Cross a stile and bear right towards the oak tree by a corner fence in the field, bear right and follow the small waymarker posts, cross over a stile, a track and then another stile and follow the path down a slight decline. Keep to the right and go through a small copse, when reaching the stone wall at the bottom turn right and go over a wooden ditch crossing to a stone stile. Cross over the stile and on to the road which leads to Nant Mill

Country Park.

Take the meandering road down to Nant Mill Country Park (shown by a brown and white road sign). When reaching the car park, bear right and go through a pedestrian gate located by the education centre and the wildlife garden.

Follow the path past the play area and across the wooden bridge. Turn left and carry on along the path over the bridge and up the steps, at the top turn right and join a grass path. You are now on the Clywedog Trail, follow this for approximately 700m until reaching the lane by the ford crossing. Cross over the road and carry on along the Clywedog Trail through the woodland and farmland, leading to the B5426. Cross the road and enter into the Minera Lead Mines Country Park, follow the trail up through the site of the mine.

Opening times and dates of the mine are displayed near the information board in the car park.

Continue along the footpath with Minera Lead Mines on your right hand side, bear left up a grass bank and follow path until reaching another kissing gate and the road. Cross the road and walk along the path to the right. After a short distance, cross another road, passing through a gate onto a dismantled railway. Follow this footpath until reaching another gate after approximately 600m.

Follow the footpath sign through another gate and on to the dismantled railway line again. Continue along the railway line passing through another small gate next to a large field gate then passing through a large gate and metal stile beside until reaching another large field gate on your left and a small pedestrian gate on the right (track widens here). Go through the pedestrian gate on the right leaving the dismantled railway and joining a track.

Continue along the track and pass through two kissing gates. The track leads down to Ty Brith Lane. Once on the lane take the second footpath on the left, crossing a footbridge and ascending two flights of steps leading into Minera village. At the end of this footpath is a stone stile, beware of traffic when crossing the stile onto Church Road as there is no pavement. At the stile, turn right and continue along the road until reaching the junction with Minera Hall Road.

Follow the footpath sign across the road, heading down hill beside the primary school, pass through a kissing gate and continuing down the hill to a footbridge. There are two ways in which you can go here. In wet weather, continue over the footbridge and up the hill on the tarmac path. Turn left at the junction and follow the bridleway down to 2 bridges, a bridleway bridge and a footbridge, cross either of these bridges, turn right and re-join the walk directions at \*. In dry weather, turn left just before the bridge and follow the footpath up the bank alongside the stream. Cross over three stiles until reaching 2 bridges on your right hand side, a footbridge and the other a bridleway bridge. Don't cross the bridges but \* follow the bridleway ahead, after the bridleway bears left, turn right at the waymarker post and follow the

footpath and waymarker posts up hill until reaching Old Smelt Road. This footpath was created by workmen walking to the old smelt works in Coedpoeth.

Cross the road and take the short enclosed footpath ahead to Smelt Lane, turn right and in approximately 60m exit onto Smelt Road. Follow the road round to the left passing a footpath in the corner of the road, take the next footpath on your right passing through the motorbike barrier and continue along this tarmacked footpath to a T-junction. At the T-junction turn left up the hill, passing Coedpoeth Cemetery on your left hand side. Once reaching Assembly Road, turn right and then almost immediately left onto Manley Road. The car park and the end of the walk is straight ahead of you at the end of Manley Road.

## **POINTS OF INTEREST**

### **Coedpoeth**

The name Coedpoeth translates to Hot Woods in English, which is derived from the production of charcoal for the smelting of iron and lead that took place as far back as the Roman occupation of Britain.

The land surrounding Coedpoeth contains natural resources such as iron ore, lead ore, coal and lime and the village's industrial heritage is apparent from activities which have taken place over the years – lead mines and lime works in Minera.

### **Nant Mill**

Nant Mill dates back to the 17th Century and was originally a fulling mill where woollen cloth was processed. In later years the mill was rebuilt and operated as a corn mill powered by two large water wheels. The building has been carefully restored and is now a Visitor Centre run by Wrexham County Borough Council. An active and intriguing exploration of nature, showing how generations of people have shaped the valley landscape.

### **Minera**

The name Minera derives from the Medieval Latin name for a mine. The history of lead mining and limestone quarrying in and around Minera embraces many centuries – evidence suggests mining took place early in the 15th century, with mining becoming more prevalent during the 18th and 19th centuries but the 20th century showed the greatest amount of extraction when the first deep shafts were sunk. Little remains of the mining industry but colliery buildings still survive at Plas Power.

### **Minera Lead Mines**

The walk passes the Meadow Shaft site of the lead mines. Evidence shows the presence of lead mining in Minera in 1296, when Edward I ordered miners

to Devon. The mines in Minera were worked until 1349 when the Black Death reached Wrexham.

The area was reclaimed by Wrexham County Borough Council and the Welsh Development Agency. Work began in 1988 to make the area safe. Personal items belonging to miners were found at the Meadow Shaft making the site ideal for reconstruction. Renovation began in the 1990's, replica machinery was installed and the mine was opened as a visitor centre protecting Wrexham's important historical and industrial heritage.

### Minera Railway

This route which is now a footpath was formerly the North Wales mineral railway which came to Minera in 1847.

### **The countryside code**

- Leave all gates as you find them
- Please respect other walkers
- Take litter away with you
- Keep dogs on a leash
- Respect the habitats and wildlife