

BHS Paralympic Legacy Access Project

Route 18 – Alwen Forest, Wales



PLAP Route 18 – Alwen Forest, Wales

Distance: approximately 12 miles

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer Map Number 18 (Map 1:25000)

The Alwen Plantation Forest lies south of Alwen Forest. It's part of the Hiraethog Forest and consists of upland coniferous woodland, most of which surrounds the reservoir and dam that was constructed between 1909 and 1921 to provide piped water to Birkenhead. Today the reservoir supplies water to homes across north east Wales, producing about five million gallons of water a day.

This carriage driving route is special because it not only offers an opportunity for everyone to carriage drive safely away from roads, in a peaceful woodland setting, but it also gives those new to carriage driving or who are in some way physically restricted a chance to gain experience in the open countryside in an ideal, safe and quiet environment with enough space for assistance or supervision to be given. Horse riders are allowed open access to the Alwen Forest north of this route.

The scheme also requires carriage drivers to wear a hard hat or helmet and hi-viz clothing and to have valid insurance through either being a BHS Gold member or a member of the British Driving Society. Membership cards will need to be carried and shown if requested. No horse and carriage is to be driven without a passenger, groom or backstepper.

Route Description

From Denbigh: From the A544 turn left onto the A543. After 2.8 miles turn left onto the B4501 and after 4.75 miles turn right to South Alwen.

From the A5: Turn off for Cerrigydrudion and follow the B4501 signed to Llyn Brenig for approximately 2.6 miles. Turn left into South Alwen.

The entry gate is not obvious but if approached from the south the signs shown above are visible. Once through the gate (please remember to lock this gate) take the right fork and continue approximately one mile to the parking area. There is space for four lorries on a hard surface.

Once harnessed, drive back down the track, and then take track on the left. Follow this track, for approximately one mile.

Continue straight over at the next crossroads

Bear left at the next fork and continue along the track for approximately 1.3 miles past the stone quarry on the right, over the crest of the hill and down.

Shortly after this a crossroads is reached and it is here that a choice can be made to remain in the forest (Option A) or to turn right (Option B) to investigate some of the quiet and very narrow lanes around the small hamlet of Cefn Brith.

BHS Paralympic Legacy Access Project

Route 18 – Alwen Forest, Wales



Option A

At the crossroads continue along this track for 0.75 miles and turn right. After one mile turn left (before the gate on the road) and follow the track to the parking area overlooking Alwen Reservoir.

Option B

Turn right and keep following the track for 0.4 miles before reaching a gate (marked '1' on the map and needs to be kept closed at all times). Views across open moorland can be seen. Follow this green lane down a relatively winding steep hill for approximately one mile through another gate (marked '2' on the map and needs to be kept closed at all times).

At small crossroads turn left and follow this lane to the next junction, turn left and then turn left again (opposite a footpath sign). Stay on this lane for approximately 0.75 miles.

At the next T-junction (you will see a windmill immediately in front of you) turn right and after approximately half a mile, turn right at the junction (you will see a sign in a hedge for Cefn Brith).

Drive along this road past a red telephone box and Cefn Brith Chapel, and after approximately 1.2 miles turn right (opposite a farm entrance signed Tyddyn Bychan). Follow this lane over the small crossroads and back onto the steep uphill road leading once again to gate 2. Remain on this track until reaching gate 1 (please remember to close the gate) then down to the crossroads in the forest and then turn right.

Continue along this track for 0.75 miles and then turn right and after one mile turn left. Follow the track to the parking area overlooking Alwen Reservoir.

General Information

Parking: Please see marked areas on the map.

Insurance: The BHS recommends that before undertaking any part of this route, both horse and rider should be adequately insured against public liability. The British Horse Society can provide public liability and personal accident insurance cover as well as many benefits if you join as a member (terms and conditions and territorial limits apply). For more information or to join, visit www.bhs.org.uk/membership.

Feedback: These routes are kept to the standard that the local authority can afford. They were all accessible at the time of launch and are on definitive public rights of way. If you experience any problems with the routes or wish to raise any concerns, please contact the local authority, your local BHS Access Officer or the Access Team at BHS HQ via access@bhs.org.uk.

BHS Paralympic Legacy Access Project

Route 18 – Alwen Forest, Wales



About the **Paralympic Legacy Access Project**

In 2013, the BHS launched the Paralympic Legacy Access Project (PLAP), dedicated to identifying and promoting 20 off-road routes across Britain. The 12-mile circular routes were recognised to suit the needs of carriage drivers with physical limitations.

The project was inspired by an anonymous donation to commemorate the achievements of the Paralympics and Para World Carriage Driving Championship in 2012. Launched by BHS President, Martin Clunes, the 20 routes were all tested prior to launch.

A huge thank you to those who volunteered their time, knowledge and input to create the routes of the Paralympic Legacy Access Project.

Discover more at www.bhs.org.uk/carriagedriving

Contact Us

Write to us

The British Horse Society
Access & Rights of Way Department
Abbey Park, Stareton
Kenilworth, Warwickshire
CV8 2XZ

Email

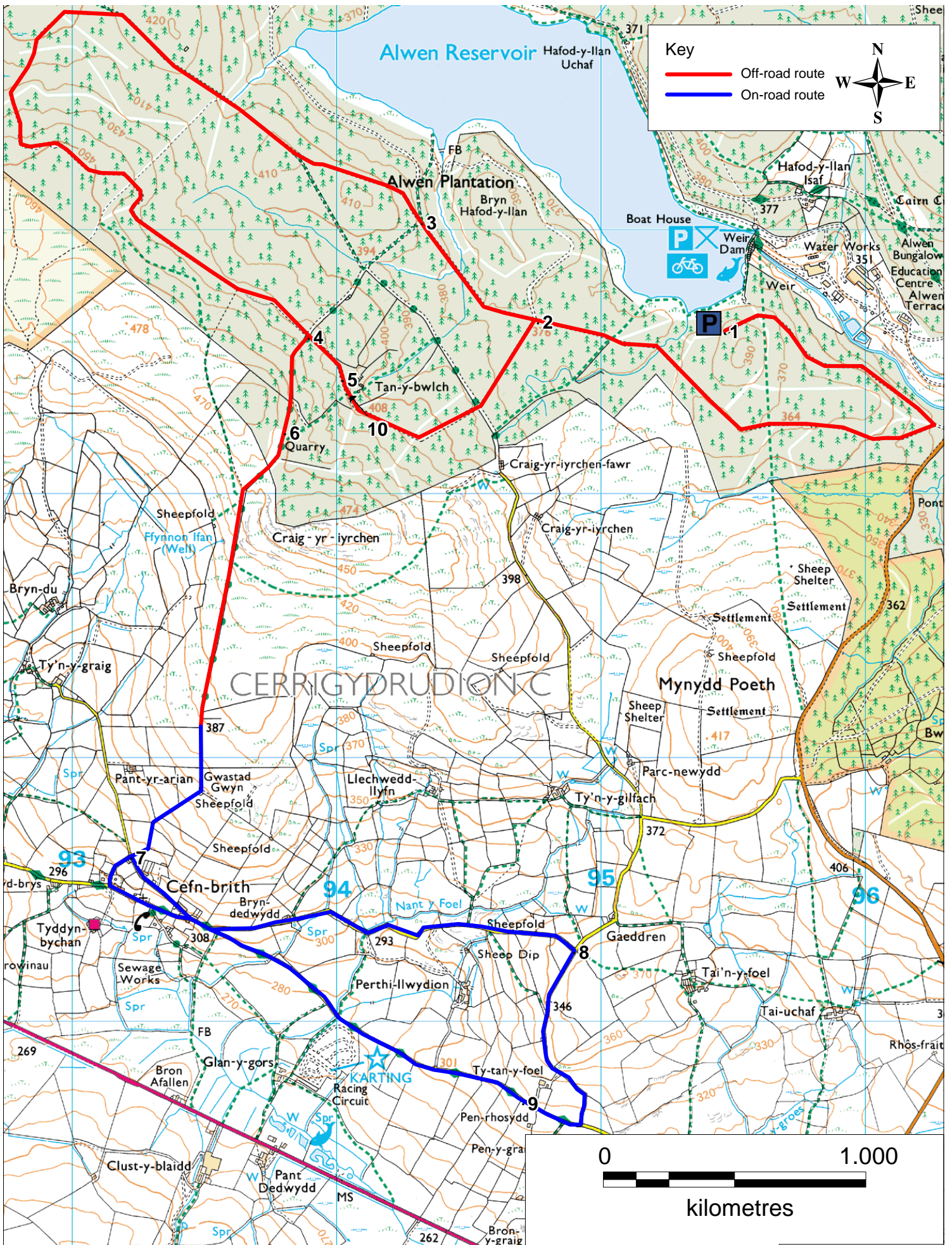
access@bhs.org.uk

Telephone

02476 840 515

Find out more

www.bhs.org.uk/accessadvice



BHS Paralympic Legacy Access Project
Route 18- The Alwen Plantation Carriage Drive, North East Wales

Produced on 11/11/2013 for Paralympic Legacy Access Project
 © Crown copyright and database rights 2013 Ordnance Survey 0100031673
 Property of The British Horse Society - Do not make copies of this map.

