

Wild Camping & Hiking in The Preseli Mountains



Highlights

This four-day guided walking holiday gets you out in the Welsh wilderness, and more precisely, the Preseli mountains. And there's no comfy hotel room at the end of it. Come evening, you'll set up camp out in the sticks – away from civilization. And toilets. This one's for survivalists and intrepid explorers.

The Preseli Mountains are the source of much intrigue – because this is where the bluestones of Stonehenge come from. And even now, how at least 80 of these epic rocks were transported 140 miles from Wales to Wiltshire is still a mystery. History aside, the landscape alone is enough to make you draw breath. Rocky tors, ancient tracks, and lofty summits make up this part of the country, and they certainly make for great walking territory.

For some, the idea of wild camping will send a shiver down the spine. No toilets? No showers? No bath? Put simply, no. But for others it's a liberating, back-to-basics experience that will be remembered long after striking camp on the final day. And if the C-list wannabes on 'I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here' can do it, then three nights will be a walk in the park. Plus, it's not often you see a tarantula in deepest, darkest Wales. So, couple the 'real outdoors' camping experience with three days of hiking in the Preseli Mountains where you'll stumble upon ancient sites as well as stunning vistas, and this trip's certainly one to remember.

Is it for me?

This walking and camping trip is all about connecting you with the great outdoors. There is wild camping involved – where you set up your own mini campsite for the night – so no amenities and no electricity. It's probably best if you're not afraid of roughing it and don't need 5-star luxury to get a decent night's sleep. Another thing to consider is the walking element – this is Wales, and it's a country not known for its flat terrain, so expect demanding walks of up to 14 miles per day. On top of that, you will be carrying all your own gear, so pack light!

Accommodation

Wild camping means no toilet block, no showers and no under-stocked campsite shop. And that's exactly what you'll be doing on this short break. You will need to carry the camping gear, but don't worry if you don't have your own tent, as one can be provided.

In terms of food, your evening meals are provided – expect basic, but hearty and warming camping food. Breakfast and lunch you'll have to provide yourself – so make sure you budget extra.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive, after lunch, at your walk starting point near the Preseli Mountains. Here you'll have an introduction to your trip, and set up camp. In the evening, you'll cook dinner and discuss the trip over your meal.

Day 2: After breakfast, strike camp and be ready to leave by 9am. Walk up onto the Preseli Mountains and spend the day walking, looking at sites of interest, and taking part in activities along the way. At 4pm, arrive at camp (either in a hafod - sheltered area, or forest). Set up camp. Afterwards, enjoy an evening meal and activities or a

Prices from

295 GBP (4 days) per person

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night hike.

Day 3: After breakfast, strike camp and be ready to leave by 9.30am. Today, you'll walk the west ridge of the Preseli Mountains towards the Gwaun Valley, ending up at Carningli near Newport. Arrive at Carningli, set up camp, and enjoy an evening meal.

Day 4: After breakfast, strike camp and be ready to leave by 9.30am. Today, you'll enjoy a 10-mile coastal walk from Newport to Cardigan, with time for shopping and exploring, too. You'll then be picked up and taken back to your starting point and the end of the tour.

Details

Getting there

The expedition will begin close to the Preseli Hills.

Price includes

Evening camp meals, guide, activities and camping fees.

When is best

Tours normally run from April to October but winter trips can also be organised.

Available

Apr—Oct

Typical Duration

4 days

Comfort level

Down to earth (hostels, camping, huts)

Experience required

A reasonable level of fitness and interest is all that is needed

Travellers should bring

Camping equipment