



Adventure time!	Great food & drink	So much to explore

Talybont on Usk

Visit Talybont On Usk www.talybontonusk.com

A very real experience

3rd edition

DISCOVER

Nestled in the heart of the Brecon Beacons National Park, Talybont on Usk is the ideal place to spend time exploring the stunning landscape on foot, bike or boat. Explore Talybont on Usk and shop for local produce, enjoy local eateries and relax in accommodation full of character, all accompanied by the warmest and most genuine of welcomes.

The former skittle alley for the Star Inn and tea rooms were built in 1903. Rings can still be seen in the wall where cows were tethered for market.



EVENTS

With National Garden Scheme open gardens, regular film nights, a dip back in time with an annual village show on the Saturday August Bank Holiday, a living nativity at Christmas and lots of other village events over the year, it is well worth keeping an eye out for something that might take your fancy whilst you are visiting. Check out our website www.talybontonusk.com or our [VisitTalybontOnUsk](https://www.facebook.com/VisitTalybontOnUsk) Facebook page for the latest event information.

TALYBONT ENERGY

Green energy turned into reality

Talybont is proud to have developed the first community-owned Hydro scheme in Wales. Our 36kW turbine works off the compensation flow from Talybont Reservoir. Walk along the reservoir dam and you'll see the turbine house below and can read about the scheme. Together with other local hydro & solar installations, Talybont now generates about 20% of the electricity it uses. Talybont Energy sells the electricity it generates to the National Grid and uses the income to fund sustainability projects in our community. We've installed solar PV and air source heating in the community hall and some of the solar energy powers our community electric van 'Heulwen' and we also run 'Mr Chips' a community car running on biodiesel. We've also installed 2 electric car charging points for visitors to use.

www.talybontenergy.co.uk

ACTIVITIES

Are your boots made for walking?

If they are, you will be spoilt for choice as many walking routes either start or converge in Talybont. Try one of our local walking leaflets available for £1 at Talybont Stores or other local routes are:

Henry Vaughan Walk
The popular Henry Vaughan walk starts at The Village Hall Car Park and is a gentle 4km stroll through the scenic, historic and poetic landscape, perfect for children.

There are herb gardens to discover, fields, meadows and the River Caerfanell to cross. Look out for the Poetry trail; the posts and handles are a clue. If you are a "Geocacher" take a paper and pen, crack the code and be rewarded by finding the "cache".

Just follow the waymarked swan symbols. This really is outdoor fun the way it should be.

If you wish to visit the grave of the famous poet you will find it in a peaceful location overlooking the River Usk in Llansantffraed Churchyard. For more information, see the Brecknock Society website www.brecknocksociety.co.uk/henry-vaughan.

Orchard Trail
A short circular village walk around the community orchards. Start at the village hall where you will find the route map.

Beacons Way
A long distance linear route of 152 km which traverses the Brecon Beacons from east to west. The Beacons Way can be joined from The White Hart Inn by following the Taff Trail (which joins up with The Beacons Way between Llangynidr and Storey Arms). This section of the route includes Pen y Fan, the highest point in southern Britain.

Full route can be found in The Beacons Way - Holy Mountain to Bethlehem, John Sansom, Arwel Michael, Chris Barber.

The Beacons Way Booklet can also be bought from the Brecon Beacons National Park online shop: www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/shop

Monmouth & Brecon Canal

Why not walk to the next village along the canal, with Llangynidr (4km) to the east and Pencelli (4.5km) to the west, or for the more adventurous walk all the way to Brecon (11.5km). Pick up the Canal food trail and plan your walk with a refreshment stop! You can get a bus back to Talybont from these linear walks. Bus times to and from Brecon: www.traveline-cymru.info

There are 100 bridges, 6 locks, an aquaduct and a tunnel along the canal.

Brinore Tramroad

Runs for 13km from Talybont on Usk to Trefil and was operational between 1815 and 1865, you can join it from the White Hart Inn.



LOCAL TASTE

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

There are several artists in the village; all with galleries open to the public at various times of the year or by appointment. Ty Cam Gallery, next to the White Hart Inn, is owned by woodturner Harry Chapman. Harry creates handcrafted pieces using locally sourced timber from within the Brecon Beacons. His gallery also includes a wide variety of superb art from the surrounding area. Creative Photography Wales is run by Nigel Forster, a landscape photographer with a wide collection of fine art images from the Brecon Beacons and from all over Wales and beyond. Nigel also teaches photography for groups and individuals. Sue Thorne creates beautiful art out of glass. She paints on glass using fused glass and stained glass, combining contemporary and traditional methods of working. Sue welcomes visitors to her studio, please phone to make an appointment.

Cow & Ghost Vintage are based in the village and share a passion for vintage and retro items. In addition to this they create beautiful homewares from vintage Welsh woollen blankets. They play host to an annual Vintage, Retro and Artisan Fair in the Henderson Hall where you'll find anything from vintage kitchenalia and a retro coffee set to hand made jewellery and artisan bread and chocolate.

Regan's crafts & Handmade goods are available to buy at Talybont Stores include Jewellery, Cards, Mugs and much more.

Talybont Stores also stocks local produce such as Coty Bach Farm Produce is well known for its award winning Aber Valley Apple Juice, and local Jams & Chutneys.

With three pubs, a restaurant and cafe there are plenty of opportunities to sample local food and drink.

WILDLIFE

Take your binoculars to Talybont reservoir, peacefully set in the hills south of the village. The importance of its wildlife has been recognised through its designation as a Local Nature Reserve: there are 2 bird hides - both on the western shore. A small car park is located about 800 metres from the dam on its western side and from there you can walk to the shore or to the first bird hide. The second hide is next to the road at the southern end and has disabled access. Though Goosander numbers have decreased, good numbers of wildfowl are still present.

More unusual birds include Great Northern Diver, Little Ringed Plover and in Spring and Autumn, passing Ospreys!

Whilst at the top of the Reservoir travel along the road a bit further to Blaen-y-glyn waterfall, park and follow the path alongside the stream, a perfect place for a picnic.

Canoeing from Talybont

The landlocked canal in Talybont on Usk offers ideal placid waters for canoeing, with the meandering course of the canal sweeping you through the glorious countryside.

The historic canal follows the scenic Usk Valley and takes you through time as you witness the canal's many uses, from the Lime Kilns just outside the village to the tranquil agricultural farm land that surrounds you. You will need a licence: www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/canoeing-and-kayaking

Experienced canoeists can enjoy the more rapid and adventurous River Usk which has a canoe/kayak access point near the village of Talybont.

For information about the restrictions and the times of year that canoeing is permitted contact the Wye and Usk Foundation - www.wyeuskfoundation.org

Talybont reservoir

BRECON BEACONS

TALYBONT VILLAGE HUB

Located in the heart of the village, you will find our Village Hub (LD3 7YQ for SatNav). We do encourage visitors to park in the hall carpark, making life easier for you and the people who live here! We don't charge for parking but proceeds from anything you put in the honesty box goes into maintaining the facilities at the Hub. For anyone arriving by electric car you will find a fast charger on the side of the village hall with tokens for sale at Talybont Stores.

at Henderson Hall

With help from the Big Lottery, Sustainable Development Fund and Talybont Energy, there are now lots of great facilities here for everyone.

- New Playground
- Bike Hub
- Public Toilets including disabled WC (have a 10 pence piece handy!)
- Flat Trim Trail around the large Playing field
- Multi activity sports courts
- Community Orchard Trail
- Picnic table
- Accessible pedestrian entrance

Park here for the Bike Hub, a safe place to unload your bikes and get set for the days adventure. When you come back tired and muddy, use one of the bike washes (£1 for 6 mins) to get your bike clean and then pop yourself into one of the new wet rooms where for a £1 you can enjoy a well-earned shower before heading off to one of the hostellers for refreshments! We think we have it nailed ... hope you do too.

Setting a Green Standard: at the Talybont Hub we are continually striving to use green technologies and reduce our carbon footprint. Our bike wash and public toilets use rainwater harvesting and electricity is being generated by our 8kW bank of solar panels. Energy from these panels heats our hot water and air source heating services the building.

Brecon Beacons National Park

Cycling & Mountain biking

You bring the energy, we provide the backdrop!

Talybont-on-Usk is a Brecon Beacons Cycling Hub with everything a cyclist needs so whatever your level of experience or discipline, there is a route for you.

Mountain bikers have many options to explore the wild and natural beauty with 4 recognised trails that start and finish in Talybont.

The routes lead you through forests and on to open rugged moorland taking on some demanding climbs and challenging descents. For the experienced mountain biker is The Two Gaps, which is 41km Black graded cross country route, which takes you up and over the central Beacons using the Brinore Tramway to gain spectacular views over Talybont Reservoir, with its more technical loose rocky descent down the Roman Road. The Talybont crossover Red route takes you high above the Talybont valley across open moorland with its far reaching views over the National Park.

Combine the local trails in and around Talybont with Bike Park Wales, which is close by at Merthyr Tydfil to create an epic mountain bike experience to remember.

You can hire bikes from Bikes and Hikes in Talybont, who also offer spares, repairs, and servicing as well as friendly trail advice. Call in for a chat at their shop next to Talybont Stores for all your cycling needs. Mountain Bike route packs also for sale.

contact the Wye and Usk Foundation - www.wyeuskfoundation.org

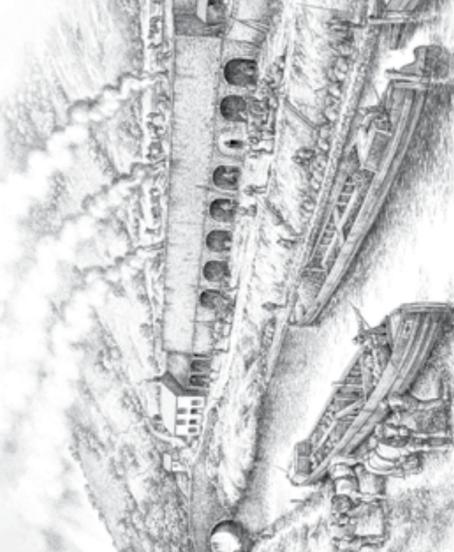
Fishing is also permitted along the canal where you might catch carp, dace or perch. You will need an Environmental Agency Rod Licence plus a Canal & Rivers Trust permit. For information to obtain a permit see the canal and rivers trust website as follows: www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/fishing/waterway-wanderers-scheme

Fishing

As well as being a premier Welsh salmon river, the Usk is also acclaimed as one of the best wild trout rivers in the UK. The Welsh name for the river is "Afon Wysg", appropriately meaning "river abounding in fish".

Permits to some of the best beats along the river Usk and the Talybont reservoir are available to book on line.

For information regarding booking and the times of year that fishing is permitted,



HISTORY

The Brinore Tramroad runs for approximately 13km between the Quarrymans arms at Trefil to Overtorns wharf at Talybont on Usk.

Opened in 1815 and was operational for most of the nineteenth century, transporting coal and lime from industrial South Wales to Talybont on Usk and its junction with the Brecon & Abergavenny canal (opened 1799). During its short lived operational life, horse drawn trams ran on a track of cast iron plates held parallel by tie bars. The development of the tramroad is inextricably linked to the Canal and its demise is linked to the development of the Brecon & Merthyr railway (opened in 1863). During this time the tramroad played an important part in the development of the community of Talybont on Usk.

Monmouth & Brecon Canal

The canal connects Brecon with Monmouth was built between 1793 and 1812 and is around 56 km long. Linked to tramroads, the canal was an important artery for trade in iron, lime and coal. You can still see evidence of the kilns which stand in testimony to the industrial heritage of Talybont on Usk.



Talybont-on-Usk

Brecon Beacons

Did you know that before the reservoir was flooded the train line was up and running and when it started there was no forestry just a bare mountain!

TALYBONT ACCOMMODATION AND PROVIDERS

SELF CATERING

- Aber Farm Shepherd's Huts**
www.aberfarmhuts.wales
07805 166 412
Email: aberfarmshpherdshut@gmail.com
- Abercynafon Farm Barn**
★★★★★ Visit Wales
www.abercynafonfarm.co.uk
01874 676617
Email: rhiamon.aber@btinternet.com
- Brecon Beacons Holiday Cottages**
www.breconcottages.com
Email: enquiries@breconcottages.com
01874-676446
- Coity Bach Farm Cottages Railway Carriage & Gypsy caravans**
www.coitybach.co.uk
01874-676675 - 07970 868670
Email: info@coitybach.co.uk
- Cui Hen Beudy**
★★★★★ Visit Wales
www.breconcottages.com
01874-676446
- Gilestone Farm**
★★★★★ Visit Wales
www.gilestonefarm.com
Tel: 07908 223985
Email: gilestone.leisure@gmail.com
- Glaslyn House**
www.breconcottages.com
Email: enquiries@breconcottages.com
01874-676446
- School Annex**
★★★★ AA Gold
www.staybeacons.com
01874-676679
Email: enquiries@staybeacons.com
- Ty Newydd Barns**
★★★★★/★★★★★ Visit Wales
www.tynewyddholidays.com
01874-665797
Email: info@tynewyddholidays.com
- BED & BREAKFAST**
- Belvedere B&B**
www.belvedere.biz
Email: info@belvedere.biz
01874-676264
- Hawthorns B&B**
www.hawthornstalybont.co.uk
01874-676337
- The Arches at Baileys Barn**
www.thearchesbaileysbarn.co.uk
email: info@thearchesbaileysbarn.co.uk
07875-453927
- The Travellers Inn**
www.travellersrestinn.com
email: info@travellersrestinn.com
01874-676333
- Ty Newydd Farmhouse B&B**
www.tynewyddholidays.com
01874-665797
email: info@tynewyddholidays.com

CAMPITES

Talybont Farm Camping
www.talybontfarmcamping.co.uk
01874 676674

HOSTELS & BUNKHOUSES

White Hart Inn Bunkhouse
★★★★★ Visit Wales
www.whitehartinn.talybont.co.uk
Email: sarahcaricwright@hotmail.co.uk
01874-676227 or 07989 521 785

Danywenallt YHA

★★★★ Visit Wales
0345 371 9548
Email: danywenallt@yha.org.uk

Henderson Hall Community Centre
available for overnight hire by arrangement.
Email: hendersonhall.talybont@gmail.com

Plas Pencelli Outdoor Education Centre

01874-665241
www.plaspencelli.co.uk
Email: mail@plaspencelli.co.uk

WEDDING & CELEBRATION VENUES

Buckland Hall
Conferences, Retreats, Weddings & Celebrations
★★★★★ Visit Wales
www.bucklandhall.co.uk
01874-730330
Email: info@bucklandhall.co.uk

Henderson Hall

Community centre available for hire.
Email: hendersonhall.talybont@gmail.com

ACTIVITY PROVIDERS IN THE VILLAGE

Bikes and Hikes
www.bikesandhikes.co.uk
Email: info@bikesandhikes.co.uk
Tel: 07909 968135

Photography Workshops and Courses

Nigel Foster - Creative Photography Wales
www.creativephotographywales.com
Email: nigel@creativephotographywales.com
01874-676402 or 07815-089835

ACTIVITY PROVIDERS THAT SERVICE THE AREA

Cambrian Cruisers
Tel: 01874 665315
www.thearchesbaileysbarn.co.uk
email: info@cambriancruisers.co.uk
www.cambriancruisers.co.uk

Drover Cycles

www.drovercycles.co.uk
Tel: 01497 822419
Email: info@droverholidays.co.uk

Exploring Mid Wales - Guided walks & Driven tours

www.exploringmidwales.co.uk
Tel: 07914 265654
Email: exploringmidwales@btinternet.com

PUBS & EATERIES

Canalside Cafe at Talybont Stores
Tel:01874 676663
www.talybontstores.co.uk

The Star Inn

Tel: 01874 676635
www.thestarinn.talybont.com

The White Hart Inn

Tel:01874 676227
www.whitehartinn.talybont.co.uk

The Travellers

Tel: 01874 676333
www.travellersrestinn.com

Royal Oak, Pencelli

Tel: 01874 665396

VILLAGE SHOP, POST OFFICE & TOURIST INFORMATION

Talybont Stores
providing groceries, packed lunches, local produce, gifts, souvenirs, walking leaflets & bike maps
Tel: 01874-676663
Email: enquiries@talybontstores.co.uk
www.talybontstores.co.uk

LOCAL FARM SHOP

Beacons Farm Shop & Welsh Venison Centre
www.beaconsfarmshop.co.uk
Tel: 01874 730929

LOCAL PRODUCE

Aber Valley Apple Juice
01874-676221

Coity Bach Farm Produce

www.coitybach.co.uk
Tel: 01874 676675 or 07970 868670

CRAFTS

Cow & Ghost Vintage

www.facebook.com/cowandghostvintage
Email: cowandghostvintage@gmail.com

Harry Chapman - Wood Turning & Ty Cam Gallery

www.hcwoodturn.com
Tel: 01874-676458

Regan's Crafts & Handmade goods

- available to buy in Talybont Stores

Sue Thorne - Glass Artist

www.suethorne.co.uk
01874-676293

WALKING & CYCLING ROUTES



STAR GAZING

The Brecon Beacons National Park is a Dark Sky Reserve. For more info: www.breconbeacons.org

Talybont on Usk