

Young Planners Cymru Walking Tours Social Maps

- Caernarfon -

Follow a trail within Caernarfon which highlights some interesting locations within the area as well as some important landmarks of planning merit.

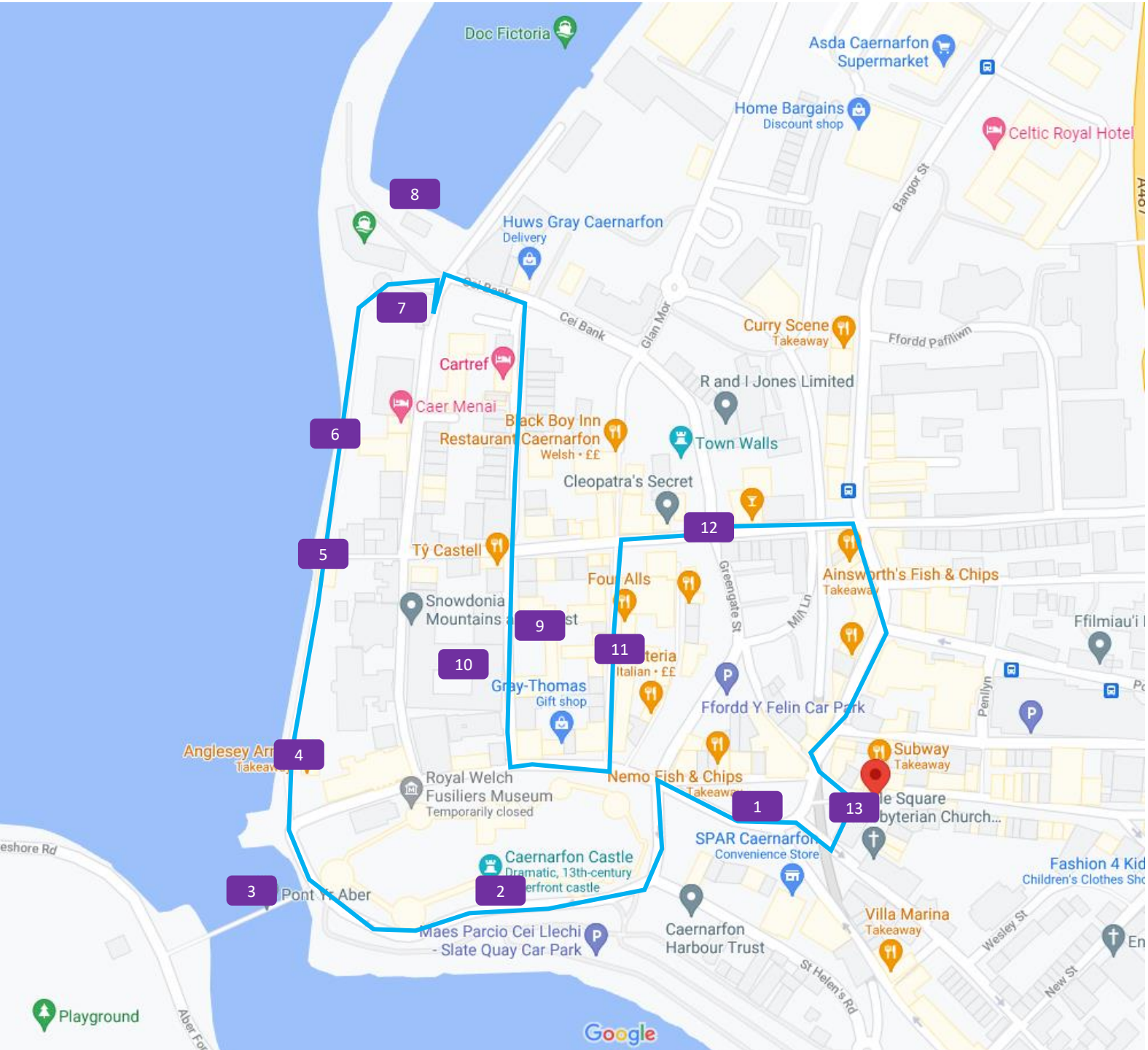
Young Planners Cymru have put this walking tour together to add a social activity to our armour during the pandemic (and after) and encourage us all to get outside and look at the richness some of our local places have to offer.

The Small Print

On undertaking this walk please take care of your personal safety and observe any local COVID restrictions.

The image features a teal background with a central white rectangular area. The teal background is decorated with white dots and abstract, organic shapes. The white dots are arranged in clusters, some forming larger, faint shapes. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

Caernarfon



1. Y Maes / Castle Square
2. Castell Caernarfon Castle
3. Pont Yr Aber
4. Anglesey Arms
5. Porth-yr-Aur / Golden Gate
6. Promenâd / Promenade
7. Eglwys y Santes Fair / St. Mary's Church
8. Doc Fictoria / Victoria Dock
9. Cofeb Llywelyn Ein Llyw Olaf / Memorial Llywelyn ap Gruffudd
10. Stryd y Jêl / Shirehall Street
11. Stryd y Plas / Palace Street
12. Tan-y-Bont / Greengate Street
13. Eglwys Presbyteraidd / Presbyterian Church

Fact Sheet

1. Most of the buildings surrounding Y Maes (the square) today date back to the early 19th century, the time that the slate industry began to boom and Caernarfon became a major port. It is part of a World Heritage Site and was previously dominated by clutter, traffic and guard rails restricting pedestrian movement, until a project to improve the public realm in late 2000s which was Shortlisted for an Urban Design Award made the square more inviting and usable for pedestrians. The Design Commission for Wales (DCfW) were heavily involved in revamping the public space.
2. In the 13th century, Llywelyn ap Gruffudd, ruler of Gwynedd, refused to pay homage to Edward I of England, prompting the English conquest of Gwynedd. This was followed by the construction of Caernarfon Castle, one of the largest and most imposing fortifications built by the English in Wales.
3. Built in 1974, it crosses over the Afon Seiont from the foreshore to the Watergate entrance in the centre of Caernarfon near Caernarfon Castle.
4. The Anglesey Arms was originally a Custom House dating from around 1730s. Built against the town walls and next to Caernarfon Castle. It is now a public house with views across the Menai Straits to Anglesey.
5. Porth yr Aur is a Grade I listed 13th-century fortification in Caernarfon which forms part of Caernarfon Castle's medieval defences. The towers are crenelated two storey round towers, in contrast to the Polygonal towers of the castle.
6. Recent public realm enhancements undertaken at the Promenade have created a vibrant new public space which compliments the existing town walls and surrounding area.
7. The church was founded as a garrison church in 1307 and was incorporated into the Town Walls by Henry of Ellerton, one of the master masons of the castle.
8. The Victoria Dock was built in the 1870s when the thriving slate industry also led to a flourishing shipping sector. The buildings on the opposite side now houses the Gwynedd Archives, the Seiont II Maritime Museum and Galeri, an arts and creative business centre which opened in Spring 2005, winning the RTPi Wales Planning Award in 2007 and RIBA Award 2005.
9. Llywelyn formed political and military alliances with other Welsh leaders, ensuring Welsh unity. He was killed in battle in 1282. His death led directly to the establishment of Caernarfon. The statue commissioned by Gwynedd County Council to commemorate the 700th anniversary of Llywelyn's death in 1282.
10. Former jail, now part of the wider complex of Gwynedd Council buildings. The modern buildings surrounding it have been designed to complement their historical setting using traditional materials and echoing features of the old walled town such as stone arches and slate roofs.
11. Palace Street at one time contained 14 inns and taverns. Many of the buildings in the street date back to the 17th and 18th-centuries, however perhaps one of the most interesting ones is the more recent Market Hall, built in 1832.
12. Tan-y-Bont arch, at the bottom of Greengate Street, contains parts of the original arch which led from the Old Town to a barbican (a detached tower) crossing the now culverted river Cadnant.
13. This Gothic nonconformist church with spire was designed in the early English style by Richard Owen in 1883.