

# ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT

August 2017

## St Winefride Pilgrimage: BANGOR to HOLYWELL

**General Notes:** It is recognised that some pilgrims may become tired or blistered after walking long distances and may prefer the “luxury” of being transported over part of the route. It is for this reason that the following information is provided to help you. We have viable means of alternative public transport between the overnight stops this year but some changes mean that *Days 12, 13 and 14* are difficult – *watch out for the last bus which might be quite early!* - or may involve a considerable walking section. Best routes are given here 'though not necessarily door-to-door: some other days you may still have a couple of miles to walk. *Transport this year to/from the programmed lunch stop is sometimes difficult or impossible in the second week.*

Note that bus information is sometimes given to/from town centre or bus-station which may not be the most accessible from the overnight hall. Where important, timing of the last bus of the day is given in **BOLD**. The word “station” includes both bus or railway station unless they are a distance apart. Out of town, particularly this year, conventional bus-stops don't always exist and you may need to “Hail & Ride” at places – ask the locals.

This information is provided in good faith as a guide, not necessarily the fastest or cheapest (or only) choice of transport! Times are based on published timetables but take no account of any temporary variations which may apply, say, due to road works. You should preferably check live times via the internet, for example *Bus Checker* is a useful app if you have an Android 'phone, or *Rome2Rio* for a route (not always helpful if there is only one bus a week!). Or ask the driver: most, in my experience, are friendly and will try to help, although they won't have time to give you detailed timetables! For possible rail journeys use *National Rail Enquiries*.

Further details may be available from the day planner(s).

It is **MOST important**, if you plan to deviate or drop out from the guided pilgrim route, that you advise Clare Gamble (in the drinks car and

elsewhere) so that we don't worry that you have got lost! Use mobile telephone (numbers are given in your daily route notes) in case of emergency. Bear in mind, also, that your (English) bus pass won't be accepted on local (Welsh) buses!

If you need to take several different buses, “**1 hour**” or **day tickets** may be available (usually from the driver of your first bus of the day) for most, if not all the area covered this year, Do ask about through tickets if you need to change.

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**Aug 12**, Day 1: Register at Bangor.

*Work out your own route to Bangor.* From London (Euston) there are regular trains to Bangor at 10 minutes past the hour. It takes 3 to 3½ hours, with standard fare currently £92.70 and very few advance tickets available

Please take special note of the separate instruction sheet describing arrangements for registration on Saturday and other events at Bangor.

**Aug 13**, Day 2 (Sunday): Bangor – Brynsiencyn – Maelltraeth

Group takes train from Bangor at 1106 to LlanfairPG (arr 1112) *then*

Bus 42 from LFPG (1505, **1740**). Takes about 30 min to Malltraeth (Bodorgan Community School/*Ysgol Gymradd Bodorgan*).

Or rail from Bangor or LFPG to Bodorgan, about 1km beyond the overnight. There is a bus 42 from Brynsiencyn at 1514, **1749**.

**Aug 14**, Day 3: Malltraeth - Aberffraw – Rhosneigr.

Rail from Bodorgan to Rhosneigr.

Bus 42 (0937, 1057, 1207, 1327, 1437 . . .) takes about 9 min to Aberffraw.

Then bus 25 (1411, **1611**) to Rhosneigr (takes 10 min)

**Aug 15**, Day 4: Rhosneigr – Four Mile Bridge (Anchorage Hotel) – Holyhead (*Caergybni*).

Rail Rhosneigr to Holyhead, or bus 25 (1005, 1211, 1421, **1621**) takes 40 minutes. This bus takes about 25 min to Valley/*Y Fali* for the lunch stop - about 2km walk or bus 4 (xx39 from Valley rlwy stn). Alternative from Four Mile Bridge to Holyhead is bus 4 (xx45 takes 15 min).

**Aug 16, Day 5:** Rest day in Holyhead/*Caergybni*.

**Aug 17, Day 6:** Holyhead - Llanfachraeth - Bodedern

Bus 4 (5 min past the hour) takes about 35 minutes to Bodedern.

Bus 61 (1125, 1345 . . .) to Llanfachraeth. Then 61 (1323, 1549, 1641 . . .) back to Valley whence bus 4 (xx26, takes 26 minutes) to Bodedern.

**Aug 18, Day 7:** Bodedern - Rhosgoch – Amlwch.

Back to Valley: bus 4 (xx28) takes 15 minutes, then 61 (1358, **1715**) to Amlwch (takes 35 minutes).

I have found no sensible route from Bodedern to Rhosgoch but bus 60 (1413, **1743**) serves from Rhosgoch to Amlwch.

**Aug 19, Day 8:** Amlwch – Bodafon Isaf (Pilot Boat Inn) – Benllech.

Bus 62 (15, 45 past the hour) takes 25 minutes. This bus also for the lunch stop (about 27, 57 min past the hour).

**Aug 20, Day 9 (Sunday):** Benllech – Llandegfan – Bangor.

Bus 62 (1026, 1226, 1426, 1626 . . . **2226**) takes 30 minutes.

For the lunch stop, change from the 62 at the Menai Bridge (before crossing) then walk 2 km.

**Aug 21, Day 10:** Bangor – Llanfairfechan – Conwy

Train or choice of frequent bus services.

For Llanfairfechan, bus 5 or X5 (every 15 minutes), continues to Conwy.

**Aug 22, Day 11:** Rest day in Conwy

**Aug 23, Day 12:** Conwy – Eglwysbach – Llangernyw

By bus 19 (**0955**, takes 1 hr) from Conwy rlwy stn, or bus X1 (1028, 1058, 1128, **1228**, takes 32-35 min) from Llandudno Station to Llanrwst, then 42 (**1315**, takes 20 min) to Llangernyw.

Bus 25 from Llandudno Junction (1041, 1246, takes about 25 min) to Eglwysbach, *Bee* for lunch stop. *No viable public transport from Eglwysbach to Llangernyw.*

**Aug 24, Day 13:** Llangernyw– Llansannan – St Asaph (*Llanelwy*)

Bus 43 (0906, **1347**) to Abergele, *Tesco* (0955, 1435), then 13 (1018, 1058, + every 40 min) to Bodelwyddan (10 min journey), then 51 (10, 30, 50 min past hour) to St Asaph (takes 9 min).

Bus 42/43/483 (0910, **1355**) to Llansannan; *no viable public transport found from Llansannan to St Asaph in the afternoon.*

**Aug 25, Day 14:** St Asaph - Caerwys – Pantasaph.

Bus 51 (every 30 min, takes 16 min) to Denbigh, then 14 (1140, 1410, takes 24 min) to Caerwys, *no viable public transport found from Caerwys to Pantasaph in the afternoon.* It is, however a fairly short (1 hour) walk.

**Aug 26, Day 15:** Pantasaph – Holywell/*Treffynnon*.

This is a short day to walk.

For public transport walk to Gorsedd (15 min) then bus 14A14C/19 (1029, 1229) takes 6 minutes) to Holywell.

**Aug 27, Day 16 (Sunday):** Go home!

Organised coach available to Chester/*Caer/Deva*. NOTE: *There are no services to/from Euston station over this weekend.* Rail from Chester to Marylebone (irregular, 2 trains an hour, £82.90 standard fare and, when last checked, £49.40 advanced fares at 1131 and 1331), takes about 2h 10m, You may need to change so be aware. Do your research.

Other routes, e.g. via Birmingham and/or Reading may be better for destinations south of London.