

## CHALLENGE EVENTS – SNOWDON CODE OF CONDUCT

Charity Challenges including small group events bring great enjoyment and fulfilment to thousands of people every year as well as raising millions of pounds for good causes. However, the increasing number of events is seriously threatening the delicate mountain environment and the enjoyment of other users. This code offers site specific guidance to event or group organisers to minimise the impact of their event and help their participants get the most out of their experience.

- The Llanberis track is considered the most sustainable route for events. A detailed description of the route is available from the National Park's website:

<http://www.eryri-npa.gov.uk/visiting/walking/Hard-Mountain-Walks/Llanberis-path>

It is not much longer than the PyG or Miners tracks in terms of time, and there are more facilities available, including a café at the halfway point - although please bear in mind this is generally only open from Easter to October. The summit cafe` operates during the same period but is not guaranteed to be available at all times.

- Parking, even to drop off participants at Pen y Pass, causes disruption both to the public car park and the 'park and ride Sherpa` bus service. So we would encourage you to use this service by parking at either of the large car parks in Nant Peris or Llanberis - *the car park at Pen y Pass is regularly full by 8am in the summer months*. We would also ask that you avoid parking at Vaynol Terrace, Llanberis as this is a residential area. Please observe the Traffic Regulation Order which forbids vehicles from going beyond the cattle grid at the end of this street. The footpath through the adjacent woods is also a viable alternative to access the route.
- Toilet facilities are often limited, especially at Pen y Pass – so please respect public facilities and clean up after you've used them. Refrain from filling bins, toilets and sinks with waste and discarded clothing or camping equipment.
- 'Go' well before you arrive. Avoid defecating on the mountainside - it can cause serious environmental problems and can be hazardous and unpleasant to other walkers.
- Be prepared. Arrange your control/reception centre before the event - do not use shared public amenities, such as the car park area, bus waiting room and the foyer at Pen y Pass, unless you've had express permission from the National Park or cafe` operator. *\*Not normally given.*
- Please do not use any private, unsurfaced tracks or park in a manner that obstructs public roads, gates, farms or dwellings in the area.
- Do not adorn the mountain with memorials, plaques, flags or any other event related materials. Although these might appear nice at the time, they are an eyesore for the majority of other mountain users and should always be low key. Once you have completed your activities remove all temporary signage you may have erected. Some groups attempt to carry up various things up to the summit as part of their event – flags, furniture, signs, boards or other items. Please bear in mind that in windy conditions these can be problematic and dangerous to other walkers in the vicinity and we would advise against it. However, whatever goes up must come down!
- Keep to the footpaths – they are usually the fastest and safest way up the mountain. Walking `off path` causes serious mountain erosion and can be dangerous at any time. *Use your maps.*
- Remember that this is a working environment. Respect local farmers - avoid disturbing livestock and leave gates as you find them. Dogs should be on a lead in the vicinity of livestock at all times.

- Changing clothes in public is antisocial. Be considerate - find a suitable place to change or take a large towel with you if necessary.
- Please take all your litter home with you, including your organic waste (e.g. apple cores, orange and banana skins, tea bags etc) and other materials such as wrappers, tins, water bottles and cigarette ends. You may only have a bin bag but it all adds up. Disposing of waste and clearing up litter on Snowdon is extremely difficult and costly for the National Park and local communities.

**Additional things to consider:**

- Safety: The weather should be a significant factor in your decision making process for your visit. Snowdon is a mountainous environment where weather conditions can change rapidly and will generally deteriorate as you climb higher. Make sure you monitor the weather for some days before your visit so you know what to expect. The Met Office have a specific site for Snowdon and this can be found either via the National Parks website or directly from the Met Office website:

[http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/loutdoor/mountainsafety/snowdonia/snowdonia\\_latest](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/loutdoor/mountainsafety/snowdonia/snowdonia_latest)

Study the Mountain Safety section of the National Park's website.

In the event of inclement weather consider a Plan B. - an alternative lower level route in the area. There are a number of these on our website.

- Carry additional clothing and adequate provisions i.e. food and water or suitable drinks and a First Aid Kit.
- Consider the limitations of your group in terms of fitness and general health.

Your event is not a race. So please respect and support your fellow participants, other users, and the local communities. Take time to enjoy your surroundings and we hope you enjoy your time with us on Snowdon.