RADYR TO ST FAGANS CIRCULAR

A: With your back to the main entrance to Radyr railway station bear left and take the first right up into Station Road to reach the junction with Heol Isaf.

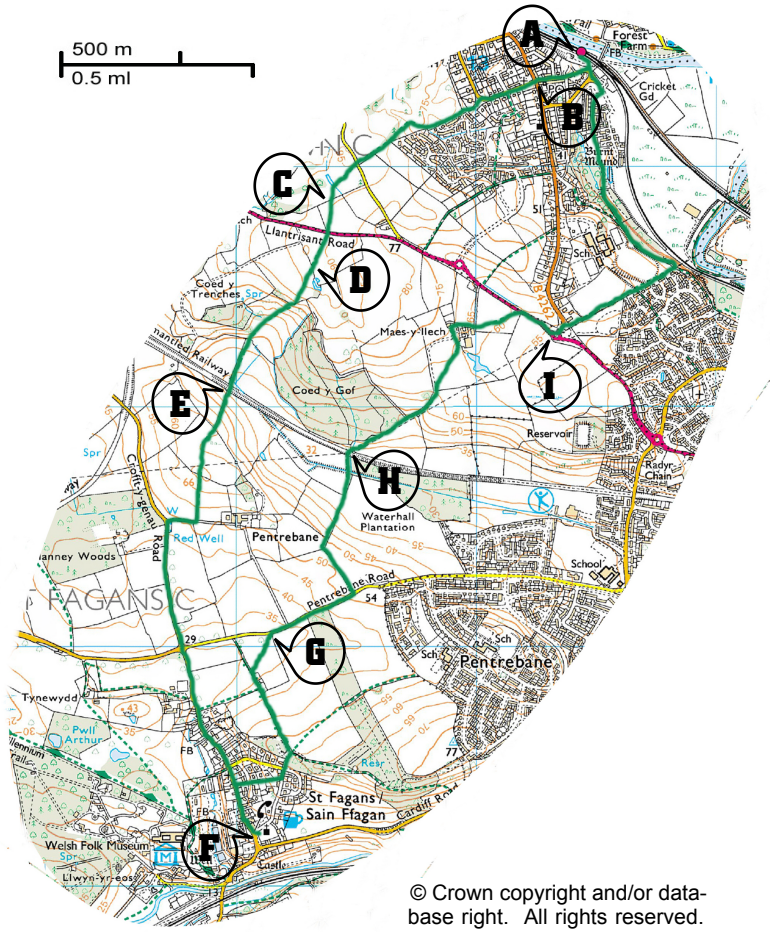
B: Cross over Heol Isaf at the traffic light crossing, and up Windsor Road. Bear left onto a wide tarmac path when the road curves to the right. Just before a cycle barrier on the main path, take a narrow path on your right towards a wooden gate. Go through the gate and along a path which skirts Radyr golf course. The path goes through a wooded area, and reaches a lane (keep the hedge/trees close on your left at all times). Continue across a lane and onto another section of the golf course towards a stile. [*Although the footpath goes directly ahead to trees and then 90° left to a stile in hedge, golfers would appreciate it if you kept to the hedgerow to reach the stile.*]

C: Cross the stile and aim diagonally right to a further stile in a corner of the field. Cross this stile and cross the road to an opening directly opposite into a field. *[Take care crossing this very busy road as you are on a blind bend and there is no pavement]*. Head for a waymark post directly opposite. [*Although the right of way is straight across, the post can be reached without disturbing crops by turning right and skirting the field on the uncultivated path/track left by the farmer*].

D: Continue into the next field, and then go diagonally left across the field to reach a stile 'hidden' in the hedge opposite. [*Again, the right of way takes you across cultivated land but the stile can be reached by turning left and skirting the field*.] Cross this stile and descend to reach a track. Turn right and forward on a trackwhich curves left and down to the bottom of the field with a gap into the next field. Continue in a south-westerly direction towards trees opposite and a narrow path which leads to a dismantled railway bridge. [*Again the right of way is straight across but the path can be reached by turning left and skirting the field*.]

E: After passing through a dismantled railway bridge, cross a stile and go forward with a line of trees on your right to reach a stile in fence. Cross this stile and head left in the direction of a transmitter (skirting a natural bowl) to reach a stile in the hedge. Cross this stile (or, if the stile is overgrown with nettles, go through a gap in the hedge to the left of the stile), then continue down keeping close to the hedge on your right to reach a stile and a farm track. Cross the stile and turn right to reach a road. Turn left and follow the road into St Fagans, ignoring any side roads to reach to St Mary's Church. [Take care: the road can be busy and there is no pavement, although the right hand verge allows walkers to step off the road]

F: Retrace your steps a short distance and take a signed footpath on your right where the high wall ends and opposite Chestnut Cottage. Go along the path, crossing a road to reach a lane, (take care with the big step down to the lane.) Turn left along the lane to reach a road and go through the gate opposite onto a path that leads to a stile. Do **not** cross this stile but turn left and follow a stony path with a low stone wall on your right until you reach a ladder-stile. Go over this and head diagonally left for a stile alongside a gate which gives access to a lane.



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G: Cross the stile and turn right along a narrow lane with no pavement. In about five minutes you reach a stile on the left in a hedge. Cross this stile and continue with the hedge on your left to another stile in the corner of the field, then bear right to cross another stile. Go downhill with a fence on your right to reach a further stile. Cross this and make towards a bridge over a stream whilst keeping close to a fence on the right (to avoid marshy sections of the field). Go across the bridge and cross a stile in the right-hand corner to reach dismantled railway and a line of pylons.

H: Go immediately over a stile opposite (under pylon) to join track. Follow this track (and line of pylons) with a wood on your immediate left. Remain on this track, passing another pylon on your right, and follow it through Maes y Llech farmyard. At a track junction, turn right to reach a stile alongside a gate. Cross this stile and a further stile on other side of the field to reach the A4119. Cross this busy road and turn right along pavement to reach a roundabout. (At Maes y Llech farmyard, if the stile by the gate is overgrown or you are a large group, you can stay on the farm track which joins the A4119 further away; cross the road and turn right along the pavement to rejoin walk).

I: At the roundabout cross Heol Isaf and go left and almost immediately turn right onto a clear path between a hedge and a fence. Follow the path to a kissing-gate. Do **not** go through the kissing-gate, instead turn left. Just after a second kissing-gate the path forks. Take the right-hand path which leads down and across a stream to reach a picnic area. At the information board, go through a kissing gate and left along a path, passing a children's play area on the right, to reach road with former railway workers' cottages on your left. Go along the road to a T-junction, and turn left to reach the railway station.

SUMMARY

A pleasant circular walk starting besides the River Taff at Radyr Railway Station. It then makes its way across open countryside to the delightful village of St Fagans on the banks of the River Ely. St Fagans is the home of the National History Museum (www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/stfagans). Entry is free and it is open from 10:00am to 5:00pm: there are lots to see and you would need to allocate several hours to explore the full extent of the museum.

Maps: OS Explorer 151 Cardiff & Bridgend.
Start Point: Radyr Railway Station car park Grid ref ST135804
Distance: 10km / 6m
Time: 3 hrs
Facilities: In St Fagans refreshments are available at either The Plymouth Arms or The Old Post Office Tearooms. In addition, The National History Museum has toilets and a café.
Difficulty: Moderate but the walk is challenging places in regard to route finding and has numerous stiles to negotiate. In addition care is need on the two lanes that are walked since they are used by motor vehicles and there is no pavement. Finally, be aware of golfers and golf balls when crossing the golf course.

Please ensure you are fit enough and suitably equipped for the walk you undertake.

Noddir gan Lywodraeth Cymuliad Cymru Sponsored by Welsh Assembly Government

Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru
Countryside Council for Wales



River Taff by Radyr Railway Station

Getting there from Cardiff Central:
***By bus**: frequent services to the centre of Radyr (the walk is started then from point B).*
***By train**: regular services to Radyr.*
***By car:** there is no public car park nearby but on-street parking is allowed; please park responsibly if you do so.*

All information correct at time of publication November 2010

CARDIFF RAMBLERS CERDDWYR CAERDYDD

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y cerddwyr ramblers cymru

Cardiff Ramblers are the local group of Ramblers Cymru

The Cardiff Group organises walks in the south Wales area and beyond, mainly on Wednesdays (3 different distances), weekends and Thursday evenings (in summer). We also organise coach trips, weekends away, footpath maintenance and campaigns and the occasional social event.

There is no charge for non-members to join our walks - but we would like you to join if you take part regularly.

You can learn more about us at: www.cardifframblers.org.uk

cardiff walks

A series of walks in and around Cardiff created by Ramblers Cymru Cardiff

Radyr to St Fagans



St Mary's Church, St Fagans

The Ramblers Association is a registered charity (England and Wales no. 1093577; Scotland no. SC039799) and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales (no. 4458492). Registered office: 2nd floor, Camelford House, 87-90 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TW.