



Anglesey & the North Coast

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Cennin (p285)
- ➔ Bishopsgate Restaurant (p285)
- ➔ Bodnant Welsh Food (p273)
- ➔ Watson's Bistro (p272)
- ➔ Y Gegin Fach (p265)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Victoria House (p265)
- ➔ Cleifiog (p284)
- ➔ Totters (p265)
- ➔ Bodysgallen Hall (p278)
- ➔ Plas Rhianfa (p282)

Why Go?

The essence of this compact region can be boiled down to two things: castles and coast. Yes, there are look-at-me castles all over Wales, but few attract more admiring stares than the glamorous trio of Caernarfon, Conwy and Beaumaris, which is why they're recognised as World Heritage Sites today. As for the coast, there's a reason that Llandudno has been crowned 'the Queen of Welsh Resorts'. Its genteel appeal stands in stark contrast to the altogether more wild edges of the Isle of Anglesey, where the echoes of the ancients can be heard in the waves that batter South Stack and the breezes that eddy around cliff-top barrows. Beyond the sands and stones, this part of Wales offers munificent opportunities for surfing, sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, kitesurfing, powerboating, paddleboarding, walking and birdwatching. You certainly won't be bored.

When to Go

May is both the sunniest and the driest month, and Llandudno celebrates the warming weather with much Victorian merriment. Walkers will find it a good time to hit the coastal paths. Temperatures are highest in July and August, which are the best beach months, although average highs are rarely above 20°C.

In October, Gwledd Conwy Feast gives foodies an excuse to start working on a warming layer of winter fat. The winter months give student musicians plenty of incentive to stay inside and practise for the Bangor New Music Festival in March.



Anglesey & the North Coast Highlights

- ① Falling for the Georgian charms of **Beaumaris** (p282), Anglesey's finest town
- ② Witnessing the Byzantine beauty and strength of

Caernarfon Castle (p262) in Caernarfon

- ③ Revelling in all things Victorian – pier, promenade and Mr Punch – at the seaside resort of **Llandudno** (p274)

- ④ Savouring the sense of history within the medieval town walls of **Conwy** (p269), under the shadow of its mighty castle