

# *Newport Coast Path*



Llwybr Arfordir Cymru  
Wales Coast Path

# Newport Coast Path Points of Interest

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When walking, refer to the OS Map 152 Newport & Pontypool

\*Site of Special Scientific Interest



▲ Canada geese

*“...compensation land, we call this, as close as we’ll get to a clean start, from scratch, laid, layered at our feet”*

*from The Margin © Philip Gross*

*The Wales Coast Path is 870 miles long. It begins at Chepstow on the banks of the Wye and finishes beside the River Dee a few miles from Cheshire.*

*The Newport section of the path crosses the Caldicot and Wentloog Levels to meet the City of Newport. A distance of 23 miles/38km. The Gwent Levels are registered as a Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales. Along the path and in the surrounding area there are landmarks and remains of medieval settlements, the Roman occupation, the Norman Conquest and industrial development and expansion.*

*At the mid-point of the Newport Coast Path lies the River Usk. The river with its deep and wide, navigable course has allowed for centuries of use. The Roman Fortress at Caerleon, Medieval castle and ship are testament to this. At the mouth of the River Usk, where it meets the Severn Estuary, the town docks of Newport evolved. In the 19th Century it became the primary port to the South Wales valleys, handling coal exports from Wales to the world.*

*Newport continued to develop through the 20th Century hosting industrial and other commercial developments, the importance of which was recognised with the granting of city status in 2002.*

Coast Path waymarkers are placed all along the route to make wayfinding easy



# A dramatic historical landscape

The Gwent Levels have been designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest. The land has been reclaimed from the sea. At the end of the Iron Age – about 2,000 years ago – this was a tidally inundated saltmarsh. The challenges of a tide that ebbed and flowed more than two miles inland and the manipulation of the land so that it could be safe for settlement and cultivation has shaped the history of the region. Since Roman times imaginative engineering feats have protected homes, pastures and domestic animals, as well as rare breeds of birds, flowers and wildlife in a place where flooding would otherwise be an everyday occurrence.

The land is intersected with drainage ditches. Locally they still have ancient names; they are called reen, ridge or vurrow, according to their size and function. In some places a gout – a flap regulated by the tide – allows fresh water out to sea while also keeping the salt water from moving on to farmland.

Along most of the path an essential sea wall has been built and rebuilt over the past 2000 years. It affords astounding views of the Estuary, mudflats and the Somerset coast to one side and the extraordinary mixture of natural and industrial beauty of the lowlands to the other.

## There’s more underneath!

The Levels are rich in the remains of buried prehistoric and Roman landscapes. The blanket of earth (alluvium) and the waterlogged conditions of the area act to preserve the buried treasure, but also means that it is vulnerable. The depth of the alluvium (made of silt, clay, sand and gravel) makes it impossible to identify the sites without careful, controlled excavation.



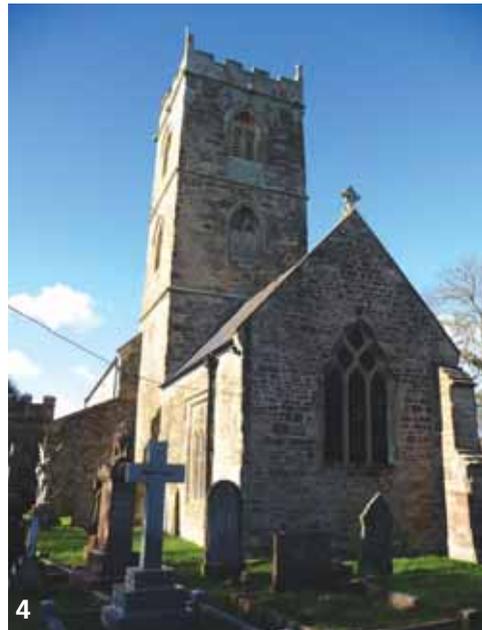
## From Redwick to Nash

The coast path runs adjacent to the Severn Estuary for a distance of approximately 16km which is generally flat. The majority of this section of path has been established on top of the sea defence, allowing easy walking and rewarding walkers with striking views over the estuary and the historic Gwent Levels landscape. Much of the coast path and many link paths around the reserve have been surfaced allowing access for less able users.

### 1 Redwick

Redwick is the best-preserved medieval village on the Gwent Levels. The village probably originated late in the eleventh century; its layout has hardly changed since.

The church, St Thomas the Apostle, is well worth a visit. Among its unique features, the church has medieval stone carvings, a full immersion baptistery and its font originates from the 13th Century. Two of the six bells in the central tower date from the pre-Reformation period and are thought to be some of the oldest working church bells in the country.



This section, from Redwick to Great Traston Meadows is 16km, approx 3 hours walking



There is a flood mark on the south porch which shows the level of the water during the Bristol Channel Flood (Julian Calendar)



### Was it a Tsunami?

The Bristol Channel Flood (30 January 1607 Gregorian Calendar) resulted in the drowning of some 3000 people. 200 square miles of land, from Chepstow to Largshe in Carmarthenshire, was inundated and whole villages swept away. Recent theory based on scientific evidence may prove that the flood was a result of an off shore earthquake. Eye witnesses report water that rushed in faster than people could run, sparks that came off the top of the wave, crowds who stood and watched the wave coming towards them until it was too late



The misery and chaos caused by the flood depicted in a drawing above the door at St Thomas the Apostle

to run and the sea receding before the wave arrived. Some of the most detailed accounts also state that it had been a sunny morning.

## From Redwick to Nash

### 2 Whitson

The houses and farmsteads in Whitson are set back from the road in long strips of pasture. It reflects a medieval 'cope' land allocation pattern. This fascinating landscape was planned out between the 11th and 13th century, possibly by the monks at Goldcliff.

"Monksditch" also known as "Goldcliff Pill" passes through the village on its way to the sea. Monksditch carries water from an upland stream to the coast, preventing the fresh water from flooding the levels. It was first documented in the 13th Century and probably constructed by the monks at Goldcliff.

*Local folklore reports that the sides of Monksditch are laced with smuggler's brandy.*

### Putcher House Ranks

Putcher baskets traditionally made from hazel rods and willow plait were set out against the tides in huge wooden ranks. From the sea wall you can view the remains of the ranks which trapped the salmon at high tide to be retrieved by fisherman at low tide.



Church of St Mary Magdelene



▲ This plaque records the Bristol Channel Flood can be found on 14th Century church of St Mary Magdelene

*"...glittering with a wonderful brightness"*

*Giraldus Cambrensis*



### Smoke House at Porton

Catching the salmon at high tide and collecting them at low tide meant that the fishermen had to work around the clock so the smoke house was well equipped with beds and cooking equipment. The house also had a fish store where the freshly collected fish were kept in tight lidded, lead-lined boxes packed with broken ice. The fish from both Goldcliff and Porton were sent to Billingsgate market in London.



▲ This private residence was the old fishery with its own smokehouse which can be seen from the sea wall at Porton. It preserved fish caught close by in the putcher ranks

### 3 Goldcliff Sea Wall and Priory

Giraldus Cambrensis, who toured Wales in 1188, described Gouldclyffe in Latin as 'glittering with a wonderful brightness'.

Goldcliff was named after a limestone cliff, about 60 feet high, that once rose over a great bed of yellow mica that had a glittering appearance in sunshine, especially to ships passing in the Bristol Channel.

Goldcliff was an island until the sea wall was built. In 1113AD the Norman Lord of Caerleon granted the Benedictines a priory which was built on the island of Goldcliff. The monks were also given the surrounding land to farm though they had to reclaim it from the sea – continuing the work of the Romans.

Goldcliff has long been associated with the tidal fishing of salmon, which may well have had its origins with the Priory or even in Roman times.

## From Redwick to Nash

### 4 Wetlands Nature Reserve

The reserve was first established by the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) in 2000 to mitigate the loss of the wildlife habitat in the area after the Cardiff Bay Barrage scheme was undertaken. The land which stretches from Goldcliff to Uskmouth was once an ash covered wasteland for the neighbouring coal-fired Uskmouth power station.

The ash was removed and the site re-landscaped. Now 438 hectares cover salt marsh, reed beds, saline lagoons, wet grassland, and scrub and provide an excellent habitat for a range of species, especially wetland birds. The water levels are carefully regulated to ensure the saline lagoons get enough sea water. As the sea water floods in, so do the fish and prawns which provide a great source of food.

Species that live here include lapwing, redshank, water rail, skylark, linnets, reed bunting, shoveler, pintail ducks, teal, wigeon, black-tailed godwit, little grebe, knot, dunlin, curlew, whimbrel, lapwing, water rail. Cetti's warbler and bittern visit in the winter time and you might see rare nesting bearded tits in summer time.

Besides the vast array of wildlife and birds, there are stunning views of the estuary and a unique outlook on the reedbeds, mudflats and saltmarsh. There is a series of floating pontoons on the trail – reminders that the reserve sits below sea-level at high tide. The adjacent power station adds to the mixture of wilderness and industry that characterises much of the coast path.

The reserve is managed by the Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and volunteers look after the habitats. Entrance is free though donations to continue the work being done here are very welcome.

Some of the trails are accessible for pushchair and wheelchair users.



Look for signposts to help you find the variety of birds that live here



There is a range of wildlife among the reeds and reeds including the Ruddy Darter Dragonfly

### 5 The East Usk Lighthouse

The East Usk Lighthouse is one of two lighthouses on either side of the River Usk at the Severn Estuary. It is still operational. In 1893, Thomas Williams, with the help of his horse, dragged the steel used to build the lighthouse from Nash down the long lane to the coast. His family continued to tend the lighthouse for generations. Originally, it was built on legs, but now it forms part of the sea wall and stands within the grounds of the Wetlands Nature Reserve.

### 6 The Wetlands Centre

The Wetlands Centre is nestled among reeds and pools to make it look as if it's floating. The centre was opened in 2008 and is now managed by the RSPB. It houses a shop, café, an education room and conference facilities to provide activities and events as well as a place for visitors to relax. Guided walks around the Reserve can be arranged from here.



The mouth of the River Usk is flanked by the East and West Lighthouses

For opening times and other information, visit: [www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk)

## From Redwick to Nash

### 7 Great Traston Meadows Reserve

Solutia (now Eastman Industries) established the reserve in conjunction with Newport City Council and the Gwent Wildlife Trust. It consists of grazing marsh bordered by reens which creates a unique habitat for species of wildlife and plants.

More than 95% of Britain's hay meadows have been lost since the Second World War due to changes in land management, so the Reserve's hay meadows are increasingly important for the rare plants found there. They are designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

*Summer is a good time of year to see this reserve when the hay meadows provide an impressive display of wildflowers.*

Nectar rich flowers support a good insect population, particularly butterflies and the shrill carder bee, one of the UK's rarest



bumblebee species. Listen for its high-pitched wing beat as it feeds on the flowering plants of the hay meadows.

The site provides a good habitat for birds such as reed bunting, sedge warbler and Cetti's warbler. It is also used by passage migrants, particularly waders. The densely shaded reens are being opened up to increase wildlife diversity and to promote conditions sympathetic to mammals such as otters.

The grazing marsh supports a diversity of plants including reeds, rushes and sedges in the damper areas. In the drier grassland areas, species such as meadow vetchling and yellow rattle can be found, along with rarities such as southern marsh-orchid and grass vetchling.



◀ Southern Marsh Orchid



### Where nature meets industry

Uskmouth Power Station was built in 1959. Major refurbishments since then have made the station one of the cleanest coal-fired power stations in the United Kingdom. The station does not take water from or dump waste water into the River Usk. It instead uses secondary treated sewage water in its cooling system and no burners making it close to carbon neutral. The station's owners (currently Scottish and Southern Electricity PLC) participate in many community projects and have donated land to the Wetlands Centre.



Shrill Carder Bee

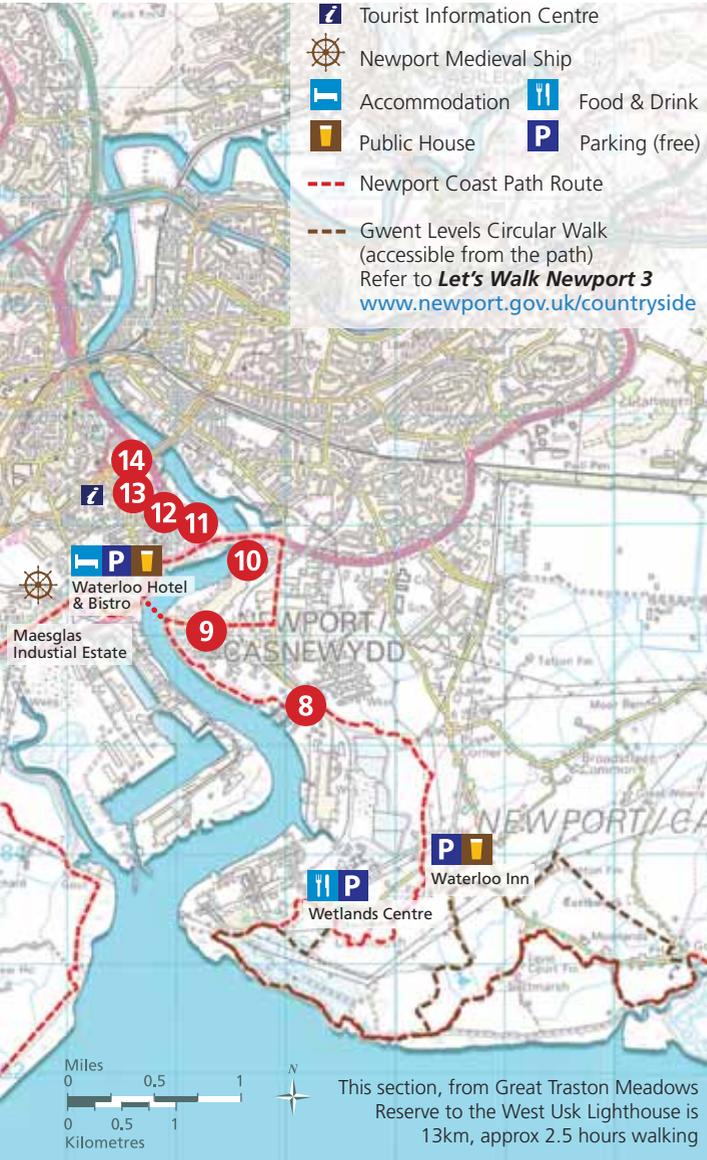


Yellow Rattle



Slowworms

# The Docks and Uskmouth



*This section of the coast path offers a choice to walkers. There is a well surfaced track to the Newport Transporter bridge, which can be used to cross the river (when open to the public). Or, you can keep walking on the coastal path route, to cross the river at the City Bridge (SDR).*

## 8 The Docks

From here you can see the Alexandra Docks across the River. There was great celebration when work began on the Alexandra Dock in 1835. A dock was needed to provide a safe port for large American ships exporting coal from the Valleys and to compete with the growing and prosperous port of Cardiff. Yet, building the Newport dock was fraught with financial problems and labour unrest. When at last opened 1842, it was the first floating dock facility in Newport and linked the canal network and, later, the railway lines of South East Wales to the Bristol Channel.

Originally the estimated cost of building the dock in 1835 was £35,000 which was raised by selling 350 shares of £100 each. This turned out to be a gross underestimation which besieged progress for some years. By April 1841 the estimated cost had grown to £131,000 and in 1842 a further £10,000 had to be borrowed to complete the project.

◀ View from across the River Usk. The docks as they looked in the 19th Century



## The River Usk – the life blood of the city

The City of Newport gets its identity from the The River Usk. The river stimulated Newport's growth and continues to influence how the city develops. It divides Newport into two connected halves.

The River Usk has been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). It is characterised by mudflats and salt marsh, lagoons, bog and marsh, varied grassland and woodland habitats along its course. Its flora and fauna is diverse and includes salmon, trout, otters, twaite, shad, lamprey, perch, sea trout, chub, dace and roach as well as kingfishers, herons and other wildfowl and bird life.



▲ River stone inscription

## You'd be very lucky to spot an otter...

Otters are semi-aquatic mammals who mainly live in freshwater rivers, lakes and streams, where the banks are lush or there are suitable islands, reed beds or woodlands for foraging, breeding and resting.

They can also inhabit coastal areas, though they do need to come inland to breed and sleep. Their habitats need to provide them with food – they mostly eat fish, but also birds, small mammals, amphibians, crustaceans and molluscs.

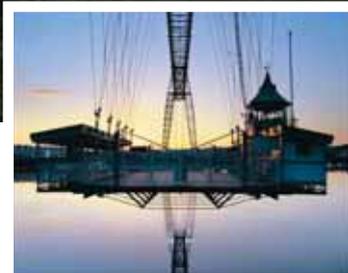
The estuary and the River Usk have been designated as Special Areas of Conservation because they are home to a relatively high population of otters.

...but if you do get lucky and spot an otter in the wild, keep a respectful distance from it and its habitat.

## The Docks and Uskmouth

*"The cradle under the big bridge is a pendulum, marking time. It ferries its load, back and fore..."*

from 'Between Two Bridges'  
© Paul Henry



## 9 The Newport Transporter Bridge

The Newport Transporter Bridge is a Grade I listed structure. Designed by French engineer Ferdinand Arnodin, it was built and opened in 1906. The bridge design was an ingenious solution to the problem of crossing the River Usk, which has the second-highest tidal range in the world, whilst still allowing the passage of tall-masted ships. It's one of Newport's most spectacular landmarks, one of only two Transporter Bridges still working in Britain; one of seven in the world.

*'...a transporter bridge has to be a rigid purpose built structure at high level over the crossing from which a gondola is suspended'*

Barry Mawson, Bridge Engineer

Only 16 transporter bridges were built in the world between 1893 and 1916, a period in which transporter bridges could handle traffic conditions of the time. The gondola takes up to six cars at a time across the River Usk, in a journey time of around one and a half minutes.

### Statistics

The height of the towers is 242 feet (74 m) and the height of the horizontal beam above the road is 177 feet (54 m).

The Transporter gondola travels the 645 feet between the towers at ten feet per second; it's powered from an engine room on the east side of the river.

For opening times and other information, visit:  
[www.newport.gov.uk/visiting](http://www.newport.gov.uk/visiting)

Here walkers have a choice to continue along the coast path towards the wentlooge levels or to follow links through the Riverside Park into Newport City Centre.

### Riverside Park

Riverside Park is an exciting new asset for the City of Newport providing walkways and cycle tracks to and from the city centre. The development is located on a previously unreachable stretch of the river bank and its designed to celebrate both Newport's rich industrial heritage and the ecological and cultural legacy of the River Usk.

## 10 The City Bridge (SDR)

This outstanding 190 metre steel arch bridge celebrates the City of Newport's industrial heritage. It's located between the Transporter Bridge and the George Street Bridge – the first cable-stayed highway bridge in the UK – and completes the family of seven different bridges that celebrate the partnership between the city and the River Usk.



▲ Footprints of the industrial past remain along the riverbank



▲ New residential development has regenerated the riverside



## The Docks and Uskmouth

### 11 The Newport City Footbridge

The Newport City Footbridge is a pedestrian and cycle bridge that links the east bank of the River Usk to new developments on the west bank. The bridge has won a design award and is part of Newport's major regeneration project. It was opened exactly 100 years to the day after the Transporter Bridge.

### 12 Riverfront Arts Centre

The Riverfront is Newport's thriving theatre and arts centre whose purpose is to bring as many people as possible into contact with the arts and creativity. To that end, it houses two theatre spaces, two visual art galleries, a dance studio, a recording studio, workshop rooms, a conference room and licensed café.

### 13 Steel Wave by Peter Fink

Stands on the riverbank where commercial and passenger wharves were thriving early in the 19th Century. The sculpture reflects Newport's history of steel manufacturing and the foundation of the town on the banks of the River Usk. Erected in 1990, the sculpture was made using 50 tons of sheet steel and stands 14 metres high by 35 metres long.

### The Newport Rising



On 4 November 1839, somewhere between 1,000 and 5,000 Chartist sympathisers, including the dock's labour force and local coal miners, most with home-made arms, marched on the town of Newport intent on liberating fellow Chartists who were reported to have been taken prisoner in the Westgate Hotel.

After a fiercely fought battle approximately 20 men had been killed and more than 50 had been wounded.



### Westgate Hotel



Located at the bottom of Stow Hill, The Westgate Hotel was the scene of the Newport Rising. The Grade II listed building has been empty for several years though there are plans to restore the landmark to its former glory.



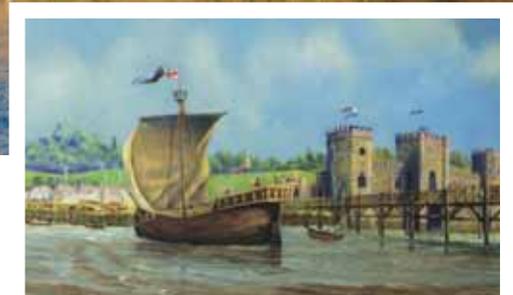
### 14 Newport Castle

In the 1300s visitors sailing up the River Usk would have been greeted by Newport Castle's three soaring towers.

The landward defences were modest, comprising of three plain walls surrounded by a simple but effective tidal moat.

*A rare and unusual feature of the castle is its water gate which could be accessed by boat at high tide, and which still exists today. It is one of only two remaining in the country, the other being at the Tower of London.*

Newport Castle was probably built in the late 1200s by Gilbert 'the Red' Clare. In 1405, the castle had to be heavily repaired following Owain Glyndwr's attack. It was substantially renovated in the early 1400s before falling into disrepair in the mid 1500s. By the 1800s the castle was home to a tannery and then a brewery before being placed in the care of the Ministry of Works in the 1930s. The site is open to visitors for special events during the year.

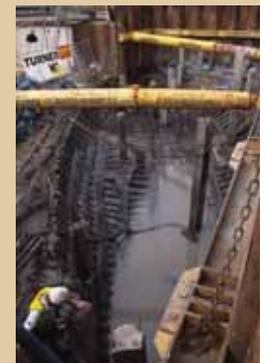


### Newport Medieval Ship

The Newport Ship was discovered in the banks of the River Usk in June 2002 during construction of the Riverfront Centre.

A £3.5 million project was undertaken to excavate the ship timber by timber in order to preserve and restore it. The ship is currently located in the Maesglas Industrial Estate and can be viewed on special open days only.

The ship was originally around 80 feet (24 metres) long and probably dates from the 15th Century.



For opening times and other information, visit: [www.newportship.org](http://www.newportship.org)

## West Usk Lighthouse to the Wentloog Levels



This section, from West Usk Lighthouse to the border at Peterstone is 8km, approx 1.5 hours walking

18



The majority of the coast path for this section is again located on top of the sea defence, adjacent to the Severn Estuary and is considered easy walking. Again this section provides walkers with stunning views across the Estuary and the Gwent Levels landscape. This whole section is internationally important for overwintering wildfowl and walkers are requested to follow the coast path waymarking arrows that guide walkers around the most sensitive areas.

The path surface for the majority of this section is of natural vegetation although some sections have recently been resurfaced.

### Prehistoric Newport

- A** There is an Iron age Druid stone in the grounds of a private property in Michaelstone.
- B** The long barrow tomb near Cleppa Park is thought to date from the early Bronze Age.
- C** Gaer Fort, also known as Tredegar Fort and, locally, as The Gollars, is on the western side of the city of Newport and is recognised to be an old hill fort site, believed to be from the Iron Age.

◀ The long barrow is visible from the M4

## 15 Tredegar House

One of the architectural wonders of Wales, Tredegar House is also one of the most significant late 17th-century mansions in the whole of Britain. It's a Grade I listed building and is set in its own beautiful 90 acre park.

The Morgan family lived on the site of Tredegar House from 1402, but the oldest part of the building we see today dates from the late 15th Century. Originally built of stone, it was substantially rebuilt between 1664 and 1672 in red brick, at that time a rare and expensive building material.

Recently the National Trust took on the management of the building, as well as of the gardens and parkland. More visitors than ever can now enjoy the splendour of the house.



▲ The service bells

*Godfrey Charles Morgan  
1st Viscount Tredegar (1831–1913)*

*He was a member of the 17th Lancers who rode into the "Valley of Death" at the Battle of Balaclava (1854). The famous charge of the Light Brigade.*

*His faithful horse 'Sir Briggs', who also survived the battle, lived to the age of 28 and is buried in the cedar garden at Tredegar House.*

### The Morgan Dynasty

For over five hundred years, Tredegar House was home to one of the greatest of Welsh families, the Morgans – later the Lords Tredegar – until John Morgan, 6th Baron Tredegar died childless in 1962 aged 54. His death signalled the end of the Morgans of Tredegar.



For more information and opening times, visit: [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/tredegar-house](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/tredegar-house)

## West Usk Lighthouse to the Wentloog Levels



View walking east towards the West Usk Lighthouse

### 16 The West Usk Lighthouse

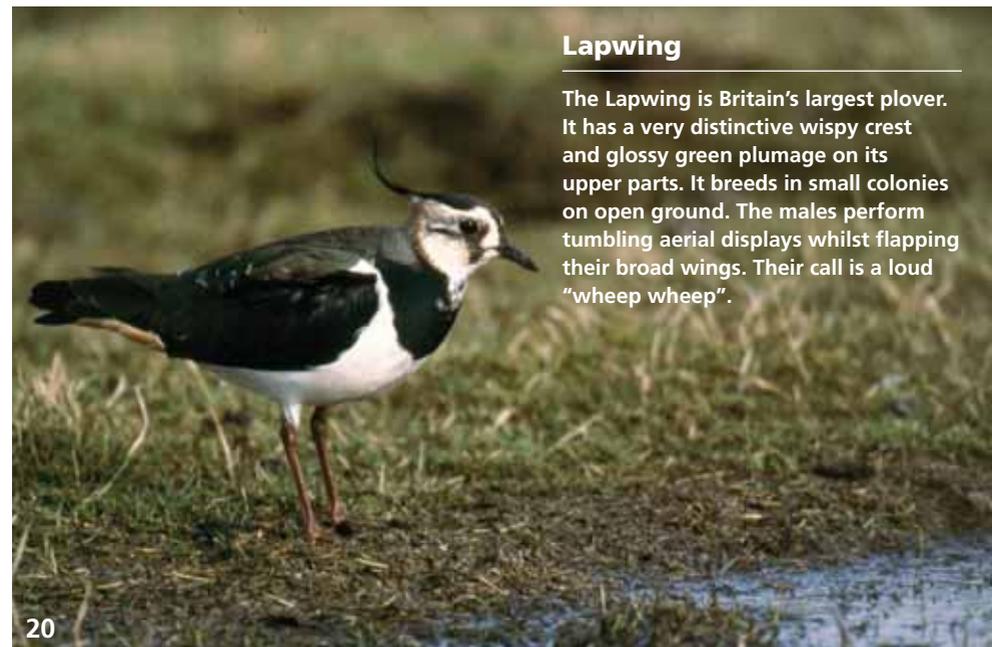
The West Usk Lighthouse is on the sea wall south of St Brides. It was built in 1821 by Scottish architect, James Walker. It was the first of 22 lighthouses he built. The lighthouse was on its own island up until 1856 when the land around it was reclaimed. It was a working lighthouse warning ships until 1922 when it was decommissioned. Since 1989 The West Usk Lighthouse has been a bed and breakfast.



▲ The view inland along this stretch features reed drainage ditches

### Lapwing

The Lapwing is Britain's largest plover. It has a very distinctive wispy crest and glossy green plumage on its upper parts. It breeds in small colonies on open ground. The males perform tumbling aerial displays whilst flapping their broad wings. Their call is a loud "wheep wheep".



### St Brides and the importance of farming throughout the Gwent Levels

St Brides Wentloog, like most villages in this area lies on land reclaimed from the Bristol Channel behind the sea wall. The flat, fertile landscape drained by reens has influenced the way the village has evolved. In 1900 most of the area was owned by the Tredegar estate and farmed by tenants and this traditions continues.

Throughout the Gwent levels, it is the farmers working in partnership with the Caldicot and Wentloog drainage board who are responsible for maintaining the system of reens and ditches which makes the area habitable to people and wildlife.

Before the car became the most prominent mode of transport St Brides was a popular place for a day out for the people of Newport. They came in charabanc or by horse and cart and on foot to spend the day on the shore where there was a swimming pool filled by the tide.

St Brides Church is an ancient building of stone in the Decorated and Perpendicular styles. There is a plaque inside the porch which marks the high-tide level of the Bristol Channel Flood of 1607.

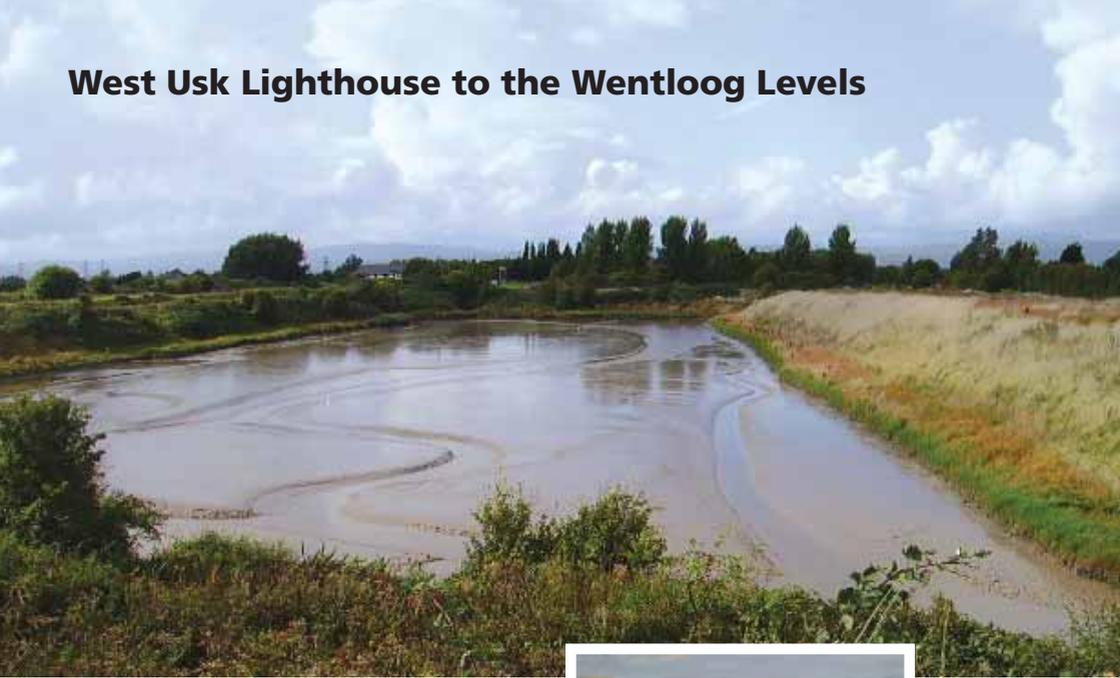
In this area the flood drowned people as far inland as nearby Marshfield which is almost two miles from the sea.



▲ An excellent swimmer, the grass snake can be seen hunting for amphibians, fish and small mammals amongst the reens



## West Usk Lighthouse to the Wentloog Levels



### 17 The Gout at Peterstone

The gout is a simple tidal flap system similar to that used by the Romans nearly 2000 years ago. Fresh water from the ditches and reens goes through the sea wall at low tide via a flap and out to the sea. When the tide comes in, the incoming seawater pushes against the flap and closes it. The fresh water on the other side of the wall builds up temporarily in the reens until the tide turns and goes back out. The weight of the fresh water then pushes the flap open again – draining out to the sea until the next high tide.

*The word "Gout" comes from the Old English word "gota", and Middle English "gote", meaning watercourse, channel, drain or stream. The same word can be seen in Goyt, Cheshire and Gut in various places in Britain.*



◀ The Oystercatcher. Listen out for this noisy bird; it has a loud piercing "kleep kleep" call

### Wentloog levels

An outstanding site for watching birds attracted to the rich feeding grounds of the saltmarsh and muddy tidal flats. The Peterstone Gout allows the fresh water collected by the Gwent Levels' drainage system to be discharged into the Severn Estuary.

The area supports significant populations of wading birds: curlew, dunlin, redshank, turnstone, knot and oystercatcher. Teal, wigeon, pintail and shelduck are also commonly seen. Another duck to look out for is shoveler, with its broad spatula-like bill. Raptors visible during daylight include short-eared owl, peregrine falcon and merlin, Britain's smallest bird of prey.

*The walk along Peterstone Great Wharf is an interesting combination of walking on paths and grassy banks as well as the sea wall. The stunning views across the channel of Somerset are equalled by the inland view of lowlands overshadowed by distant hills.*

### 18 Peterstone Church

St Peter's Church at Peterstone Wentloog is now a private home though it still looks like an impressive 15th Century church. It is thought to have provided a refuge for local folks sheltering from the Bristol Channel Flood of 1607.



▶ St Peter's Church from the sea wall. Looking inland along the footpath that runs from Peterstone Wentloog to the sea wall

### Groynes

From Old French, meaning 'snout'. These structures are seen right along the coastline. They are built to check the erosion of the shore.



▲ A Curlew, often seen feeding on the mudflats

## Sites of interest around the Newport Coast Path

### A Caerleon

The Second Roman Augustan Legion occupied Caerleon from AD75. What survives are: sections of the fortress wall; the amphitheatre which once could seat the whole legion – 6,000 spectators; remains of Roman barrack buildings and remnants of fortress baths which would have been the legionnaires' leisure centre complete with heated changing rooms, a pool and a gymnasium. Some people believe Caerleon to be the location of King Arthur's Camelot. [For opening times and more information, visit www.newport.gov.uk/visiting](http://www.newport.gov.uk/visiting) or refer to *Let's Walk Newport 5* Lodge Hill Circular Walk



The Amphitheatre at Caerleon

### B Fourteen Locks

The Fourteen Locks Canal Centre celebrates the engineering feat of Thomas Dadford in the last years of the 18th Century. Dadford created a flight of locks that raised the water level of the Monmouthshire Canal 160 ft in just 800 yards. This is one of the steepest rises in Britain, and when combined with the sheer number of locks in a small area, it becomes one of the most significant and impressive in the country. [For opening times and more information, visit www.fourteenlocks.co.uk](http://www.fourteenlocks.co.uk) or refer to *Let's Walk Newport 1* Fourteen Locks Circular Walk



A canal walk at Fourteen Locks

### C Wentwood

Wentwood is the largest forest in Wales with a 1000 hectares of continuous woodland and a history spanning more than 1000 years. It's home to deer, dormouse, adders, lizards and wood ant as well more than 130 species of birds. Walks, bridal paths and cycling trails of various lengths are well signposted so that it's almost impossible to get lost. There are picnic areas, BBQ facilities, a children's play area, an assault course and stunning views of the reservoir and of the Bristol Channel.



The lake and forest at Wentwood

### Other Walks

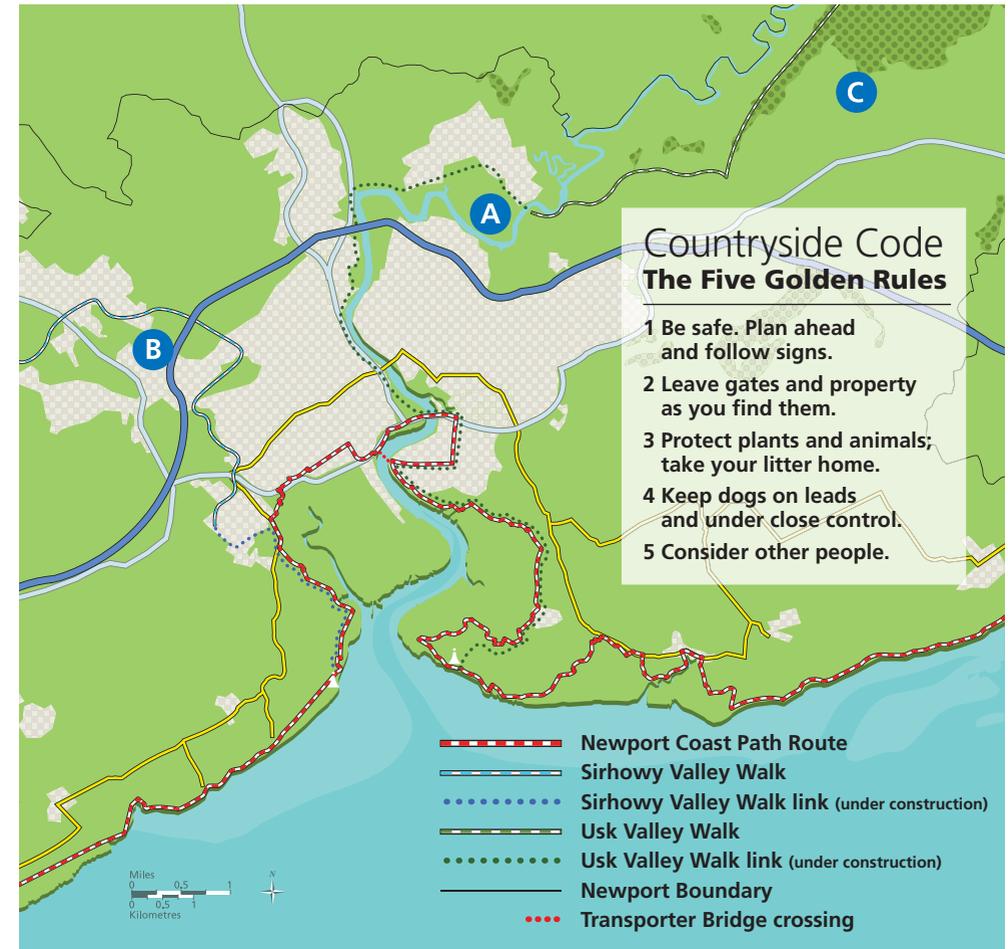
**The Usk Valley Walk** A 48 mile (77km) walk between Caerleon and Brecon through the beautiful Vale of Usk will take an average of 4 days to complete.

**The Sirhowy Valley Walk** A 26 mile (42km) walk starting at Sirhowy (near Tredegar) and finishing at Tredegar House in Newport. It passes through spectacular mountain scenery, upland and lowland farms and urban fringe.

*There are plans to link both walks to the Coast Path.*



The Usk Valley Walk



For accommodation info, visit [www.newport.gov.uk/visiting](http://www.newport.gov.uk/visiting)

For transport info, visit [www.traveline-cymru.info](http://www.traveline-cymru.info)

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## Cymraeg

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A Welsh version of this booklet is available.  
Please contact: 01633 842962.

## E-publication

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This booklet is available as a free publication that can be viewed on tablet devices.



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