



Above top: Tre tower Court,  
below: Tre tower Castle.  
Right below: Tre tower Castle.

## Sample Itinerary

10.30am – 12.30pm

Enjoy a pleasant walk on Rhos Fach Common and a visit to Llanellieu Church – see if you can find the Whipping Tree.

12.30pm – 1.30pm

Enjoy a picnic or lunch at one of Talgarth's pubs or cafes.

2.00pm – 4.00pm

Arrive at Tre tower Court and Castle and spend the afternoon exploring the recently restored Court and impressive medieval castle.

## Heritage around Talgarth

Drive up to **Rhos Fach Common** tucked under **Y Das Mountain**– where you can start the day with a walk enjoying some fantastic Black Mountain scenery.

Leave your car at the parking spot here and walk back down the hill to **Llanellieu Church** dedicated to St Ellyw. Now deconsecrated this Grade 1 listed building of 13th Century origin is set within a raised oval, walled churchyard indicative of its Celtic origins. It is now maintained by the Friends of Friendless Churches.

Just outside the upper gate of the churchyard is the locally notorious 'Whipping Tree' an ancient Yew Tree alongside the road leading back up to Rhos Fach Common. Look out for the holes where the hands of miscreants were restrained for punishment!

If the weather is kind you could enjoy a picnic lunch or return to Talgarth to lunch at one of the pubs or cafes.

After lunch head towards Crickhowell on the A479 to visit **Tre tower Court and Castle**. The Motte and Bailey Castle was established during the Norman conquest of Brycheiniog whilst the adjacent restored courtyard house has its origins in the fourteenth century. The Vaughans who lived there were a rich influential Welsh family who created a court to impress. However when they left in the 18th century the lambs and geese moved in! Now fully restored Cadw have created a suite of rooms as they may have been in 1470 when Tre tower was part of High Society – experience 15th Century living at its best.





View from Bronllys Castle.

## Where is it?

**Rhos Fach Common and Llanellieu Church** (SO 18503418) are found by leaving Talgarth town centre on the Bank road that passes the Tower Hotel. On leaving the junction in front of St Gwendoline's Church, bear left at the fork in the road, follow signs for Llanellieu Church. Follow that road to the T junction at Llanellieu. Turn right to Rhos Fach Common.

### Tretower Court and Castle

NP8 1RD  
www.cadw.wales.gov.uk Tel: 01874 730279 open 7 days a week from April 1st to October 31st 10am-5pm.

1st Nov- 31st Mar Mon-Thurs Closed, Fri/Sat open 10am-4pm, Sun 11am-4pm.

Sign posted in Tretower village off the A479, 10 miles south east of Talgarth.

Access to the Castle is through Tretower Court. There are information panels. Benches are provided. The car park which is immediately opposite the monument is laid to grass.

The toilets on site include a radar key toilet. There is a ramp but the toilets are reached by going

through the house and over grass. The custodian may be able to arrange alternative access. The ground floor of Tretower Court, garden and grounds have level access. The paths outside are firm although mainly laid to grass. The courtyard is cobbled. Entrance for adults is £3.60 and £2.60 at the reduced rate. Disabled visitors may access the site free of charge. There is a gift shop on site. There is a cafe in Cwmdu on the A479 on the return to Talgarth.

## Facilities and Access

### Llanellieu Church

There are no facilities at Llanellieu Church. The key to the Church should be collected from and returned to the white framed conservatory (through white gate) at the Pottery end of Llanellieu Court. The walk from the common and in the Churchyard is sloping and may not be level underfoot.

## Public Transport

**By Train** the nearest station is Abergavenny - Talgarth is 18

miles from Abergavenny  
On foot: Llanellieu is not on any transport routes - but a round walk to the church is detailed in the Brecon Beacons 'Walks around Talgarth' booklet and is six miles.

**By bus:** Talgarth is serviced by buses in all directions, from Hereford, Builth Wells, Abergavenny and Brecon. Look at [www.traveline-cymru.org.uk](http://www.traveline-cymru.org.uk) for the latest travel information and timetables. For the Hereford to Brecon (via Talgarth) bus timetable, search for Service 39 on the Herefordshire County Council website (39a for the Sunday timetable). During the Summer months the Beacons Bus service also passes through Talgarth on Sundays and Bank Holidays from the end of May to the beginning of October. Look at [www.travelbreconbeacons.info](http://www.travelbreconbeacons.info) for more details. Tretower Court and Castle is on route X43 from Abergavenny to Brecon (nearest bus stop: Gliffaes Turn) and the Beacons Bus also stops there in the summer.

**By bike:** National Route 8 passes within 5 miles of Tretower.

