

Llwyn Onn Visitor Guide

10 Sea View Terrace, Borth-Y-Gest



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1. The Basics

Welcome to Borth-y-Gest. The following guide has been written to make your stay straightforward and easy.

a. Heating

The property is centrally heated by a gas boiler. The controls for the heating are in the passage as you enter the property on the left. Using this you can turn the heating on and off with the wheel.

We kindly ask that you only use heating when necessary and switch heating off when you are not in the house.

The boiler also heats the hot water.

In order to activate/get hot water quickly, turn the hot tap on and allow a decent amount of water flow.

b. Wi-fi

The property is served by SKY superfast broadband, and there is a QR code you can scan next to the router which will connect any phones or other devices to the network.

c. Television

There are 3 TV's in the property. They are all SMART and connected to various channels and offer Netflix, BBC iPlayer and so-on.

The main one in the lounge also has simple Freeview (BBC1, ITV, etc.) and to access this simply press the TV guide button on the remote control.

d. Waste

There is a bin at the end of the back garden, together with recycling bins through the gate by the kitchen.

Please put any rubbish in the black bin bags provided and then place them in the brown bin.

Please do not put loose waste in the bin - use the bin bags provided.

The recycling is collected weekly on a **Monday** and we respectfully ask that on this day you take the blue bin trolley to the front of the property - and leave just in front of the black gates.

e. Parking and access

During busy periods it may be tricky to get parking to the front of the property. However if you turn right on the way into the village (before the row of 3 houses) you can usually find a space either directly to the back garden, or very nearby.

There is access from the front and rear of the property.

f. Key code box

When your stay with us is over, please replace the key in the key code box, after locking the premises. Of course we would ask that you shuffle the numbers!

2. History of the Area

A Brief History of Borth-y-Gest and Porthmadog



Borth-y-Gest

Borth-y-Gest is a picturesque village located on the estuary of the River Glaslyn in Gwynedd, North Wales. The village is renowned for its stunning coastal scenery, quaint houses, and sandy beaches. The name "Borth-y-Gest" translates to "Port of the Swell" in English, reflecting its historical connection to the sea.

The history of Borth-y-Gest is deeply intertwined with maritime activities, especially during the 19th century. Before the development of nearby Porthmadog, Borth-y-Gest was a small but significant port. Ships would anchor here, and the area was known for boatbuilding, with small shipyards producing vessels for the local fishing and slate industries. The village was also a haven for fishermen and sailors, who took advantage of its sheltered harbour.

With the rise of Porthmadog as a major port in the 19th century, Borth-y-Gest's role as a commercial port diminished, and it gradually transformed into a quiet residential village. The village's charm and natural beauty attracted visitors, making it a popular holiday destination. Victorian and Edwardian-era houses, many with stunning views of the bay, were built during this period, contributing to the village's unique character.

Today, Borth-y-Gest is celebrated for its tranquil atmosphere, scenic coastal walks, and sandy coves, which continue to draw tourists. Its historical connection to the sea remains an essential part of its identity, even as the village has evolved into a peaceful retreat.

Porthmadog

Porthmadog, located a short distance from Borth-y-Gest, has a rich and dynamic history, deeply rooted in the industrial development of Wales during the 19th century. Originally a small fishing village known as "Portreuddyn," the town of Porthmadog was effectively founded in 1811 by William Madocks, who built a sea wall known as the "Cob" to

reclaim land from the Traeth Mawr estuary for agricultural use.

This engineering feat not only transformed the landscape but also laid the groundwork for the development of a new town and port, which was named "Port Madoc" after its founder (later altered to Porthmadog).

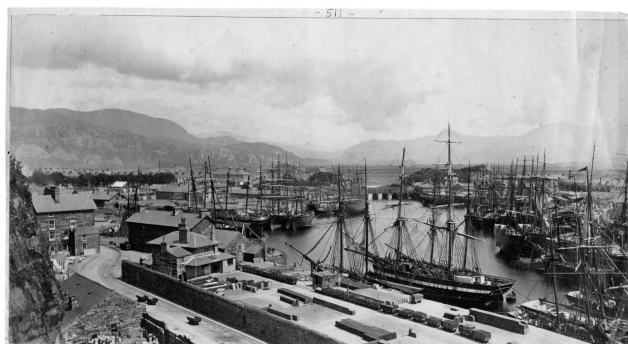
The primary impetus for Porthmadog's growth was the slate industry. The town quickly became a vital port for the export of slate from the nearby Ffestiniog quarries. By the mid-19th century, Porthmadog had established itself as one of the leading slate ports in the world. The construction of the Ffestiniog Railway in 1836, a narrow-gauge railway built specifically to transport slate from the quarries to the port, further cemented Porthmadog's position as a key player in the global slate industry.

Porthmadog's harbour was bustling with activity during its peak, with ships known as "Porthmadog schooners" or "Western Ocean Yachts" being built in the town's shipyards. These vessels were designed to navigate the treacherous waters of the Atlantic and were instrumental in transporting slate to destinations as far away as North America, South America, and Australia.

The decline of the slate industry in the late 19th and early 20th centuries led to a reduction in the town's industrial activity, but Porthmadog adapted by developing tourism. The Ffestiniog Railway, which had played a crucial role in the slate industry, was revived as a heritage railway in the mid-20th century and remains a popular tourist attraction, drawing visitors from around the world.

Porthmadog has also become a gateway to the stunning landscapes of Snowdonia and the Llyn Peninsula. Its strategic location, combined with its rich history and vibrant community, has made it an enduringly popular destination for tourists.

Borth-y-Gest and Porthmadog are two neighbouring communities that share a deep connection to the sea and the slate industry. While Borth-y-Gest has retained its character as a peaceful, scenic village, Porthmadog has evolved from an industrial hub to a town known for its heritage and tourism. Together, they offer a glimpse into the history and natural beauty of North Wales, each contributing uniquely to the region's cultural landscape.



3. Things to Do

Visit Portmeirion Village: Explore this unique, Italian-style village with colourful architecture and beautiful gardens.

Ride the Ffestiniog & Welsh Highland Railway: Take a scenic steam train journey through Snowdonia National Park.

Explore Snowdonia National Park: Hike or enjoy the stunning landscapes, including mountains, lakes, and waterfalls.

Harlech Castle: Visit this UNESCO World Heritage site with its impressive mediaeval architecture and coastal views.

Black Rock Sands: Relax on this wide sandy beach, popular for walking and beach activities.

Beddgelert Village: Wander around this picturesque village, known for its stone cottages and folklore.

Llyn Peninsula: Take a drive to explore the scenic coastline, small fishing villages, and quiet beaches.

Plas Brondanw Gardens: Visit the beautiful gardens of the home of architect Clough Williams-Ellis, the creator of Portmeirion.

Tremadog: Explore this historic village with Georgian architecture and local eateries.

Sygun Copper Mine: Take a guided tour of this Victorian copper mine and learn about the region's industrial heritage.

Beaches : In addition to these we would also recommend exploring the beaches in Borth-Y-Gest.

If you walk through the car park, there is a coastal path that leads to three stunning beaches.

Places to eat : Always a tricky one, but guests often ask for a few recommendations, so here are 4 places we'd rate highly.

- Y Sgwar Restaurant, Tremadog
- Chippy Dre, Tremadog
- Torna a Surriento, Bangor
- Oakley Arms, Maentwrog

