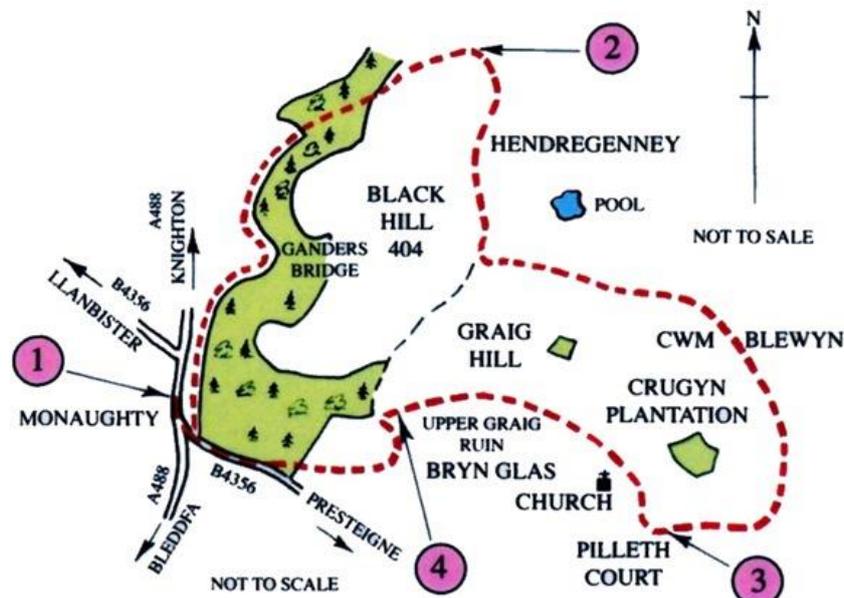


MONAUGHTY, BLACK HILL, PILLETH, BRYN GLAS

5 Miles (8kms); 350m ascent. Allow 2.5hrs



Note some fine trees extending their long shadows on the side of Bryn Glâs towards Pilleth Church, as seen from the B4356. This hillside is a quite important battle site and the trees mentioned may well cover a mass grave of the dead from the battle (see here: [Link](#))

An easy walk of reasonable gradients through woods and farms, starting from a restored ancient farm at Monaughty, passing through Pilleth Court and church with its adjacent battle site and fine views over the Lugg valley. There are no stiles but many gates ENSURE YOU CLOSE THEM!!

Park in lay-by off A488 by crossroads with B4356 OS Grid Ref: SO238686

WALK 3

(1) From lay-by go to B4356 Presteigne road and immediately turn (L) at cottage, with the post box in the wall. This forest track climbs and skirts the hillside and contour of the woods on a gradual ascent for about 2km.

(2) The track levels and emerges from the woodland for 400m before joining a metalled lane, at which turn (R) and follow the lane to Hendregenney Farm. Keep straight ahead through gate. Keep hedge on your left to find a faint green lane. After the next gate, keep straight along the top of the field keeping the hedge on your right, until meeting the farm road. Turn left. The road heads down past a new building on the left, towards Cwm-blewyn farm. (The route to join this path from the top of the field, and shortly to pass through Cwm Blewyn Farm are “permissive” and not the Right of Way. If walking in the wet and muddy season, walkers are advised to take the (RH) side of Cwm Blewyn Farm through the field to rejoin the farm road the other side). This farm road passes through gates and bears (R) and descends

down to Pilleth. (Fine views over Whitton village in the valley, with Hengwm Hill and Gilfach Hill behind. The route of Offa's Dyke LDP between Knighton and Kington lies along the ridge of these two hills. Ahead across the Lugg Valley lies Llan-fawr (387 m at trig. point).)

(3) Pass through two farm gates into Pilleth Court Farm and turn (R) through gate towards the farmhouse, then (R) onto a track that crosses a small stream.

(Note the Pilleth Church on the hillside behind Pilleth Court. It dates back to Norman times and has a Celtic Shrine at the back. In the [Battle of Pilleth](#) in 1403, the forces of the Earl Wigmore engaged in battle with Owain Glyndwr's men and suffered a massive defeat and total annihilation, despite having prayed in the Church for divine help. Several remains have been unearthed by the Church as to suggest that that is where many mortal remains were laid to rest. The site of the Battle of Pilleth (referred to by Shakespeare in vivid language at the beginning of Henry IV Part1) is across the B4356 near the River Lugg. Leaflets are obtainable in the Church giving full details.)

Follow the track as it bears left and ascends along the right side of the valley. Pass a small pool on the left and keep straight ahead on the track past the ruins of Upper Craig Farm. Keep ahead and turn left after the gate.

(4) Keeping the hedge on your left, go to the brow and head for the opening in the fence, which then becomes visible on your right, and leads onto a more pronounced track. Follow the permissive path downhill as it skirts the hillside to reach another gate. (Radnor Forest with the radio mast on Black Mixen is straight ahead, with Bleddfa village just tucked away in the valley on the right.) Go downhill through the woodland to reach the B4356. Turn right along the road for 200m, BEWARE TRAFFIC as no verges. This will bring you back to the A488 lay-by starting point.

N.B. In dry conditions only, it is quite possible to use this walk with a push-chair - there are NO stiles but gates!

Submitted by Kurt Ockert, revised by John & Jenny Kendall