



Sychryd Gorge Code of Conduct

Guidance Notes

These Guidance notes are intended to accompany the Access Map and Code of Conduct for Craig y Ddinas / Afon Sychryd Gorge. It is important to ensure that all members of staff using this site are familiar with the map and these accompanying notes.

River Mellte

On the Mellte side of the Dinas Car Park there is access to the Mellte along the path. Head down the stone steps and enter the Mellte either via the Wooden Steps to the left or along the footpath to the right. There is no gorge walking allowed upstream of this point until the gunpowder works.

Sychryd Gorge

There are two access points near the Sychryd Road Bridge and next to the confluence with the Mellte. Access to the Mellte on the village side of the Bridge is over private land and is not covered by the Concordat

At the Green Dell, where the Changing Screens are, access the River only to the Right of the Changing Screens or along the footpath that runs off to the Left of the Screens. No access to be made behind the screens. There was a small fence here, but it has been removed by persons unknown. Land on the opposite bank here is private and we should not use it.

Along the main footpath above the river, NRW have closed many minor access paths. There were at least 22 unnecessary access routes that had developed over time which have now been closed.

Remember to keep in the water-course and avoid gathering groups on the riverbanks. There has been significant erosion at the river edge by groups passing and gathering.

There is now an agreed access/egress point at the first Bridge Traverse, halfway up the footpath. Plan your session to enter the water at the earliest opportunity and not use the small path along the river bank there.

The climb up/down at the second Bridge Foundations has now been improved with Gabions. This is now an entry and exit point. Thanks to NRW for this.

Just before the main waterfall, at the end of the footpath, there is a sensitive area under the ledge on the left. There are rare Liverworts here and they should be avoided. Some groups have been sheltering there from rain and this should be avoided.

At the Upper Sychryd Top Pools, there are 3 routes to and from the river. Working upstream, with all 3 routes on the left :

1. Just after Ivy Pool, the much used steep climb up over the tree roots remains open for now, but we need to minimise further damage to the tree routes. Rain-water from above has been diverted to prevent further erosion here.
2. The steep and awkward route up just downstream of the short waterfall at Middle Pool is not to be used.
3. The main access route, just before the Bridge Waterfall is fine to use and has been improved by NRW.

Land on the far side of the River accessed via the Bridge is Private land.

Loonies / Gunpowder Works

Land North of the river at Loonies Weir is National Park owned land. There is agreed access on river left from the Bridge to Loonies Weir.

You should not use the exit on river right that scrambles up before the bridge.

Private Land

Land that is not owned by NRW or BBNPA does not form part of this concordat. The landowners of the southern side of the Sychryd (river left) have asked providers not to use their land which extends for the middle of the river.