

Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy Tirwedd Cenedlaethol

**Clwydian Range and Dee Valley** National Landscape



# International Junior Ranger Camp 2024

## Landscapes for the Future

Hosted by:

### Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy

Partnered with:

Tirweddau Cymru



Tirweddau Cymru Landscapes Wales

#### WELCOME TO WALES.

Wales is a country steeped in history, culture, and a persistent pride in its unique identity. For thousands of years, Wales, or Cymru, has remained relatively unchanged, owing in part to its dramatic landscapes and rural lifestyle. The long, stark coastlines, the fertile lowlands, and intermingled wetlands; the jagged mountain tops and deep glacial valleys; these are places of myth and fantasy, but also a grounded lifestyle, where people harbour a strong feeling of connection the land.

We have 3 National Parks in Wales: Eryri National Park, Bannau Brycheiniog National Park, and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. Here in the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape we are part of a family of 5 National Landscapes in Wales: us, Ynys Môn, Llŷn, Gower, and Wye Valley. Between all the designated landscapes, we cover an area of around 2,455 square miles, meaning that nearly 30% of Wales is protected in some way. These designated landscapes work together as 'Tirweddau Cymru.'

'Tirweddau Cymru' is the Welsh translation of 'Landscapes Wales' and is pronounced (in very nontechnical terms!) as 'Tear-weth-ay Come-ree' – and is also known by the acronym TCLW. TCLW is a partnership family founded in 2020 and made up of our most special landscapes in Wales – our 3 National Parks and 5 National Landscapes. We have the lead officers for each National Landscape, the Chief Executives of the National Parks, the Welsh Government Designated Landscape and Countryside Access team, the National Landscapes Association, and Natural Resources Wales all represented on the partnership.

#### Our vision – our future hopes and dreams!

"TCLW unlocks the potential of Designated Landscapes to deliver more together for climate, for nature, for culture and heritage and for people. Designated Landscapes are exemplars in responding to the climate and nature emergency; where a people-focused approach ensures all voices are represented and all radical action is taken collaboratively."

How we can achieve this together is our thought provoking and exciting 'Landscapes for the Future' camp theme! We look forward to hearing ideas from you all!



#### THE DEE VALLEY.

We will be staying in the beautiful valley carved out by the river Dee, or Afon Dyfrdwy in Welsh. This valley has attracted visitors for many generations, owing to its stunning scenery, rich cultural history, and striking industrial creations. Walking through the valley, you pass bronze age burial mounds, iron age hill forts, medieval castles, and Victorian industrial architecture, all within 10 miles of each other.



#### LOCAL YOUNG RANGERS.

Here in the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley, we have two Young Rangers groups; one in the Dee Valley, one in the Clwydian Range. Meeting roughly once a month, we try and incorporate all the activities a Ranger would complete through the course of a working year, while including events based around our culture, and what makes our part of the world unique. This means a blend of practical habitat management, traditional rural skills, access work, public engagement, targeted species conservation, art and craft, and generally caring for the area we live in.

So what does this mean? Our Young Rangers have been up on the heather moorland at dawn surveying lekking black grouse, they have been learning traditional rural skills like scything, they have rafted down the river Dee on a river safety course and recorded invasive species, and learning about our long history in the area they have helped excavate a bronze age burial mound. And much more.

We will give the Junior Rangers joining us at this year's EUROPARC camp a taste of what life is like within our National Landscape, and our Young Rangers are excited to meet you all, and learn about the similarities and differences between all of our countries.







#### ACCOMMODATION - BRYNTYSILIO HALL.

"At Bryntysilio Outdoor Education Centre, we recently celebrated 50 years of high-quality education, providing young people with transformative learning and adventurous experiences. Our main building, Bryntysilio Hall, is a listed Victorian villa with space for 100 visitors. The hall overlooks the River Dee and UNESCO World Heritage site on the edge of the vibrant town of Llangollen, North Wales. Bryntysilio was previously funded and managed by Walsall Council until the centre became fully independent in 2018.

Our reputation is growing in our three operating themes: quality outdoor education for young people, helping adults recognise the health & well-being benefits of green physical activity, and practitioner education."

We have booked the entire Victorian Hall for our exclusive use. The house is split into separate gender sleeping, with shared rooms. Adults will sleep separately to the children. Food is included all week; break-fast will be at the hall, lunch will be made by the Junior Rangers to be taken out with us on activities, and dinner will again at the hall. While bed linen is provided, you should bring your own towel and personal hygiene products.

While there will be constant adult supervision and a set bedtime, campers will be allowed to make use of the house and the gardens to explore, play, and relax. There will also be nighttime activities at the hall, so there should be enough for everyone to enjoy!



#### THINKING OF JOINING US?

The address of the accommodation is: Bryntysilio Outdoor Education Centre, Llangollen, LL20 8BS.

The closest airports are Liverpool John Lennon Airport (1hr 5mins) and Manchester Airport (1hr 7mins). While the Liverpool airport may be a little closer, Manchester may offer the easiest, more direct route to us here in the Dee Valley.

We encourage all to arrive on Saturday and we will organise shuttles to the airports to pick you up, grouping you to reduce the number of overall trips needed.

The accommodation is booked from **12.00 Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July – 12.00 Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July.** Earlier arrivals or later departures will have to stay at either one of the many nearby campsites or in the Llangollen Hostel. We can assist in organising this if required.

All information on registering can be found on the 2024 International Junior Rangers Camp page:

#### https://tinyurl.com/IJRC2024

