

CH>RITY
CH>LLENGE



TRIP NOTES

BELIEVE ACHIEVE INSPIRE

WELSH 3000S CHALLENGE
UK

Fri 17 Aug - Sun 19 Aug 2018





In aid of your choice of charity

17 Aug - 19 Aug 2018

3 DAYS | UK | EXTREME

New challenge for 2018!

If you are looking for your next adventurous challenge in the mountains then this is it. Long known as a classic challenge amongst serious mountain walkers Charity Challenge have worked hard to create an itinerary to test the most experienced challenge participant.

This exhilarating, extremely challenging and hugely rewarding challenge will have you trekking over the highest mountains in Wales over a sustained two day period.

The Welsh 3000 Challenge sees participants climb all 15 peaks over 3000ft (910m) in Wales (including the highest Snowdon). As you link all of these peaks together you can expect to cover just over 45 kilometres (30 miles).

This is a real mountain challenge and should not be taken lightly. The terrain is extremely varied involving some steep ascents and descents, long distances and little sleep. A challenge suitable for those who are physically fit and who are already experienced walkers.

- Take on the UK's most iconic mountain challenge
- Experience the rugged beauty of Snowdonia
- Summit Mt Snowdon
- Fully supported by experienced mountain leaders

YOUR CHALLENGE DAY BY DAY

DAY 1 *Fri 17 Aug*

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Day 1 - Arrival and start of challenge

Arrive early morning at our accommodation in Snowdonia to meet your team and for an introduction, briefing about the event and kit check. After this the team will be transferred to the start point.

The Challenge begins!

We will first attempt the Carneddau Section; you will summit the peaks of Foel Fras, Garnedd Gwenllian, Foel Grach, Yr Elen, Carnedd Llewelyn, Carnedd Dafydd and finally Pen y Ole Wen. The day will finish in the Ogwen Valley where our transport will meet us and take the team back to our accommodation.

This section is the very challenging and the most remote of the weekend; involving some steep ascents and ridge walking. It is highly likely that the team will still be on the mountain as darkness falls so head torches are a must for this section of the challenge.

DAY 2 *Sat 18 Aug*

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Day 2 - The Glyders

You will have breakfast and get prepared to take on the second day of your challenge, the Glyderau Section, starting from Gwer Gof Uchaf we will summit the stunning Tryfan first before going on to tackle Glyder Fach, Glyder Fawr, Y Garn and finishing on Elidir Fawr. This section is again very challenging and involves some very steep ascents and minor scrambles.

The team will descend from Elidir Fawr into Nant Peris where you will finish for the day and get transferred back to our accommodation to get some rest in advance of the final day.

DAY 3 *Sun 19 Aug*

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Day 3 - The final day

The final day begins with another early breakfast then off to complete the Snowdon Section of the challenge which includes the peaks of Garnedd Ugain and Snowdon (we do not ascend Crib Goch as part of this challenge unless conditions are perfect, see later). The ascent of Snowdon involves some steep ascents and rugged terrain.

We descend off Snowdon and finish the challenge in Llanberis where you can celebrate with your team the achievement of completing this epic challenge.

NB

This itinerary is a guide only and may change due to unusual weather patterns, the strength of the group, and so on. We will not be held responsible for any last minute changes that may occur. In all such circumstances, your challenge leader will have the final say.

HOW TO FUND YOUR CHALLENGE

This page provides you details of the costs of your challenge.

SELF FUNDER

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Pay a registration fee of £75.00 when you book
Then a balance of £400.00
(8 weeks before your challenge)
Raise as much as you can for your charity.

MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP

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Registration fee of £75.00 when you book
Raise a minimum of £825.00 for your charity.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Before you go

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- 15% off Cotswold Outdoor, Cycle Surgery, Snow and Rock, and Runners Need
- A-Z of fundraising ideas
- Fitness training notes
- Access to your own password protected account including support materials and training schedules

On your challenge

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- Three meals a day (unless otherwise stated in the itinerary)
- Accommodation during the challenge
- Evening Meals
- Packed lunch and drinks
- All challenge management before, during and post event
- Full back-up support including first-aid qualified staff and first-aid supplies

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Before you go

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- Clothing and equipment listed on your Kit List

On your challenge

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- Personal spending money
- Any other specific items listed as not included in your Trip Notes

THE DETAILS

Fundraising deadlines

You will need to send your sponsorship money to the charity as you raise it. At least 80% of the minimum sponsorship required must be sent to the charity 7 weeks before departure (by 29/06/2018), and the remaining 20% within 4 weeks of completing the challenge (by 16/09/2018). If you have raised the necessary funds, the charity will then pay the balance of your challenge costs. The charity benefits by keeping the remaining sponsorship money and every pound over and above that you raise.

Typical group size

The typical group size is 10 - 20 participants

Travel insurance

We can provide a comprehensive travel insurance policy for this challenge which provides cover for medical (emergency, evacuation and repatriation), cancellation and curtailment and specifically covers the activities undertaken during the challenge. You can take this out when booking. The cost is £0.

Does this route include the ridge of Crib Goch?

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Please read the following information carefully regarding our policy on taking participants along the Crib Goch ridge.

At the time of booking you will be asked to indicate whether you wish to include Crib Goch in your challenge. Including Crib Goch or not does not have any bearing on completing your challenge. It is simply a route choice. Charity Challenge will always offer the alternative route and will never force anyone to tackle any section of a challenge that they are not comfortable with.

Crib Goch is a narrow, knife edged ridge that leads up to the summit of Mt Snowdon. It is known in the mountaineering world as a Grade 1 scramble, which means that it is a rocky, steep route with considerable exposure on either side. It is considered one of the great scrambles of the UK, but is only suitable for people who are comfortable on rocky ground and have a good head for heights.

The British Mountaineering Council has an excellent [webpage](#) about the challenge you will face on Crib Goch, including an excellent short video. We would strongly encourage all participants to read this webpage carefully. Click [here](#) to visit.

Charity Challenge Policy.

Crib Goch is deliberately part of day 3 of your Welsh 3000s itinerary. This means that your mountain leaders will have had 2 days of walking with you in the hills to assess your capability to tackle Crib Goch. Your leaders will discuss any decisions with you throughout the previous two days but any decision they make will be final. We would ask you to respect any decision that they make.

Charity Challenge will only ever take groups on Crib Goch in good weather. Rain, wind and low cloud will all result in Crib Goch being taken off the itinerary and the alternative route taken. Again, any decision that your leaders make regarding the weather will be final, and we ask you to respect their professional opinion.

What happens if I don't attempt Crib Goch?

Anyone who does not wish to ascend via Crib Goch will join up with the other leaders and will ascend via the alternative route. Please note that this is not the easy option, and still involves the same amount of ascent over steep rocky ground.

Why book with Charity Challenge?

- Everything included from the moment you arrive. Unlike other operators we include everything from the moment you arrived including all meals, transfers, accommodation snacks during the challenge.
- The very best Mountain Leaders, who are fully qualified, highly experienced, knowledgeable and fun. They will do everything to help you complete the challenge and have a great time doing it.
- We have selected a route designed specifically with our participants in mind.
- The usual high quality Charity Challenge experience from the company who organised Comic Relief's Red Nose Day Kilimanjaro climb. We know mountains!

The team event concept

This challenge is designed and run as a team event that will see you working together as a team to help support each other through the weekend.

Whilst the intention is to push each other as much as possible, the aim of the event is to give everyone the best possible chance of completing the entire challenge.

This event will not be way-marked and marshalled. You will be accompanied by challenge leaders at all times, therefore it is not suitable for people wishing to complete the challenge by themselves.

Throughout the day the group will naturally split into faster and more leisurely paced groups. This will be managed by the leaders and you will be helped to move at a pace that you are comfortable with.

Challenge Timings

You will be sent precise timings and locations 1 month prior to the start of this challenge.

Your day will begin on Friday morning with your full safety briefing with your leaders. Then you're off.

The challenge itself commences at approximately 11am on the Friday and you can expect to have completed all 15 peaks by 5pm on Sunday afternoon. However, please make sure you have flexible return options as things can over run and we can't be held responsible for any missed trains etc.

Getting there

You will be sent precise timings and locations 1 month prior to the start of this challenge.

You should plan to arrive at the hostel for approximately 10am on the Friday morning. The hostel will be based within the Snowdonia National Park, precise details of which hostel you will be staying at will be sent no later than 1 month prior to the challenge.

Level of Difficulty

This is a real mountain challenge which is graded as extreme. This is the perfect challenge for participants who have previous experience of taking part in challenge events of this magnitude. This challenge is designed to be the next step up for those who have completed the National 3 Peaks challenge, so you should be comfortable with long days of walking and then little sleep and rest.

You will be encouraged to take part as a team, helping each other through the challenge.

On the Welsh 3000s Challenge you can expect:

- Trekking approximately 45km, over 3 days of walking, approximately 8-10 hours each day (a little less on the last day)
- Early mornings, getting you out on the hill by 7am at the latest.
- Ascend over 4000m over 3 days, that is more ascent than climbing Kilimanjaro!

Clothing and Equipment

Equipment of good quality and durability could make the difference between a fantastic challenge experience and an uncomfortable one. For this challenge, we would advise that you bring with you several pairs of each item so that each day you have warm and dry clothing to wear.

Waterproof and well-worn in boots will be indispensable for the trek. The terrain is uneven and can be very rough, so it is vital that you use a strong pair of canvas or leather boots with good ankle support for this challenge, coupled with a pair of good quality walking socks. Trainers are not suitable.

The benefits of a comfortable day sack cannot be underestimated - so make sure that you train with this. Other essentials are a high quality Gore-Tex (or similar) waterproof and windproof jacket and waterproof trousers, as well as technical/wicking t-shirts rather than cotton shirts. We would like to emphasize that jeans should not be worn on this challenge.

A full kit list for this challenge can be found [here](#). Once you book you will have access to kit discounts with our partners Cotswold Outdoor, where you can buy equipment, or alternatively you may wish to consider Outdoor Hire who can provide very high quality equipment and clothing to hire for the weekend at a fraction of a price.

Training

This challenge includes long days in the mountains in remote areas and with rough terrain, therefore requiring a good level of fitness. The ideal training for this challenge is, naturally, hill walking. If you do not have the luxury of living near the hills, then the stairs at home (or an office block) are a great place to start. Most training should be part of an on-going lifestyle, but if this is not the case then you should begin training 4-6 months prior to the challenge and gradually build up as suggested. Remember to use the walking boots that you will be wearing on the challenge in order to get them worn in, and take the daysack that you will be using during the challenge. There is no substitute for walking in the hills so try if possible to get out on a weekend and train in an area with steep hills and with rough terrain. You should progress to training with your boots on from week 4 at the latest, but preferably from week 1. The more you exercise before the challenge, the more you will get out of it. Also see your Charity Challenge Fitness Training notes.

Money

During the challenge days there will be no opportunity to purchase snacks. There might be the opportunity to purchase food and drink at the end of the challenge days and so you may wish to take some money with you but we would advise you should need no more than £20.00, excluding your travel costs.

Insurance

We don't offer insurance for our UK trips, as any medical emergencies would naturally be covered through the NHS. If you wish, you could look into your own policy that covers cancellation for travel within the UK.

Group Size

Our maximum group size for this challenge is 20. The minimum size is 10 people.

Leadership

We employ experienced and fully qualified Mountain Leaders to accompany and lead you. Our leaders are first aid

qualified and have extensive experience in leading expeditions throughout the UK and overseas. They will be ultimately responsible for the running of the itinerary and the safety of your group and will be carrying full safety equipment and mountain first aid kits with them at all times. They will also be in constant radio communication with the support vehicle drivers throughout the challenge.

Climate

As you know, the weather in the UK can be highly unpredictable and at times erratic, so being prepared is the key! We will run UK challenges between April and October, and although the summer months of June-August should be, in general, warmer, sunnier and more stable in terms of the weather conditions, we all know that this isn't always the case. Please check the weather forecasts up to ensure that you bring clothing suitable for warm sunny walking weather and also sudden wind and downpours should they occur.

Terrain

Despite its location in the UK, the difficulty of this challenge should not be underestimated. The terrain on this challenge varies throughout and can be rough at times, so be prepared! Paths are frequently rocky and boggy and you should be prepared for elements of the route to have a remote feel to them.

Accommodation

Two nights of accommodation are provided in a local hostel within Snowdonia National Park. Accommodation will be in the same-sex dormitories with shared bathroom facilities. It is all part of the challenge!

Food & Drink

You will be provided with a packed lunch during the days along with some snacks. We would advise that you also bring your own snacks to help power you through the day.

Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday morning will be provided in the hostel, as will dinner on Friday and Saturday night.

Please note that breakfast on Friday morning and dinner on Sunday evening are not included.

Toilets

Participants will be able to utilise the bathroom facilities in the morning prior to the challenge. However, during the days on the hill such facilities will be limited to the great outdoors!

Safety Advice

Charity Challenge considers the safety of all of our participants and staff to be a top priority, and as such we have set up Challenge Safe, one of the most advanced and thorough safety management systems in the industry.

Challenge Safe formalises our ethos when it comes to safety, and brings together the procedures and risk management strategies that we use to audit all aspects of our challenges, from vehicles to accommodation to the challenge activity itself. Your welfare is absolutely paramount!

Here are a couple of important points that you should be aware of:

- The terrain on the challenge is often rocky and in wet conditions can be extremely slippery. Please make sure that your walking boots have good grip. Trainers are not appropriate as they lack grip.
- The weather on the summits of the hills can be very different to down in the valleys. Please make sure you carry an additional warm layer, waterproof jacket and trousers and a hat and gloves.
- We employ qualified instructors for each activity. Please listen carefully to the instructions given.
- This is a 3 day challenge. Ensure that you eat lots throughout the days and keep yourself hydrated by drinking lots of fluids.

Emergencies

Your challenge leader will have a mobile phone and radios in case of emergencies and the team are trained to deal with any emergency situations. The event is not run as a race though and you will not be expected to walk at a pace beyond your capabilities. Should you find yourself unable to continue for any reason, you will be transferred back to the start point by safety vehicle.

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Any more questions?

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