



## *Local places of interest.....*

### *Llangollen*



Every valley has its own special landmarks but the vale through which the River Dee flows has more than its fair share of them!

The valley has its very own man made gateways, although the engineers involved in their construction lived around 3,000 years apart.

To the north there is Caer drewyn, one of the most evocative and mysterious hill forts in the UK. The very name is linked to Celtic Myth and Legend as the town of Gwynn ap Nudd, Lord of the Underworld and apparently there are some caves under it...

Overlooking Llangollen, perched high on top of a hill are the mysterious remains of Dinas Bran Castle, legendary hiding place of the Holy Grail and owner of some of the most spectacular views in Europe.

Explore the thrills of the many outdoor activities in and around the town. You can **ride the white water; climb high above the valley or cycle along beautiful and challenging trails.**

One of our visitors has called Llangollen "**a walker's paradise**" and there are walks for all abilities in **stunning scenery, including the most dramatic section of the Offa's Dyke path.**

Picnic in the **Riverside Park**; take a **ride on the steam train or the horse-drawn canal boats.** Take a trip over the **famous Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, now part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site.**

For a glimpse into our **Georgian history, visit Plas Newydd**, the home of the Ladies of Llangollen. Wander round the gardens and complete your visit with a cup of tea or a light meal in the tearooms.

Catch a performance of an **opera, musical or a play by one of our talented, award-winning groups at the Victorian Town Hall.**

Enjoy the atmosphere of **the International Musical Eisteddfod and the Fringe festival** in July, the **Food Festival** in October and the **Christmas Festival** at the end of November not forgetting the Pantomime in January!

## Pontcysyllte Aqueduct



The Pontcysyllte Aqueduct was built by the world famous engineer Sir Tomas Telford. When Thomas Telford finished Pontcysyllte Aqueduct in 1805, it was the tallest canal boat crossing in the world.

It's still there today. Still taking canal boat passengers on the ride of their lives. But now it's on the world map.

On 27 June 2009, UNESCO made **this masterpiece of civil engineering a World Heritage Site - along with 11 miles of canal including Chirk Aqueduct and the Horseshoe Falls at Llantysilio, near Llangollen.**

Now it's officially one of the greatest heritage sites in the world, and on a par with places like the **Pyramids, the Taj Mahal and the Acropolis.**

When you see it, you'll see something that was touched by genius. Because Telford was a true visionary.

He lived in a different age, but he was up there with the likes of Apple founder Steve Jobs, Microsoft's Bill Gates or any other modern forward-thinker. He was a man ahead of his time.

It's no exaggeration to say that techniques and ideas developed at Pontcysyllte helped shape the world through their impact on engineering.

But what's really amazing is the way the structure still captures people's imagination over 200 years after it was built.

It's never lost its magic.

The **structure and canal is 1007ft in length** and can be seen for miles around. It really is something not to be missed.

## How to find it....

Leave the Holt Lodge Hotel, turn left and follow signs to A483 – Oswestry. Go along the bypass and follow signs for Llangollen A539.

**Approximate mileage = 12 miles**

**Travel time = 20 minutes**

