



The Wildlife Centre of Wales Canolfan Byd Natur Cymru
www.rhayader.co.uk

THE NATIONAL TRUST

Abergwesyn Commons

Acquired by the National Trust in 1984, Abergwesyn Commons is 6,667 Ha (16,500 acres) of open access upland habitat situated between the village of Llanwrthwl to the East and the Irfon Valley in the West. In all there are seven contiguous Commons, the boundaries of which are marked by nothing more than features in the landscape such as streams or ancient cairns. This seamlessly flowing area of rolling hills has “wilderness” qualities that seldom occur elsewhere in England and Wales.



Looking over the Rhos to Esgair Nefal and Lan Fawr

Wildlife

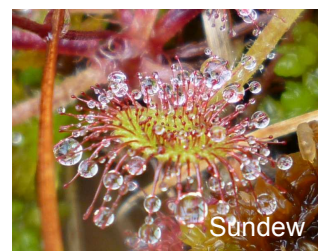
Much of this upland is rich in upland flora. Swards of heather and bilberry cover much of the dry heath and parts of the blanket bog. On the wetter peat bog areas sphagnum thrives along with cotton grass, wild cranberry, bog asphodel, the beautiful modest sundew and various other plants that can survive the harsh conditions of the acid soils.



Fox moth Caterpillar

There are many invertebrates thriving in the undergrowth including caterpillars, moths and butterflies as well as the water beetles and dragonflies that hover around the occasional bog pools that are scattered across the Commons.

This site is also important because of the birds that are present. The Red List kestrel, red grouse, curlew and golden plover all frequent Abergwesyn Commons. Red Kites, buzzards and ravens can often be seen soaring across the skies above - and not forgetting the intrepid skylark, the greatest disturber of the peace with it's excited song.

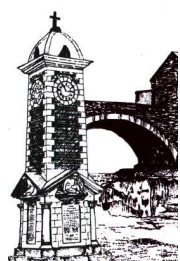


Sundew

Visiting

All of the Commons are Open Access land. Watershed markers mark the boundary with the Elan Valley to the North, an area that is also open access. Access can be gained from a variety of rights of way. These include SN 931 633, SN 964 638, SN 958 613 and SN 988 623. These points are accessible by foot and/or car from Llanwrthwl, 3 miles (5 km) south of Rhayader on the A470. Please park cars so they are not blocking access to any tracks. Dogs should be kept on leads at all times. Due to the remoteness of this site please ensure you are properly equipped for any walking you may undertake on this site.

National Trust Mid and SE Wales web: www.nationaltrust.org.uk Tel: 01874 625515 



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