

DevaMog Scenic Run – Sunday 16 April 2023

Today's scenic run will follow the road past Bala Lake, up the highest road pass in Wales and down to Lake Vyrnwy, which is set amidst the remote and beautiful Berwyn Mountains. We plan to meet at the Rhug Farm Shop, LL21 0EH (located on the A5 not far from Corwen) at 10.45am for refreshments and toilets before leaving no later than 11.30am.

Please be aware, some hospitality venues are short staffed so the level of service may be affected at some venues, particularly when a large group arrive at once, so please be patient with staff trying to do their best.

After leaving the Rhug Farm Shop you will head off to Bala Lake. After following the southern edge of the lake you will start your steep climb up Bwlch y Groes (Pass of the Cross), which will require your full concentration. At 1790ft it is the highest pass in Wales and affords magnificent views of the surrounding countryside. You will then drop down through unspoilt open countryside to the stunning Lake Vyrnwy, which is the largest artificial lake in Wales, and then skirt its shoreline before stopping for lunch/picnic in the village of Llanwddyn, which is situated alongside the dam. If you feel energetic, take a walk along the Dam Trail. After lunch, we drive over the dam, which was built in the 1880s to supply water to Liverpool. After driving through a number of sleepy villages the route takes you over the Milltir Cerrig mountain pass, which affords splendid views of the Tanat Valley below. An open run across moorland can then be enjoyed before driving to Llangollen, where the run will end, via the picturesque Edeirnion valley. If you have the time, you can stroll into Llangollen where you will find plenty of shops, cafes and toilets.

You will experience a mix of well-used roads and quieter rural lanes. In some cases these can be narrow, steep and twisting and extra care should be taken. Minor roads frequently give better views of the countryside and it is therefore worth taking your time.

Detailed route directions are provided and you will notice on the route directions that 'tulip diagrams' are used, these are named after the Tulip Rally in Holland where the format was first used in the 1950s. They are simple diagrams of the route junctions or sections of road, with the solid black dot indicating where you have come from and the arrow indicating the direction you are going to take. For example:



means turn left at the T junction



means take third exit off the roundabout

In addition to the tulip diagrams, written directions are provided, which are hopefully self-explanatory and also easy to follow. The intermediate distance between each direction is shown under 'Miles' and the cumulative distance is shown under 'Total'. The only abbreviation you will see is S.P., which means Signpost. Please note, the mileages quoted are recorded on our car and are likely to differ from yours.

To get an idea of numbers, if you are planning to participate in the run, please let Joe Cleary know (although last minute attendees will also be most welcome).

Email - joe.holthome@btinternet.com or contact him on 07753 624837.

Gwyn Roberts will be overseeing today's scenic run. If you are running late for the start of the run or encounter any problems en route, you can contact Gwyn on 07885 437239.

