**Beat The Beacons Taster Route - 10 mile - ROUTE DESCRIPTION.**

This description is of an anti-clockwise walk, of approximately 10 miles, starting and finishing at Henderson Hall, Talybont.

***It is not detailed enough to use alone, and the route should be followed with a map and compass.***

A condition of the walk is that entrants use only public roads, footpaths and bridleways at all times. In general, the route is well signposted with footpath signs.

Each member of a team must have their wristbands scanned at the two manned checkpoints.

Note that some sections of the route follow the Usk Valley Walk.

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| GRID REF | ROUTE DESCRIPTION | APROXIM-ATE TIME |
| 1. (Start)  113 229 | Henderson Hall Talybont |  |
|  | From the hall turn right and right again along the main road. After approximately 100m, you reach a bridge over the canal. Join the canal and turn right towards Pencelli. Proceed along the towpath until you reach bridge number 154. Cross this bridge. |  |
| 2.  092 250 | Canal Bridge | 60 min |
|  | Once over the bridge, turn right and almost immediately left following the signposted footpath over the stile. Cross the stile into the open field, and initially keeping the stream on your right, continue up hill through several fields, through a gate and into some woodland. Then follow the way marked path through another gate and a stile; then straight up a field to a gate onto a tarmac lane. At the tarmac lane turn left. |  |
| 3.  091 243 | Cornwall farm | 1hr 30 min |
|  | Proceed along the lane to pass through the farm buildings ensuring you close all gates. Continue along the lane until you reach a junction with a 3-way signpost. Turn right, cross over the stile and follow the signposted path uphill towards Coity Mawr. The vehicle track bears to the left then passes between two big oak trees along a sunken track. After a short uphill section, the track curves around to the right. Carry on to reach a stile/gate, and continue following the same uphill track. Shortly after another right turn, opposite an old oak tree, there is a very sharp left uphill turn off the main track, with a waymarked sign for the Usk Valley Walk, leading to a small overgrown ruined building. Take this sharp left turn to pass the ruined building. |  |
| 4  098 238 | Track/Path Junction | 2 hrs |
|  | After the ruined building, carry on over two more stiles keeping the edge of the woods on your right. You descend to a wire fence at right angles to your path. Turn right and cross the fence by a stile and onto an enclosed track. Cross the stream, enter the woods opposite via a stile, and follow the path through the woods. After going over the next stile, turn right. On reaching the next stile follow the path with the fence on your left to exit the woods. Follow the direction arrows on the footpath postsigns through the field without losing height. At all times keep both sets of buildings well to your left. Cross the next stile (you will see the gate before you see the stile), and continue straight across the field to another gate/stile. Cross this stile, and following the fence at your left descend down to the field corner (This section of the route is a permitted path). Exit onto the road and locate the manned checkpoint (get your card punched here). |  |
| 5.  100 226 | Coity Mawr | 2h 15 min  **Manned check point** |
|  | Follow the road down hill for 20m turning right at the sign posted footpath. Proceed down to the stream, crossing it at the footbridge and following the footpath arrows to reach the road. Turn right up the road for about 30m. Then turn left over a stile following a footpath signposted Aber (the signpost is on the opposite side of the road). Follow the footpath arrows. You will pass a house on your left. Carry on over two more stiles arriving at a 3rd field. Aim for the diagonally opposite corner of the field and exit onto the road. Turn right. Opposite Aber Farm take the footpath on your left, continue down through the woods to the river and cross at the footbridge. |  |
| 6.  107 218 | Footbridge | 3h |
|  | Carry straight on over the next field and up to a bridge. Immediately after passing under the bridge, turn left and follow the footpath arrows through two gates following the Usk Valley Walk markers. The marked path turns sharply up to the right, following the tree and fence line. The path emerges onto the Taff Trail/Brinore Tram Road bridleway. Turn right and follow this path until the path forks. At the fork carry on to take the highest path marked the BRINORE TRAM ROAD. Once on the tram road keep going, climbing gradually upwards ignoring all turnings. Eventually you will pass through a gate across the Brinore Tram Road. 20 metres beyond this gate the path forks, at which is a post indicating ‘Mountain Bike Route’. Take the higher path, following the Brinore Tram Road. Keep going until you cross a wide gravel track. Do not follow the gravel track but cross over it to stay on the footpath. At the next junction, turn left for a short steep uphill section, which brings you to the second manned checkpoint. |  |
| 7.  106 185 | Footpath / Forest track junction. | 4h  **Manned Check point** |
|  | Cross the gravel track, over the stile and continue climbing through the ferns to emerge onto the tarmac road. Turn left and follow the road contouring Tor-y-foel. |  |
| 8.  113 205 | Cattle Grid | 4h 30 min |
|  | Continue over the Cattle Grid and follow the road back towards Talybont. After crossing the canal, turn left along the canal towpath, and continue to the swing bridge. Then follow the road back to the Henderson Hall. |  |
| 9.  113 229 | CONGRATULATIONS WELL DONE!! | 5h 15 min |