



Buzzard

*Descend both flights, turn left and again keep close to the wood on the left, until a fence is reached.*

*Turn right and go down to the corner. Go over a stile onto the hillside.*

*Continue straight across the slope, past a large oak tree and an electricity pole on the right, to a stile. After this go up to reach another in the fence line which gives access to Coedanghred Hill.*

*The mewing screech of the buzzard signals its presence. Its powerful rounded wings allow it to circle gracefully on the thermals and updraughts from the hillside.*

*Walk up diagonally left to the top. The next stile is set in a fence at the start of the downward slope. Join the shorter version of the walk at the seat.*

**\*\*Joint description.**

*Enjoy the spectacular panorama from Coedanghred (Wood of Unbelief). The village of Skenfrith is below with its church, castle, river and bridge. On the left in the far distance The Blorenge, Skirrid and Sugar Loaf stand out. Closer is Graig Sfyryddin and on the right, with its mast, Garway Hill.*

*Go straight down just left of some oak trees and over three stiles to reach the road and The Bell.*

Garway Hill

Monnow Valley

Graig Sfyryddin

Sugar Loaf



View from Coedanghred Hill

# THE COEDANGHRED HILL WALK



From The Bell at Skenfrith

Distances:  
Short Walk: 1½ miles (2.2kms) Allow ¾ hours  
Long Walk: 2½ miles (2.2kms) Allow 1½ hours

*With a climb of 410ft (125m) on both walks*

Compiled by H&E Steggles · Printed by The Bell at Skenfrith  
Skenfrith, Monmouthshire NP7 8UH  
Tel: 01600 750235 email: enquiries@skenfrith.co.uk www.skenfrith.co.uk

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**Please be aware:**  
This is not 'Right to Roam' Countryside.  
Please keep dogs on leads where there is livestock.

Cross the road and enter the village. Follow the road past the castle and church, 60 metres beyond the houses, at a bend in the road, go through a kissing gate on the left.

Keep straight across the field to another kissing gate to the left of a shed.

Enter the field on the opposite side of the road. Proceed slightly left up the field to a stile about 30 metres up from the corner.

Linthill Lane was formerly part of the stage coach route from Skenfrith to Abergavenny.

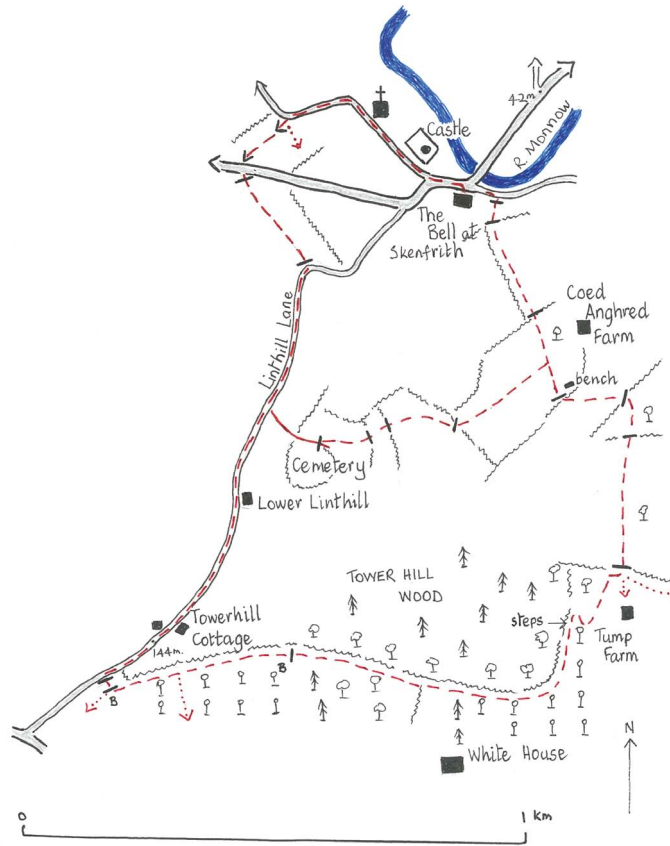
Go up the lane for about 250 metres to a track on the left. Here the shorter walk leaves the longer one. The description of the latter continues at the paragraph marked \*

For the shorter route turn into the track.

Towards the end of the track is a stone wall surrounding an old burial ground. This is virtually all that remains of St. Mary's Catholic Church, priest's house, school room and barn, built between 1844 and 1846 and pulled down in 1911.



Old burial ground



Stile —  
Gate > If you open one please close it.

At the end of the track use the stile. About halfway between it and a field gate up the hill, turn off left. Keep across the contour and go over two stiles. Continue along the contour, parallel to the hedge below, to reach a stile in the fence line. Head straight towards Coedanghred Farm and, 100 metres before it, turn up right to get to the seat near the top of the hill.

Here the two routes come together and the joint description continues at the paragraph marked\*\*

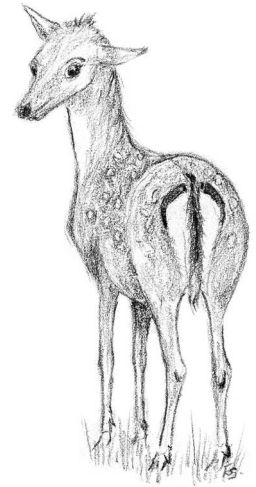
\*Description for the longer route.

Walk to the top of the hill. On the downward slope go past Tower Hill Cottage and look for a stile on the left. Cross this and the one ahead to enter the grounds of White House Farm.

The farm has 110 acres given over to the growing of blackcurrants for juice making, from an annual production of 200-300 tons. The 58 acres of cider apple trees yield a crop of between 300 and 600 tons. Additionally there are 130 acres of woodland and 130 acres of arable land.

The path along the top of the hill affords extensive views across the south of Monmouthshire.

Turn left and keep along the boundary. Ignore the circular walk/swan signs and keep straight on. Go over a bridge and a stile. Stay in the same direction next to the fence. Where it



Fallow deer

gives out continue close to the deciduous wood on the left, until steps appear on the right.

With luck, catch a glimpse of the fallow deer which frequent the woods. Listen out for the loud laughing call of the green woodpecker in the apple orchards.



Green woodpecker