



Going underground at Parys Mine

Parys Underground group can take prospective members underground up to 4 times after which you will need to join Parys Underground Group which costs £35 for a calendar year.

What else do you need to know

- Parys Underground members are all volunteers not professional guides.
- You are responsible for your own safety when underground.
- We have a limited number of guides so may not be able to always accommodate you.

Kit Check - You will need.

- Caving over suit, overalls or old clothes (they may well get stained) but they do not need to be waterproof.
- As trips constantly move around and there is no wind underground you do not need thick under-clothing.
- Caving headlamp, weight bearing waist-belt (which may also carry the lamp battery), helmets and cow's-tails.
- You can hire these items from us for £4, paid in cash (preferably coins) on the day of the trip. We need to know in advance as the lamps are kept off-site so they are fully charged.
- Knee length wellington boots – there is water up to 30cm deep in some passages.
- Gloves. Industrial rubber gloves or rubber gardening gloves are ideal as the mine is very muddy.
- PUG has a small random assortment of old overalls, used gloves and wellington boots but it is much better to bring your own.
- You are welcome to take (non-commercial) photographs but be aware the mine is muddy, damp, and acidic so you will need to protect your photographic equipment.

About the trip

If you are new to the mine we usually take people on the introductory route. This route is not dangerous, but this is not a show mine. It is very much in the state it was when abandoned 100 - 150 years ago. There is no underground lighting. There are unprotected drops and deep pools of acidic water. The passage floors are muddy, wet, and uneven.

Your visit will involve climbing some ladders (max. 25 feet (8m.) high), passages where you must stoop, and a couple of short "hands and knees" crawls. We have a traverse line in place, which requires the use of traverse equipment; your party leader will show you how to use this.

You will not be roped, although in places there are handlines to hold on to. We usually descend about 30 fathoms (180ft. 60m.) and spend about 33 hours underground.

TAKE CARE UNDERGROUND. Look to your own safety and that of others. You must follow any instructions given by your Party Leaders. Do not leave your group.

The mine is an area of scientific, archaeological and historical research; please take care not to damage anything.

Do not touch the formations. They are fragile, and we want to be able to show them to others in future! We do not allow the collecting of specimens.

We do not take anyone aged under 15 underground. Those between 15 and 17 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who will take responsibility for them.

If you have any medical condition that could affect you while underground please inform us. We will make every effort to accommodate you providing that it will not affect the safety of the rest of the party.

Where to meet

Meet in the public car park at the top of the mountain, beside the B5111 (Amlwch to Rhosybol/Llanerchymedd road).

Grid Ref: SH438905.

<http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?x=243732&y=390515&z=120&sv=243732,390515&st=4&ar=y&mapp=map.srf&searchp=ids.srf&dn=713&ax=243732&ay=390515&lm=0>

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This is also the starting point of the surface Heritage Trail (car park sign refers to this), which is worth looking around if you have time. We look forward to seeing you.

BCA participation statement.

The BCA recognises that caving, cave diving and mine exploration are activities with a danger of personal injury or death.

Participants should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement.