From the Padarn Country Park Information Kiosk at Gilfach Ddu, walk towards the Llanberis Lake Railway station building. Follow the dark blue waymarks to the Vivian Quarry pool area. The quarry pit is known as a 'sinc'. When the pumps were switched off the sinc filled with water and formed a pool. The pool is 20 metres / 60 feet deep. Slate was lifted out of the sinc by the blondin winch above.

The quarry galleries above look like steps cut into the mountainside. Note the different colours of slate. Nature is slowly reclaiming the quarry area.

This building once housed the Fire Queen locomotive. It moved slate products between Dinorwig and Y Felinheli. The Fire Queen is now on display at Penrhyn Castle. The Fire Queen locomotive moved slate from the quarry to the Vivian Quarry. The bridge was once the same height as the steps. Tram lines carried slate waste across the bridge from point 3 where it was then tipped into the lake.

This area was part of a tall slate waste tip. The base of the waste tip is 30 metres / 100 feet below the surface of the lake.

The Vivian Top Trail. Turn right through the gap in the wall. This will lead to the 4th level of the quarry, then through the Coed Dinorwig woodland and around to the top of the Vivian Quarry.

This is the Barics Dre Newydd / Anglesey Barracks. Quarry workers from outside of the local area lived in these barracks during the week. Many were from Anglesey. Each house had two small rooms and was shared by four men. There were few windows at the back of the houses. Shelter from the elements was more important than the view.

Walk between the rows of houses to the quarry incline. Turn left to reach the Dinorwig View Point.

Alternatively, follow the footpath from the Barracks to join Y Llwybr Main / Zig Zag path. This path was made by quarry workers. It was built within the spoil heap for protection from the weather. Their skill can be seen in how well the slate blocks fit together. The seats built into the wall were resting areas for quarrymen who walked long distances to work. Turn right at the road. Follow the sign to Padarn Country Park and the Gilfach Ddu car park.

Allow 1 hour
Approx. 1.5Km

Essential information
- Only follow way-marked trails
- Do not enter building ruins
- Keep away from old quarry structures
- Some paths have uneven surfaces and steep drops
- Some of the features of the Park include old quarry workings, steep woodland paths and deep waters