

HELP!

The Foel Ortho14 point Survival Guide for the deeply confused.

- Where the hell am I?
- You can't find anything in this place.
- A load of rubbish!
- Just understand this - I have to shop.
- But what about Corrie and Love Island?
- Heh, my tooth just fell out.
- How can I relax without my laptop?
- Look - now my legs dropped off.
- Oh no - I've got cow muck on my ball-gown.
- How can you be cold when I'm so hot?
- I just told you - my dogs got manic depression.
- I don't believe it - I've forgotten my _____
- It's all gone dark - have I just died?

Even as we speak, help is on hand.....

1 YOU'RE HERE.

Address of this house – Foel Ortho, Penybontfawr, Near Oswestry, Salop, SY10 OHU (post code is very inaccurate).
Exact map location of top of track:

<https://map.what3words.com/disco.organic.digestion>

Exact map location of Farmhouse front door next to car park:

<https://map.what3words.com/laugh.onion.lipstick>

Our website: www.FarmhouseInWales.com

Our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rksNOApUqFE&feature=share&list=PL29378239AD20CB2B>

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/FarmhouseInWales

Important document downloads from:

www.farmhouseinwales.com/download-centre

Situated 15 miles from the English border, in the northern tip of Powys, (once Montgomeryshire). It's just ten minutes' drive from Lake Vyrnwy, twenty minutes from Llanrhaeadr waterfall and just over an hour from Snowdonia and the coast.

(See leaflets in display rack or ask Ed and Jen).

The Pay-phone for use of visitors is - 01691870-338 and is situated in the Lounge by the door into the Garden Room.

The meaning of Foel Ortho? Foel is an exposed shoulder of rock but as to 'Ortho' a trio of Welsh professors could not agree on this in a recent radio discussion. Best guess is 'house on the bare cliff'.

2. FINDING THINGS

It's a good idea to use the "kiosk" in the dining room to keep your small items (like keys, cameras and phones) that are easy to lose in a big house like Foel Ortho.

You will find 2 sets of keys hanging in the kiosk for your use. They operate the blue garage door down the stairs. The top 2 doors (into the back garden, and onto the front terrace) just bolt, with no keys.

Still searching? Try looking in the A2 book in the kiosk

3. TALKING OF RUBBISH AND RECYCLING

(deeply appreciated if you can drop off bottles and cans in the village car park on departure! <https://map.what3words.com/name.hidden.overlooks>).

(a) BURNABLE RUBBISH

Greasy chip paper or, other paper unsuitable for recycling, can be placed on the log fires, when laying them or at any time.

NB. Put nappies on the fire when it's going really well - it saves them going into the dreaded landfill. Please regard the big log fire in the lounge as an incinerator - as long as you get it going well. See notice nearby - "Taming the Dragon".

(b) RECYCLING BINS IN GARAGE

Please use the bags in the kitchen drawer - just collect your recycling items in them and bring them down to the garage. Either put items in bins or take your bags out with you to recycle while you're out. If you have room in the car please feel free to take some home with you.

The roadside bin will take two bags of landfill rubbish, and Ed or Jen have to get it there by Wednesday night (dustcart collects 7 a.m. Thursdays).

(c) LOCAL RECYCLING

Penybontfawr shop - egg cartons, carrier bags.

Penybontfawr car park for glass bottles, cans, paper, plastic bags: <https://map.what3words.com/name.hidden.overlooks>

(currently does not take plastic bottles or Tetra Paks).

Llanfyllin car park - Salvation Army clothes bank, paper, glass, tins.

Llanrhaeadr - paper, clothes, cardboard.

Oswestry - paper, cardboard, Tetrapaks, glass, metal, tins, landfill, and much else.

Welshpool - Potters Yard - absolutely anything you could think of!!!

4. SHOPPING (GO GREEN - SHOP LOCAL and MEET THE LOCALS)

Nearest Villages and towns are:

Penybontfawr. 2 miles - one shop with post office / general stores (860-289). Delyth is the shop owner. Plays Welsh harp too.

Railway Inn - their food is excellent, and very filling for- hungry people. Lamb shank is specialty - best to phone to Check for reservations (860-447). Glenna is the innkeeper and manager.

Oswestry. 18 miles. see map under "O". Market Day is Wednesday. We have a plan of the town center (it's only small), with the main shops marked on the map, like Boots, W.H. Smith, Ethel Austin, Dorothy 8erkins etc.

There are delightful individual shops like Honeysuckle (organic co-operative), The Gates (unusual presents), Rainbow's End (ditto), plus various eateries like Aroma (coffee/cake house with jazz CD's for background music), Wynnstay Hotel for old-fashioned atmosphere, or Gillam's or Pickles (informal cosy eateries). Lepone's for Italian food!

At the side of the main car park is Covent Garden fruit and veg. shop -excellent, and cheaper/better than Sainsburys or Morrisons. Fishmonger has a lovely stall in the indoor market. The market is on the Bailey Head - park the car in the main car park, walk through Boots and you're nearly there. If you do go on a Wednesday, best plan is get there reasonably early to get a space, otherwise you must cruise around until you find one.

Llanyblodwell - Pen Is ar Lian farm shop - lovely home grown veg and home baked bread. (You pass through Llanyblodwell going from Foel Ortho to Oswestry).

Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. (home of the famous waterfall) - 6 miles. The best butcher around for miles (you can't miss him, he's the only one), HSBC with a cash point (ATM), Spar, post office, police station, info. centre, and general stores just by the bridge (another individual enterprise).

This is the village where the Hugh Grant film "The Englishman who went up a hill and came down a Mountain" was shot. Great fun was had by all.

Welshpool. 18 miles - Covent Garden fruit/veg shop to die for, fish and chips (good), Pola cinema, Boots etc. + 3 supermarkets. Market day is Monday.

Llanfyllin. 8 miles (Spar, launderette, Danbys chemist, Seeds restaurant (v. good), Eagle cafe (fish and chips, also good) and, 2 butchers.

Ty Popty, the bakery (Thursday he bakes multigrain, Friday he bakes olive bread, and the rest of the week he just bakes all kinds of fantastic bread! Ring to order anything you particularly want (01691-648 -413) A cautionary comment on

Supermarkets. They're extremely useful but they're methodically killing off every British town centre!

NB If you simply can't exist without them Asda will deliver to Foel Ortho and in Oswestry we have Aldi, Sainsburys and Somerfield, as well as Morrisons and M & S Just Food

5. TO BE OR NOT TO BE? FREE RANGE OR BATTERY?

Brace yourself, grit your teeth and breath in - there is no television here!

Knowing that you're here for a holiday, with friends and family we thought you might like to take the unprecedented step of

talking to each other! This you could do over a beer or a glass of wine, around the log stove or at the long dining table or the card table. There's a stack of cards and board games waiting for you in the old oak chest of drawers in the lounge.

If you begin to suffer from screen withdrawal symptoms there's a DVD room - aka Hillside Room (try finding it) with a few films for kids and adults.

6. DENTIST

Our dentist is Kingsley George, at the practice of Kneale Butler & Finnegan, Welshpool. 01938-552-222.

Getting there - drive to Welshpool, straight down the High Street, over the lights at the bottom, and the dental practice is 30 yards down on the right. However, to park the car you need to turn left at the lights, then first right into the car park, just by Spar on the corner.

7. LAPTOP LIFE

Is there internet access? Yes there is internet access but currently a little limited. Turning other devices to 'airplane' mode helps. There is, however, Wi-Fi at The Lake Vyrnwy Hotel Bar. With less screen time, perhaps you'll get a chance to talk to each other and enjoy the majestic mountains and stunning scenery!? Some mobiles work from the first corner of the farmer's barn up the track.

8. FIRST AID - In Buttery, left hand cupboard.

Emergency details are displayed in the back porch.

DOCTOR? Llanfyllin practice - 01691 648 054. Getting there - go to Penybontfawr, turn right, past shop and everything, up hill, and keep to the right (don't turn left, signed Oswestry). in 8 miles you reach Llanfyllin. Look out for the car park on your left,

drive in (it's free), and at the far end you will see a somewhat futuristic building - that's our local surgery.

9. LAUNDRY

In the Buttery (down five steps from the Cruck Hall, there's a Creda automatic washing machine. Please note - water is so soft that you only need about a dessert spoon of powder.

There is a tumble dryer, but even better is to make use of the airing rack (the "sheila maid"). Make use of the clothes hangers for large quantities of washing, to save space and also for faster drying time.

Remember to put scrunched-up newspaper in armholes to allow warm air to circulate in the last-to-dry bits. There is also the spin dryer, which has a faster spin than that on the washing machine.

There is a Launderette in Llanfyllin, on the left as you enter the town.

10. FEELING HOT, HOT, HOT? (OR FREEZING, MAYBE)

Please take control of your own temperatures. The thermostat for the central heating is in hall by the piano and the control panel is in the Buttery by the coat rail. The radiators also have separate controls, as do the under-plinth heaters in the kitchen. Make use of optional curtains in lounge. If you want to conserve warmth keep doors shut at all times eg. the five dining room doors! The log fires in kitchen and lounge are easy to light and maintain but don't leave them unattended if they're open. Help yourself to logs from the covered log stores facing the farm track.

Please deter the children (or adult pyromaniacs) from burning all the kindling wood. You'll need it.

11. DOGS

If you have brought your dog (by prior arrangement), please check

- a) he has his own bed.
- b) he doesn't enter your bed or lie on it.
- c) please ask if you need any extra pet bedding.
- d) that he is under control at all times (if he chases sheep etc. the farmer's right is to shoot), and please collect up any poo left lying around. The log stove can cope.
- f) we prefer your dog to be covered by pet insurance.

12. FORGOTTEN TO BRING _____?

Shaving kit / toothbrush / paste / soap / portable barbecue / scaffolder's knee wrench / the children / your spouse?

Please ask us - we may have some spares.

13. LIGHTS OR POWER GONE OFF?

A switch may have tripped. The consumer units are housed in a cupboard above the internal window in the Garden Room.

Take a step-ladder from the Buttery and lift the lid of the cupboard, propping it up with the piece of wood that is there for that purpose.

Check which of the switches have tripped downwards and push them up. If there's still a problem ask Ed!

14. ANYTHING ELSE

Please see www.FarmhouseInWales.com Most frequently asked questions are on there, including lots of downloadable information of things to do in the area. If you still can't find it – please ask!

Please let us know if you think of other items that could usefully be added to this list. Thanks.

Extra Links:

Railway Inn Map Location to front door:

<https://map.what3words.com/candles.suspended.spike>

Lake Vyrnwy Hotel Tavern Bar Map Location of bar entrance:

<https://map.what3words.com/good.collected.paid>

Pistyll Rhaeadr Waterfall

Wales' highest waterfall and one of the Seven Wonders of Wales. An enchanting natural temple nestling in the Berwyn Mountains in Wales - with cafe and B&B.

Map Location to waterfall car park:

<https://map.what3words.com/verb.goal.fewer>

Waterfall Website: www.pistyllrhaeadr.co.uk/

Cadair Berwyn Walk (walk from waterfall)

Map Location of summit of Cadair Berwyn

<https://map.what3words.com/exit.emotional.blackbird>

Cadair Berwyn 5 mile walk (8 km)

Climb to the highest point in the Berwyn range on this challenging walk in North East Wales. The walk starts from Pistyll Rhaeadr Waterfall.

832 m (2,730 ft) summit of Cadair Berwyn.

Rhiwargor Waterfall Walking Route

Visit these beautiful falls near Lake Vyrnwy on this short walk

Map location to the entrance of the car park from the lakeside

road: <https://map.what3words.com/civil.bridge.joystick>

Map Location of the falls:

<https://map.what3words.com/chestnuts.hungry.bliss>