



Above : White Castle,
White Castle from the air.
Right: The Beacons Way.

Sample Itinerary

10.30am – 12.30pm

Arrive at the Ross Road car park and work up an appetite walking up to the trig Point on the Skirrid Mountain.

12.45pm – 2.15pm

Enjoy lunch at one of the many famous restaurants.

2.30pm – 4.00pm

Help your lunch go down with an exploration of stunning White Castle and its great views.

Work up an appetite around Abergavenny

Enjoy an excellent lunch and a couple of great walks to burn up those calories!

The Skirrid or Ysgyryd Fawr is the most easterly of the Black Mountains. It is also known as Holy Mountain, as it has a jagged edge on its Western flank, the result of a massive landslip, said to have been caused by the mountain being 'rent apart' when Christ was crucified.

The walk is part of the way marked **Beacons Way** and the simple up and down route to the trig point is a good option starting from the lay by on the B4521 Ross Road – allow about two hours. The ascent is steep initially, gradual thereafter. Like all mountains the route can be quite exposed and windy so make sure you have a map, suitable shoes and clothing.

After the exercise why not investigate exactly why Abergavenny has such an excellent reputation for food.

To help lunch go down, round the afternoon off enjoy a visit to the amazing setting of **White Castle**. Now owned by CADW, White Castle is the best preserved of the Three Castles that were under the control of Hubert de Burgh in the 12th century, with impressive outer defences and a moat, the massive castle with its nearly complete set of walls, and the beautiful surrounding countryside come together to create a most memorable Welsh castle experience!



Sugarloaf.



Where is it?

The Skirrid Mountain walk

(map reference SO329164). Leave Abergavenny on the A465 towards Hereford. Turn right onto the B4521. The Skirrid Mountain walk can be accessed from the B4521 Ross Road lay-by. Park your vehicle bonnet or boot to the hedge to leave room for others to safely park as this lay-by is well used. Leave the lay-by the hedged track. Climb the stile by the gate at the entrance to Caer Wood and now follow the obvious route up through the wood. An OS map is recommended.

The Walnut Tree (NP7 8AW) is also on the B4521 on the left hand side just after the Llandewi Skirrid sign. If there is no car-parking outside there is another car park 25 m further on.

The 1861 (NP7 8PB) is found further along the B4521 in the direction on Ross-on-Wye in the village of Cross Ash.

White Castle (NP7 8UD) is signed on a minor road south of the B4521 between Llanvetherine and Cross Ash.

Facilities and Access

There are no facilities beyond parking at the lay-by

The Walnut Tree (01873 852797) is open Tuesday to Saturday. It is open for lunch 12.00 – 2.30pm and for evening meals 7.00pm to 10.00pm. The restaurant is on the ground floor and is fully accessible.

The 1861 (0845 3881861) is open Tuesday lunch to Sunday Lunch. Food is served between 12.00pm and 2.30pm and 7.00pm to 9.00pm. The restaurant and toilets are on the ground floor. There is one step in the restaurant – which can be avoided for wheel chair users if this is requested at time of booking.

White Castle is open daily 10.00am to 5.00pm between 1/4 and the 31/10. Adult entrance is £2.60 At other times it is open (excluding 24, 25, 26/12 and 1/1) but un-staffed between 10.00am and 4.00pm, entrance is free at these times. Dogs on leads are welcome. There are no toilets at the site. The Castle has sloping paths un-even underfoot and a limited number of stairs.

Public Transport

By Train the nearest station is Abergavenny around 5 miles away .

By Bike: NCN Three Castles Cycle route.

