



Laugharne, Carmarthenshire

Be inspired by the surroundings that spurred Dylan Thomas to write some of his most famous pieces of work.

"There's something special about wondering around Laugharne, it has a wealth of colourful traditions including the annual Laugharne Common walk. Imagine Dylan Thomas strolling along the coastline seeking inspiration!"

NIGEL NICHOLAS, WALES COAST PATH OFFICER

Start and Finish:

Laugharne car park (near the castle).

Distance:

2 miles/4km.

Along the way...

Famous for its association with writer Dylan Thomas, the timeless sea town of Laugharne sits directly on the Wales Coast Path. It's the perfect starting point for short strolls along the path in both directions, either returning the way you came or making your way back to your starting point via a number of inland routes.

Following the Wales Coast Path north-east from the centre of the village, you'll pass Laugharne Castle, a medieval fortress turned Tudor mansion that stands watch over the estuary.

Continue on to the boathouse where Dylan Thomas lived on his beloved 'heron-priested shore' from 1949 to 1953, now a monument to the great man. You can peek inside the shed where Thomas wrote, preserved as if he had just popped out for a moment, browse the boathouse's period rooms packed with memorabilia, or have a cuppa in the tearooms.

Further on outside the village you'll see the ferry point that once linked Laugharne with the other side of the estuary, with the remains of a causeway visible at low tide.

Follow the path south from the village and you'll be walking the route immortalised in Dylan's 'Poem in October'. You'll pass Laugharne Marsh, sheltered from the sea by rolling dunes.

For coastal views, climb Sir John's Hill, then carry on to the quarries at Coygan, where Neanderthal hand axes dating back more than 30,000 years have been found, alongside ancient hyena and woolly rhinoceros bones.

Need to know:

There are public toilets and a car park in the middle of the village, close to a number of pubs, shops and cafés.