



“The train station is referred to elsewhere as Llanfairpwll, which is just as well, seeing as it's a request stop”

Pwllgwyngyll is what appears on road signs, schools, maps and so on. The train station is referred to elsewhere as Llanfairpwll, which is just as well, seeing as it's a request stop.

The village enthusiastically embraces its mighty moniker, even if it was a 19th-century PR stunt. It's fair to say it is 'actually called' the long version, especially as it appears solemnly spelled out in full on the Co-op, Volvo concession and train station. Cycle tourers can Instagram these easily: they're right on the Lôn Las Cymru, the excellent pan-Wales bike route.

### STAYING UNDER BUDGET

Accommodation is usually the biggest expenditure in any travel budget. Camping isn't just economical, it also gives flexibility, likely with walk-up options wherever you decide to stop cycling for the day. This trip, for instance, I could camp along with friends who happened to be in the area that day.

Thanks to a new website (well, Facebook group and Google Map), I had plenty of choice. Cycle



Camping UK lists only bike-friendly sites that charge £16 a night or less. Using that, I stayed four nights in and around Llŷn for £10 a pop, including that first emergency one in Llanfairfechan. (Often, Caravan Club members-only sites take non-member cycle campers, even if not mentioned on their website: phone to check, or just turn up.)

Camping is great in nice weather. My trip, however, coincided with Storm Lilian's 70mph gusts. So one night I took refuge in a hostel at

**Clockwise from top left:** The name is a 19th-century PR stunt that's been embraced. Beddgelert. Bridleway up to Mynydd Rhiw. Campsite with a view in Criccieth for £10. Golf Halt on Fairbourne Railway – the long name didn't stick. Mountain road on the way to Beddgelert

### Money saving cycle tips

#### Accommodation

- Cycle Camping UK cheap sites: [tinyurl.com/CycleCampingUK](http://tinyurl.com/CycleCampingUK)
- [welcometomygarden.org](http://welcometomygarden.org)
- Search online for bunkhouses/indie hostels
- Book direct with the accommodation
- [warmshowers.com](http://warmshowers.com)

- Check out special offers from YHA, Travelodge and Premier Inn

#### Transport

- Book train tickets in advance, using split tickets – from, for example, [book.splitticketing.com](http://book.splitticketing.com)
- Sign up with train companies for special offers
- Groupsave tickets for

parties of three or more

- Cheapest out/back journeys are often midweek, especially Tuesdays
- Claim Delay Repay
- Use Sail & Rail tickets to Ireland ([irishferries.com](http://irishferries.com), [stenaline.co.uk](http://stenaline.co.uk))
- Seatfrog app offers cheap first-class upgrades with free meals, lounge, snacks

and showers

- Buses have £3 flat fares
- Citylink (Scotland) takes bikes, bags supplied

#### Food

- Greggs and Wetherspoons deals
- Supermarket meal deals
- Supermarket reduction shelves
- Pub happy hours

- Too Good to Go app [free surplus food]
- Take a flask
- MoneySavingExpert suggestions: [tinyurl.com/MSEFoodTips](http://tinyurl.com/MSEFoodTips)

#### Misc

- Acquire unwanted camping gear and so on free at [freecycle.com](http://freecycle.com)
- Reuse free hotel toiletries