



Ein Treftadaeth  
Our Heritage



**FOLLOW THE STORY:** Discover more about the slate industry in north Wales by visiting **Penrhyn Castle** just outside Bangor, a neo-Norman castle built in the early 19th century from the profits of slate by Lord Penrhyn.

## Penrhyn – Peers and a pier

A cycle ride from Bangor along the Slate Trail

Duration: 2-3 hours

Before you start your cycle ride, visit the Our Heritage Exhibition at **Gwynedd Museum and Art Gallery (1)** and then take a peek inside the magnificent **St Deiniol's Cathedral (2)** the earliest cathedral foundation in Britain dating to around 525AD. The present building was restored by George Gilbert Scott in the 19th century. Note: cycle stand opposite Cathedral entrance on High Street.

From here, ride up the hill to **Bangor University (3)** founded through contributions from the local population including the quarrymen, whose journey of slate we are about to explore. Head north along Lôn Adda past **Bangor Pier (4)**. Built in 1896, it is the longest surviving pier in Wales and was restored and reopened in 1987. Note: Bicycles are not allowed on to the pier.

From the pier follow Sustrans Route 5 to **Port Penrhyn (5)** built for the quarry-owning lords of Penrhyn. Slate from their quarry was shipped all over the world from here during the 19th century.

Make sure you take in the magnificent sight of **Cegin Viaduct (6)** one of the oldest surviving multi-arch railway bridges in the world, which formed part of the route of the 1801 railway bringing slate from quarry to port. Continue cycling and you will arrive at the 'big mill', **Felin Fawr (7)**. The waterfall at this location powered wheels, which drove mechanical saws to produce slate slabs.

Next you will cycle past **Penrhyn Quarry (8)** once one of the largest in the world and still in operation today. Whizzing overhead you may see thrill seekers experiencing the longest zipwire in Europe.

You can extend your cycle ride by following Lord Penrhyn's 18th century turnpike road to Llyn Ogwen, 'Ffordd y Lord', and enjoy the views of Thomas Telford's road on other side of valley.



Penrhyn Castle © Gwynedd Council



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