

Put your Area on the Map!

Wikipedia – Huge Potential for You and for Wales

With 470 million unique visitors each month, Wikipedia is among the world's top six websites. With 2.3 million page views per month, the Welsh Wikipedia is the most popular Welsh language website in the world. There are over 4.4 million articles on the English Wikipedia; millions more than in the Encyclopaedia Britannica Online. The Welsh Wikipedia has over 55,000 articles; some ten times more than in *Gwyddoniadur Cymru* (Encyclopaedia of Wales). In addition to English and Welsh, there are over 280 other Wikipedia languages, with thousands of articles in them related to Wales, thanks to the millions of people who contribute to Wikipedia around the world.



WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

Wikipedia articles appear in the first page of more than 99% of search results on sites such as Google, Yahoo! and Bing – often higher than official websites. Whatever the topic, it's likely to get much more attention if there's information about it on Wikipedia. At the moment, for example, there's no Wikipedia article specifically about hiking in Wales; were it created, it would be in the top ten search results and catch the attention of a large number of people, many of whom would be considering a hiking visit to Wales.

In education, more and more institutions and academics are contributing to Wikipedia. In February 2014, the *Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol* appointed a Wikipedia Coordinator to licence some of their publications on an open content licence, in partnership with *Cymdeithas Wici Cymru*.

Llwybrau Byw! Living Paths! – Free Training

The main aim of the Llwybrau Byw! Living Paths! project is to increase the number of articles in Welsh and of articles related to Wales in other languages, focusing on the Wales Coast Path counties. The project is sponsored by the Welsh Government and a Wikipedia Training Coordinator has been appointed to arrange FREE Wikipedia editing skills sessions to groups in coastal counties.



Increasing the number of Wikipedia articles is very important to Wales and the Welsh language. Wikipedia is a valuable resource for pupils and students and helps attract tourists. Google uses the number of Welsh articles as a measure when deciding whether or not to provide their software and services in Welsh. **The more Welsh articles we create, the more of its projects Google will provide in Welsh.**

With your new skills you can add information to Wikipedia about any field that interests you. We encourage you to start by ensuring information is on Wikipedia about all the significant places, people and events of interest in your area so that the rest of the world can learn about them.

QRpedia – A World of Information in your Hand

At places of interest (such as a Tudor period building) where a small QR code plaque is placed, visitors can use their mobile devices to connect directly to the Wikipedia article about the place in their own language. Monmouthshire continues to profit from the thousands of QR plaques placed there in 2012 as part of Monmouthpedia. In addition to this, Monmouth Library is the first institution in the world to put QR codes in books, allowing users to connect directly to the corresponding Wikipedia article about the book and its author.



QR code for the **Wales Coast Path** article – on Wikipedia in seven languages so far.

For further details and to arrange a free training session for your group, contact Aled.

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