



Westminster Speleological Group

Welcome to Caerllwyn Cottage.

Welcome to Caerllwyn Cottage, the home of Westminster Speleological Group (WSG). We hope you enjoy your stay here, and that the information within this folder helps you to make the most of your time.

The Cottage is well equipped and is conveniently situated for all South Wales caving areas, the waterfalls region and the Brecon Beacons. The maximum booking size for the bunkroom is 18 people per night. Additional camping space for larger groups is available by arrangement, please contact the cottage secretary for information.



Facilities provided at the Cottage include:

- Fridge, oven, grill, gas hobs, microwave, sink, tea urn
- All cutlery, crockery and cooking utensils
- Common room with tables and seating
- Wood burning stove
- Bunk bed style accommodation for up to 18 persons (non-segregated)
- Bathroom containing two uni-sex showers and two sinks
- Separate room containing two lockable uni-sex toilets
- Heated gear drying room
- Camping space for approx 10 tents
- Picnic tables and permanent stone built barbecue in the garden
- Parking space for up to 12 cars
- Telephone
- Squeeze Machine

Wood Store

There is a supply of wood behind the shed in the locked wood store. The colour coded key will open the padlock. Please use sparingly, as it's very expensive. You may find that there is also wood behind the shower block, but this is unseasoned and should not be used.

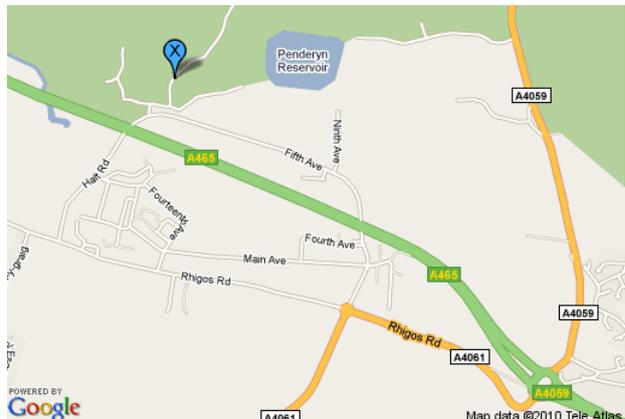
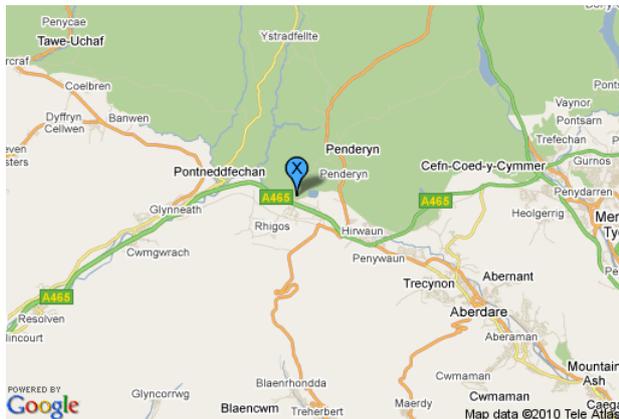
What you need to bring:

- Mattresses are provided, you just need to bring your sleeping bag (and pillow if you like a bit of luxury)
- All food and drink. There may be teabags, salt, pepper, sauces, spices etc in 'Eric's Cupboard' the communal food cupboard, but don't rely on it. Anything left in here is fair game. Please only leave non perishable items in here for others to use.
- Toilet rolls. There are usually some available, but it's always good to bring some with you as well

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How to find Caerllwyn Cottage

Caerllwyn Cottage is a traditional white, stone built cottage located on the quiet Rhigos to Penderyn road (Halt Road) just off the Heads of the Valleys Road (A465). It is easily spotted as it is white with red window shutters and door. The postcode is CF44 9UW.



How to book Caerllwyn Cottage

If you have enjoyed your time here and would like to make a future booking, please do! Bookings are made with the WSG Cottage Secretary, at cottage@wsg.org.uk or via the online booking on the website (www.wsg.org.uk). No deposit is required

Cottage fees

Cottage fees are £7.50 per night per person (or £5.00 for University student groups). Payments are made in arrears, ideally by online bank transfer. Please make payment to Lloyds TSB a/c WSG a/c no: 21884160 sort code: 30-90-84 and remember to send an email to treasurer@wsg.org.uk confirming the amount paid and details of how many stayed (you can use a booking page from this folder to record these details if you wish).

If an online bank transfer is not possible, we can also accept cheques made payable to WSG. Please contact the treasurer to arrange this.



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Cottage rules

Rules are basically common sense, but please do familiarise yourself with them:

- We rely on maintaining good relationships with our immediate neighbours, so please keep noise to a minimum, especially late at night. Please do not hold loud parties or make excessive noise in the garden. **No fireworks or other loud explosions (eg Carbide Mortars) are permitted due to the close proximity of horses and other livestock.**
- In the same vein, please keep car noise to a minimum and give clear directions to on how to find Caerllwyn Cottage to members of your group or visitors (especially those arriving late) to avoid anyone disturbing the neighbours unnecessarily.
- Please don't clutter up the cottage with caving gear (dirty or otherwise)
- There is no rubbish collection. Please take all rubbish and recycling with you at the end of your stay. Bin bags are provided under the sink. There are also many recycling points nearby, the nearest is in Hirwaun (details on the following pages). There is also a compost pit at the bottom of the garden.
- Washing up liquid and cleaning fluids are kept in the kitchen, and spare loo rolls in the WCs cubicles. Please buy some more if you run out!
- Ensure that the cottage is left clean and tidy after your stay, and check that the fridges are left propped open and empty of food items or else they go mouldy!
- If you use the wood burning stove, ensure this is cleared of ash before you leave
- Please note there is a NO SMOKING policy within the Cottage.

Reporting of problems

Please notify the Cottage Secretary (cottage@wsg.org.uk) if gas canisters are low or the wood pile needs replenishing. Please also report any damage – failure to do so will result in the full cost of repair/replacements being levied to your club.



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On Arrival at Caerllwyn

There is no key. The cottage has a code lock on the door. The current guest code will be provided when you book.

Please follow the cottage utility instructions located within the cottage folder (on the back of the front door) for opening up and closing down the cottage. This gives detailed instructions on how the gas, electricity and hot water are managed. **Please pay particular attention to the instructions relating to the hot water boiler as this can be damaged by freezing pipes.**

In general:

1. The electricity mains switch is located to the left side of the front door, in the cupboard above the front window. There are also sockets there, which can be used to charge head lamps or mobile phones.
2. Turn on the mains water under the right hand sink in the kitchen.
3. Turn on the gas. The bottles are located at the rear of the cottage opposite the toilet door. If the bottles are low or empty, please inform the Cottage Secretary so replacements can be ordered.
4. The keys for the outbuildings (showers, toilets, wood store etc) are hanging on the rope loop inside the cottage by the white board. They are colour coordinated. Please leave the keys here at all times when not in use.
5. The shower and wash hand basins are supplied with hot water from a gas fired wall mounted instant boiler found in the shower room. Follow the lighting instructions in the cottage book to turn it on. Before leaving, turn off the water and gas below the wash basins and at the gas bottle, **and drain the boiler before you leave.**
6. Please don't dry wet clothes, towels etc in front of the fireplace. There is a drying room for drying clothes.



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Recycling facilities

There is no rubbish collection. Please take all rubbish and recycling with you at the end of your stay. Bin bags are provided under the sink.

Card & paper – Card and paper can be burnt in the fire

Food waste - There is a compost pit at the bottom of the garden that can be used for disposal of food waste

Glass, plastic and metal – Please take this home with you, or take to one of the many nearby recycling points:

Rhigos Sort Centre (1.1km)

New Inn Public House, Smiths Avenue, CF44 9YU

Rhigos Sort Centre (1.6km) - Glass, Cans

Rhigos Rugby Club, Cwmhwnt Road, CF44 9HJ

Hirwaun Sort Centre (4.0km) - Glass, Cans, Cardboard, Shoes

Glancynon Inn, Swansea Road, CF44 9PE

Penywaun Sort Centre (5.9km) - Glass, Cans

Penywaun Social Club, Gwladys Street, CF44 9DE

Ty Amgen Community Recycling Centre (8.6km) - most things! Paper, card, glass, plastic, metal, shoes...

Llwydcoed, Aberdare, CF44 0BX

April - October (inclusive): Monday – Sunday 8:00 to 19:30

November - March (inclusive): Monday – Sunday 8:00 to 17:30

http://www.amgen-cymru.com/recycling_ty_amgen.php

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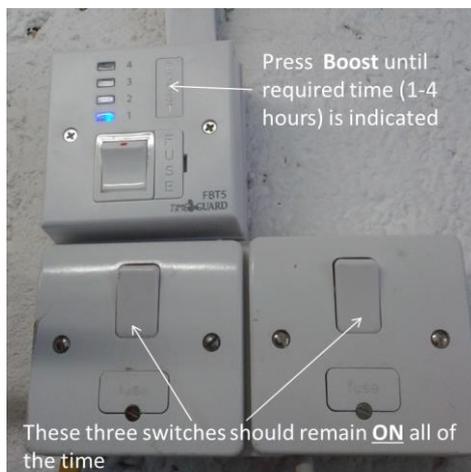
Use of the drying room

There is a drying room for drying clothes / caving gear. Please don't dry wet clothes, towels etc in front of the fireplace.

Please use spin dryer to remove excess water from clothes before hanging in the drying room - Take the spin dryer outside, plug it into the outside socket and spin clothes! Please return the spin dryer to the drying room after use.

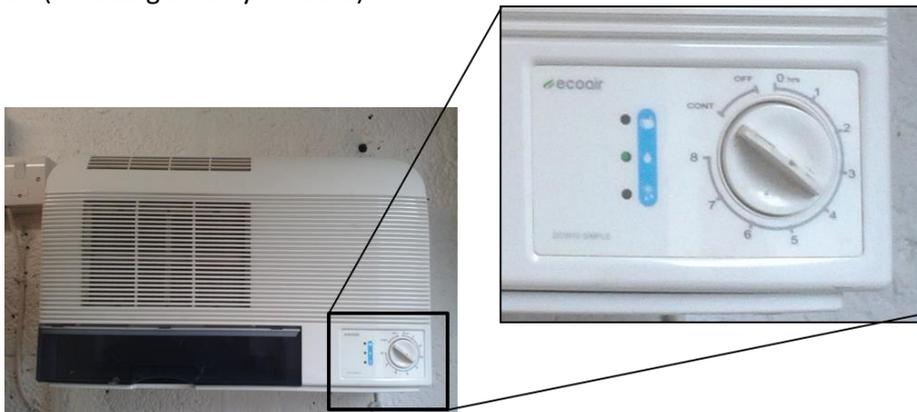
To use the drying room:

1. Press the **Boost** button until the 4 hour indicator is illuminated. This controls both the fan heater and the dehumidifier
2. The two switches below should be on all of the time – they are also controlled by the timer, and should be left on (including when you leave).



The timer lasts 4 hours only. If more drying is required, you will need to restart the timer. It is allowable to leave the timer on overnight or when you leave.

3. The dehumidifier should be on "Cont." – it is controlled by the timer, and should always be left on (including when you leave)





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Wifi Information

The Wifi router keeps resetting itself, and the internet connection is poor.

The password is provided within the cottage folder

Please find us on Facebook: Westminster Speleological Group

Please follow us on Twitter: @WSGcavers



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Other Useful Information

Telephone

The telephone number is 01685 811080 and calls should be logged and the money paid along with the cottage fees. A minimum call charge of 20p applies. Please be honest! The bills are itemised. The phone is the means of call out for Cave Rescue so report any malfunction to the Cottage Secretary as a matter of urgency: cottage@wsg.org.uk

Local facilities

There are small corner shops in both Glyn Neath and Hirwaun. There is also a Tesco and Asda in Aberdare and another Asda on the other side of Merthyr.

There are 3 pubs nearby; the Red Lion at Penderyn (by the Church), the Lamb in Penderyn and the New Inn on the road towards Glyn Neath which serves food. All are within 15 minutes walking distance.

The nearest Curry house is in Aberdare; in fact there are two on the main street. The Angel Inn at Pontneddfechan is a good place for the more 'traditional' pub fare. For real quality though, try the Nant Ddu on the A470 Merthyr to Brecon road, between the reservoirs.

We hope you enjoy your stay, please contact us if you run into any problems: cottage@wsg.org.uk



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About WSG

Caerllwyn Cottage is owned by Westminster Speleological Group (WSG). We are a caving group, originally based in London, but now with members from all over the UK and abroad. We typically organise one or two caving weekends per month either in Wales (based at our here at Caerllwyn Cottage), Yorkshire, Derbyshire or Mendip. The caving trips are planned to appeal to all levels of ability from novice to experienced caver.

There should be copies of our New Members booklet in this folder, which you are welcome to have a look at and take away with you (please let us know so that we can replace them).

You can contact the committee at Committee@wsg.org.uk or visit our website at www.wsg.org.uk.

We also have two evening meets each month, on the first and third Tuesday of each month. It's a good opportunity to say hello and get to know other members of the group. We meet upstairs at the Ship & Shovel bar, Craven Passage WC2 (under Charing Cross station) from 8pm onwards. The pub is actually split in two halves on either side of the street! We meet in the smaller of the two. Just come up the stairs and you should find us. It is often useful to email us in advance (information@wsg.org.uk) so we can keep an eye out for you.

So, if you would like to find out more or to give caving a try, please contact us today! We would be delighted to hear from you!





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Cottage Utilities

Please follow the instructions in the cottage folder to turn on the electric, gas, water and boiler.