Two Short Usk Walks

WALK 1

A WALK THROUGH THE TOWN

1 Turn left out of Twyn Square, along the main street.

2 Just before the bridge, turn right down the footpath which follows the river bank.

3 Where the footpath leaves the river and joins Porthycarne Street, turn left.

4 Just before the railway bridge, turn right up the track.

5 The footpath divides 3 ways here and you can choose which way to go:

- take a left direction over the disused railway bridge, descend the steps at the far side, and walk back to the bridge along the other side of the river;

- take the right hand option, a stepped path leading up to the back of the castle. Take in the castle grounds and views, before descending the lane back to the main road. A right turn brings you back to Twyn Square;

- take the recently restored trail through the railway tunnel and along the line of the old track, joining the main road opposite the primary school.

WALK 2

A POPULAR 3 MILE WALK

This longer circular walk (about an hour) takes you up past the castle, across fields, through woods to a small lake, and back to Usk. The walk is well signed with yellow arrows. Some parts can be muddy; walking boots or wellingtons are recommended. Please keep dogs on leads in the woods to protect wildlife.

1 Turn right out of Twyn Square.

2 Turn left up the path opposite the Fire Station, signed “Usk Castle”
3 Passing the Castle car park on your right, bear right through a gate along a concrete track.

4 Follow the track to Castle Farm, and continue straight on along the clearly defined path.

5 The path goes along a huge field (great views) and enters woodland. When you come out of the wood, follow the fence-line along to a gate on the left marked “Kitty Beech Ride” and turn through it; the yellow arrow sign also shows the direction to take.

6 Keep going straight until you see a small lake to the right of the path – a good spot to sit on a rock and get out the Thermos. Turn left and follow the well marked path, eventually crossing through Cwm Cayo farm and reaching the Abergavenny road.

7 Turn left and walk back to town, where you will arrive at the Three Salmons crossroads. You can take the path along the river bank for part of the way.
HERE ARE TWO WALKS FOR STARTERS - ONE A SHORT STROLL, ONE A NOT-TOO-STRENUOUS 3 MILES.