

Wales has plenty to offer to cyclists - from a parcours to friendly locals and excellent cult

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#### There are LOTS of hills



Wiggle Dragon Ride (Jesse Wild)

According to the latest Strava Insights statistics, released at the start of 2016, riders in Wales clocked the longest average rides and also racked up the most average metres of climbing on each ride.

Whether you ride in the north, south, east or west of the country there are plenty of

climbs to get your legs going. A lot of them are ridiculously steep as well.

## There are miles of coastal routes you can ride



Photo: Chris Catchpole

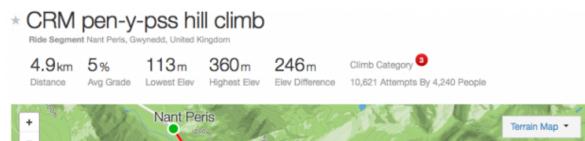
Riding by the sea is excellent and if you ride in Wales then there are plenty of places to get you seaside fix.

Many sections of the Wales Coast Path are suitable for cyclists – although probably not for those on road bikes – and some of them are on the National Cycle Network.

The 18-mile section between Kidwelly and Bynea takes you up the Millennium Coastal Path in Carmarthenshire and gives some pretty spectacular views on a good day.

### You can do some 'proper climbs'

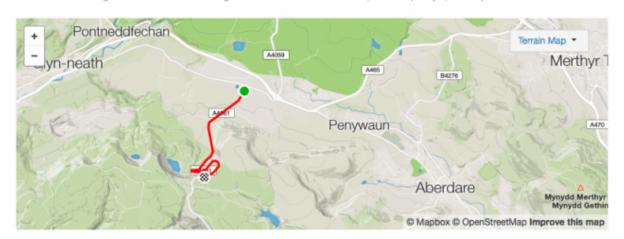
While many parts of the UK specialise in short and extremely steep climbs, in Wales you can find a few long'uns.

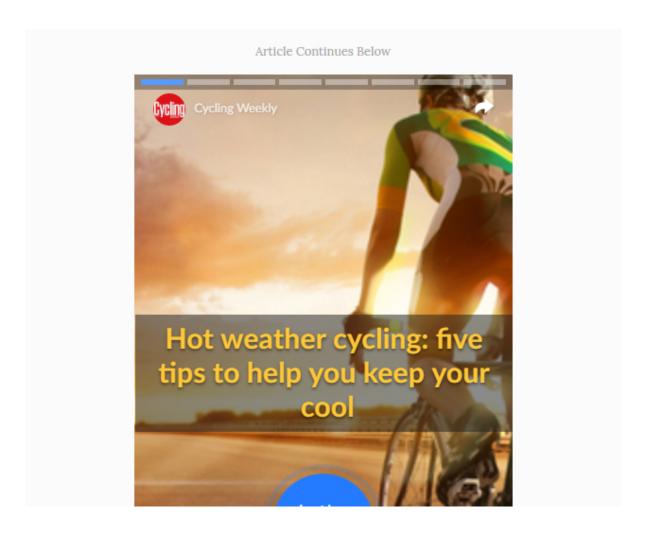


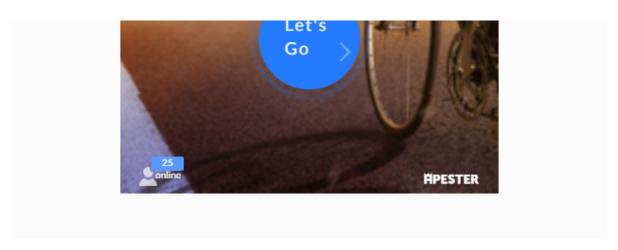


# \* Rhigos (Welsh Hill Climb) Ride Segment Rhigos, Rhondda Cynon Taff, UK, Rhondda Cynon Taff, United Kingdom

Climb Category 3 5.0<sub>km</sub> 5% 222<sub>m</sub> 490m 268m Avg Grade Lowest Elev Highest Elev Elev Difference 11,356 Attempts By 4,729 People









## Welsh cakes



Welsh cakes (Photo: Mindmatrix/CC2.0)

Geraint Thomas raves about them, and there's a good reason why - they're delicious.

What's more, there's a decent amount of sugar in them, and you always have to eat at least three, so they'll probably be good as mid-ride snack.

## You can learn a new language



Photo: Chris Catchpole

Modern road signs in Wales are written in both English and Welsh, so it's your chance to keep your mind active on your ride and learn a new language.

The problem with learning the Welsh language this way, though, is that some of the words are quite long, so you'd have to stop each time you see a road sign in order to see what it says.

### You can ditch the road bike for some off-road action





Photo: Roo Fowler

While it's fun to ride up some of the climbs in Wales, sometimes you just want to go downhill or take advantage of the off-road action in the country.

There are a host of mountain biking facilities there, including Bike Park Wales, near Merthyr Tydfl, which is great if you're a seasoned pro on the fat tyres or even a complete novice.

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