



Bryn Elltyd Guest House: A sustainable B&B

Location: Bryn Elltyd, Tanygrisiau, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Gwynedd, Wales, LL41 3TW

Tel. 01766 831 356

Website: www.ecoguesthouse.co.uk

Proprietors: Ceilia and John Whitehead

Bryn Elltyd Guest House is a 3* Guest House nestled on the lakeside at the foot of the Moelwyn Mountains. Whilst keeping the original features of the property, imaginative extensions and modernisation provide a warm and friendly atmosphere in an ecological and sustainable building where guests can enjoy an inviting and relaxing holiday which has limited negative impact on the environment. Open all year, it has an acre of semi wild grounds and is surrounded by wild and beautiful mountain scenery in the centre of the Snowdonia National Park.

Buildings

- The house is insulated far beyond the minimum requirements of building regulations.
- The solid fuel fire provide heating and hot water using wood from their own trees.
- All the electricity comes from sustainable sources.
- Solar collectors, on the garden room and south facing gable end of the main house, provide heat for water and central heating.
- The water comes from the mains and is metered, whereas the sewage is disposed of in septic tanks, one of which filters into the pond which contains native brown trout. The reed bed help filter the water of impurities as well as providing habitat for frogs, toads and newts

Food

- Fruit and vegetables are bought locally and organic when possible, with some grown in the garden.
- Organic lamb and beef from Ty Isaf Ffestiniog, pork from Llan Farm in Llanfrothen and organic chicken from Corwen.
- Free range hens eggs from Trawsfynydd, and duck eggs from their own ducks.
- Majority of other food is bought locally to support the local economy.
- All tea, sugar, hot chocolate and coffee is from Fairtrade sources.
- Fish - they aim to follow the Marine Conservation Society Guidelines and purchase all fish from Psygod Lley in Pwllheli

Grounds

- One acre of grounds is managed to attract and support a variety of wildlife
- External lighting is solar powered

Day to Day Management

- Bedding and towels are changed only at the guests request.
- Visitors are requested to turn lights out when they leave rooms (the hall and outside lights are left on as a safety precaution).
- Standby on appliances are switched off.
- Visitors are requested to shut all doors to keep the heat in.
- All cans, paper & bottles are recycled and vegetable matter is composted.

Future Developments

John and Ceilia are about to start on a major capital investment project to build a new boiler house to house a wood gasification boiler, with a further 10m² of solar thermal panels on the roof. Log gasification boilers are designed to be installed in an outbuilding or utility room. They have high heat outputs and nice big fireboxes to let you easily heat your house and domestic hot water with wood. Essentially you fill the big firebox up with logs and then walk away - the log gasifying boiler takes care of the rest. Gasifying boilers are batch burners - meaning that you load them right up, burn them hard, let them burn down, and then reload if needed. This is a very efficient way of burning wood which produces a low level of emissions/smoke too. The heat from the wood is often stored in a hot water heat accumulator tank for use as and when needed.