

Ystradgynlais

My Local Community



Ystradgynlais is a large village in south west Wales. It has a population of approximately 8,500 people. Most people in the village speak English as their first language, but many people speak Welsh, and some people speak other languages, e.g., Arabic, Bengali, Chinese.



The village has a busy centre based around a crossroads known locally as "the Cross". There are lots of shops and cafes. There is a large Tesco a mile outside the village

Ystradgynlais used to be a place in which most men worked as miners in one of the many local pits, but they are all shut. There used to be a big ironworks in the village.

The oldest house in the village is called Ystrad Fawr House and it is said Oliver Cromwell once visited there.



There are a number of community spaces like the library, the church hall and the Miners' Welfare hall.



The River Tawe runs through the village and there are several bridges that cross the river.

Ystradgynlais is at the edge of the Brecon Beacons National Park and there are lots of lovely walks over the hills and mountains.



One of the first things you see as you enter the village is the rugby club, but there are also football clubs, a tennis club, and a bowling club. There is a brass band.

The village is often filled with wonderful floral displays thanks to a group of local volunteers who call themselves "Blodau". There are also some nice parks.



St. Cynog's is the parish church which is close to the Church of the Sacred Heart, a Roman Catholic church. There are also a number of chapels still in use in the village.



This is a painting by a famous artist called Josef Heman who made his home in Ystradgynlais.



There are several primary schools, including a Welsh-medium school, a secondary school and a GPs' surgery.



The nearby Dan yr Ogof Caves complex is a great place to visit. There is also a ape sanctuary 2 miles away.