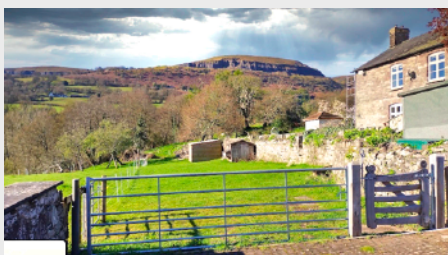
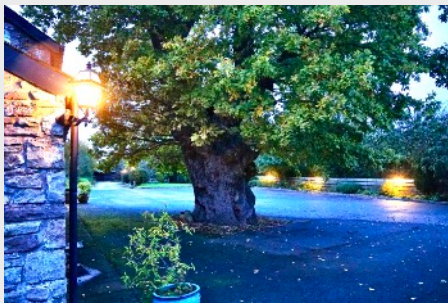




# EUROPE 2023



4 months | 6 countries | 8 house swaps | 10 journey legs



## Cymru (or Wales to us)

A five and a half hour journey took us from Gatwick to Llangattock in Wales yesterday. It was a slow drive via secondary roads in our little 2 person Fiat 500 micro car. We arrived at about 4.40 - if you can believe just as the grey skies turned to full dark. I hate to think how early the sun goes down later in winter. Yesterday I loved that I could read and understand all around me but unfortunately today, I have gone back a step or two, with unpronounceable tongue twisting Welsh.

Llangattock is located in the Brecon Beacons National Park. Our lovely house swap this time around is a three bedroom former barn. The property has two other rentals and a main home. It is set on a hill overlooking the town. The views are to die for. The weather yesterday and today has been very cool and raining a good bit of the time. We started the day with a short 400m walk down the road to the Brecon-Monmouth Canal. We then walked along the tow path beside the canal as the cool winds and the drifting leaves swirled around us. Really lovely! We returned in time to watch the Matilda's play Chinese Taipei in an Olympic Qualifier and really enjoyed the warmth of the house particularly as we viewed the rain falling over the expansive valley outside our window.

Sig was very excited to finally get a chance at another session of walking football. We just had to make the one hour journey to the outskirts of Cardiff. Unfortunately we ended up in a huge traffic jam. Eventually, due to the huge delay sitting in traffic, we decided it was more sensible to turn around and give up. We heard later that the "jam" lasted for a very long time due to a serious accident. We would never have made it to the venue on time. Another attempt to get in some football exercise will be made tomorrow. A quick grocery shop at Tesco was followed by Emily, the GPS, directing us on a rather perplexing drive home through confusing backroads in the dimming light and intermittent drizzle.



