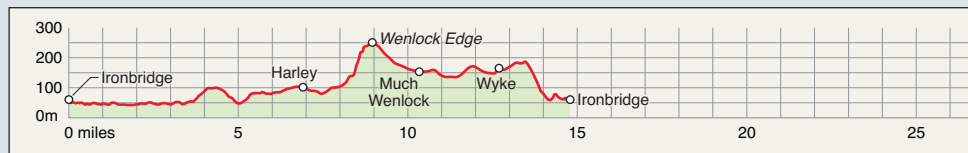


PRACTICAL INFORMATION



- **Terrain** Gently rolling countryside, apart from the steep and sustained climb up Wenlock Edge
- **Difficulty** Easy, with a moderate stretch climbing Wenlock Edge
- **Directions & GPS** * 014.pdf, 014.gpx, 014.kml at <https://trailblazer-guides.com/press>
* See p10-11 for more information on downloads

ROUTE OVERVIEW

14.8 miles (23.8km)

Taking in sections of three different long-distance paths, this walk combines stunning scenery and historical pilgrimage with the area's important industrial heritage. A short second stage allows plenty of time to explore Much Wenlock and Ironbridge at either end.

Ironbridge to Much Wenlock via Harley

10.4 miles (16.7km)

- **Time** 3hrs 45mins actual walking time
 - **Total ascent** 360m / 181ft
 - **Map** OS Explorer 242 *Telford, Ironbridge & The Wrekin*; 241 *Shrewsbury*; 217 *The Long Mynd & Wenlock Edge*
- Beginning in Ironbridge, at the south side of the Iron Bridge itself, walk across and pick up the Severn Way temporarily as it runs alongside the River Severn for **2.2 miles** to Buildwas, after which it is a gentle walk across farmland and through woods via Sheinton (**2.5 miles**) to Harley, reached after **2.2 miles**. The route follows quiet lanes between fields until, after **1.5 miles**, you begin the steep, sustained ascent on a woodland driving road to the summit of Wenlock Edge, reached after a further **0.6 mile**. From here it is a gentle descent to the town of Much Wenlock, in **1.4 miles**.



Much Wenlock to Ironbridge via Wyke

4.4 miles (7.1km)

- **Time** 1hr 30mins actual walking time
 - **Total ascent** 142m / 466ft
 - **Map** OS Explorer 242 *Telford, Ironbridge & The Wrekin*
- This shorter, relaxed walk begins with an amble over farmland via Wyke (**2.4 miles**) along the Shropshire Way, its signs featuring a bird of prey, to reach the opposite bank of the Severn to that taken on the first section of the walk, arriving back at the Iron Bridge in **2 miles**.



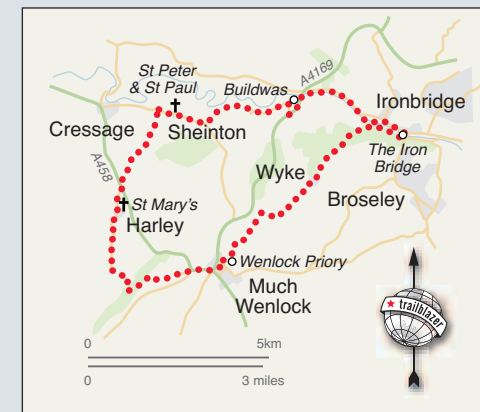
Day walk options

This circular walk could be completed in a day, starting and ending at Ironbridge.

- **By public transport** Take the train to Telford station, then a bus or taxi to the start at Ironbridge.
- **Taxi option** Diamond Cars, Telford (☎ 01952-222222, diamondcars.co.uk)

Where to eat or stay

- **Ironbridge Stay** at the *Bridge View Guest House* (☎ 01952-432541, ironbridgeview.co.uk, 10 Tontine Hill) right on the Gorge and **eat** fine Indian food at *Pondicherry* (☎ 01952-433055, pondicherryrestaurant.co.uk; 57 Waterloo St).
- **Much Wenlock** Stay overnight at *The Fox Inn* (☎ 01952-727292, foxinnmuchwenlock.co.uk, 46 High St), a warm and welcoming pub with good grub. Have afternoon tea at *Tea on the Square* (☎ 01952-727929, facebook.com/Tea-on-the-Square, 21 Barrow St).



PILGRIMAGE HIGHLIGHTS

- Walk to the tranquil riverside remains of **Buildwas Abbey** (english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/buildwas-abbey/; Apr-Oct 10am-5pm, Nov-Mar Tue-Sat 10am-4pm).
- Climb the ancient pilgrim path over **Wenlock Edge** and be rewarded with stunning views from the top.
- Explore the lovely medieval town of Much Wenlock, and visit **Wenlock Priory** (english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/wenlock-priory/; Apr-Sept 10am-6pm, Oct-3 Nov 10am-5pm, 4 Nov-16 Feb 10am-4pm, 5 Sheinton Street).

St Milburga's saint's day: 23 February

			Walk 14: St Milburga's Shropshire
Distance from start	Distance from last direction	OS refs	Direction
0	0	SJ 67233 03380	From the car park at Station Yard car park, walk across the Iron Bridge and turn left along Wharfage. Continue along past the museum to a roundabout.
880yds/800m	880yds/800m	SJ 66649 03743	Turn left onto Severn Way footpath through riverside park and follow as it dips from riverside to road and back again a number of times, taking you under two bridges and past a third. After the third bridge the route leaves the road for a stretch alongside the river. Warning: the path is very close to the river at a couple of points, and is best avoided in wet weather. You may in any case prefer to keep to the road.
2miles/3.3km	1.5miles/2.5km	SJ 64680 04479 SJ 64525 04468	Shortly before reaching the fourth bridge, the path goes up to the right to meet Buildwas Rd. Turn left onto Buildwas Rd up to Much Wenlock Rd (A4169). Turn left again to cross the River Severn and continue along to Buildwas Abbey.
2.2miles/3.6km	330yds/300m	SJ 64449 04187	The entrance to Buildwas Abbey is on your right. Then continue along Much Wenlock Rd.
2.5miles/4km	440yds/400m	SJ 64201 03933	Turn right at turning for Mill Farm to pick up footpath. This is actually a metalled lane, although a sign says 'Footpath only'. Stick to this lane, which is reduced to a track, as it winds between farms.
4.2miles/6.8km	1.7miles/2.8km	SJ 61894 03704	Turn right onto lane just past Hilltop Farm.
4.8miles/7.7km	990yds/900m		Pass through Sheinton and continue across the bridge over Sheinton Brook.
5miles/8.1km	440yds/400m	SJ 60669 04050	Just after the bridge turn left off lane onto bridleway.
5.6miles/9km	660yds/600m	SJ 60378 03285	At Belswardyne Farm keep to track as it passes to the left of buildings, then keep high brick wall to your right as you leave the farm, ignoring footpath to your left. Continue straight ahead between fields until you reach the A458.

6.5miles/10.4km	0.9miles/1.4km	SJ 59663 02147 SJ 59697 02008	Turn left onto A458, cross over and take lane to Harley on your right.
6.8miles/11km	660yds/600m	SJ 59697 02008 SJ 59440 00899	Reach St Mary's Harley. From church, take lane to right signposted Domas and marked as a dead end. Continue to follow this lane as it bends left to pass Domas Cottage and then runs between fields up to a T-junction of lanes.
7.9miles/12.8km	1.1miles/1.8km	SO 59402 99832	At T-junction of lanes, turn left, passing Rowley Cottages.
8miles/13km	220yds/200m	SO 59513 99808	At field entrance, keep to the right-hand field margin and walk towards woods. <i>OS maps show a right of way running diagonally left across this field, but the route is not evident on the ground.</i>
8.3miles/13.4km	440yds/400m	SO 59857 99569	Pass through gap in hedge and turn right on track for 100m.
8.4miles/13.5km	110yds/100m	SO 59778 99468	Take (unsigned) footpath on your left, running diagonally over meadow towards woods.
8.5miles/13.6km	110yds/100m	SO 59830 99352	Bear left to go round edge of woods to reach track running just within the tree cover.
8.6miles/13.7km	110yds/100m	SO 59878 99306	Turn left onto sunken track and follow it as it climbs up Wenlock Edge. OS maps show two parallel routes running this way, but on the ground there is only one.
8.9miles/14.3km	660yds/600m	SO 60416 99676	Reach summit of Wenlock Edge and follow path as it bears right then left. Various long distance paths meet and diverge at this point. You want the Jack Mytton that heads for Much Wenlock. Continue until you reach the B4371 Stretton Rd.
9.7miles/15.6km	0.8miles/1.3km	SO 61499 99761	Bear left onto B4371 towards Much Wenlock.

9.8miles/15.8km	220yds/200m	SO 61686 99791	Bear right when the B4371 road joins Victoria Rd, A458.
10miles/16.2km	440yds/400m	SO 62120 99785	As A458 bends right, at crossroads, continue straight on into High St.
10.2miles/16.5km	330yds/300m	SO 62356 99934	Turn right into Barrow St for St Milburga's Well, 100m along on the left.
10.3miles/16.6km	110yds/100m	SO 62419 99893	Reach St Milburga's Well. Retrace your steps along Barrow St then bear slight right into Wilmore St for 100m.
10.4miles/16.7km	110yds/100m	SJ 62338 00016	Turn right into Bull Ring for Wenlock Priory.
10.5miles/16.9km	220yds/200m	SJ 62404 00064	Reach Wenlock Priory entrance. Leaving priory, continue to end of lane and then pick up Shropshire Way.
10.9miles/17.5km	660yds/600m	SJ 62725 00562	Follow path as it turns right, then passes sewage works and continues on between fields to a lane.
11.5miles/18.5km	0.6mile/1km	SJ 63369 01335	When path reaches lane at Bradley Farm, turn right onto lane and follow it as it bends left, passes Newhouse Farm and continues on to Wyke.
12.7miles/20.5km	1.2miles/2km	SJ 64781 02115 SJ 64805 02178	Reach the hamlet of Wyke. Follow lane as it bends left, then right. Just as you are leaving Wyke, and the lane turns sharp right, take the Shropshire Way path straight ahead, signposted The Vineyards.
13.3miles/21.5km	0.6mile/1km		Where paths leave to right and left of you, stick to the middle option, Shropshire Way until you reach the River Severn.
14.1miles/22.7km	0.8mile/1.2km	SJ 66195 03615	At River Severn, turn right to return to Ironbridge.
14.8miles/23.8km	0.7mile/1.1km	SJ 67231 03371	Reach the Iron Bridge, and your starting point.