

THE SHROPSHIRE WAY EXTENSION

Section I: Clee Hill to Cleobury Mortimer

Start at the car park above the gate to the radar station (existing Shropshire Way intersect point)

- proceed down metalled road to first finger post [GR 596772] on left hand side
- follow pathway proceeding SE along well defined track to ridge summit [FP] [GR 599770]
- utilise old tree (Devil's Fork) as marker point (bearing 86°) proceeding to the south of Random Farm crossing a gravel track
- at field corner [GR 604770] proceed forward across road then past fingerpost (123°) towards and onto pond bank
- at east corner of pond bank follow trail (continuing 123°) utilising slightly raised ancient bank as path marker to old road [note Hanson's quarry works in distance to the right] then turning left along road proceed down past Whatsill Cottages
- then bear right at the track junction, then left down the bank to the right of the knoll to a waymark post
- turn left downhill on the road
- follow old road between two cottages (last on left is 'Spring Cottage) and then straight ahead off road onto a grass track [FP] [GR 616770]
- go downhill as track becomes a stream bed and continue, keeping houses on the right, to a gravel track
- proceed left along track to tarmac road and then right to T-junction and right again to cattle grid
- cross over the cattle grid, follow the Hopton Bank road about 200 m to the Glass House drive on the left (sign posted TYGLASS) [FP] [GR 625773]
- at Glass House go forward at the end of the drive, over a stile to the left of the house into small rear garden of furthest house, exit via stile and then forward down field to a 2nd stile
- in next field go over a stile in left hand corner
- proceed down the next field towards a metal gate. Just before this gate bear left over a step stile
- proceed downhill across an open field to come to a footbridge
- bear off to the middle of the field then through a field gate followed by two more stiles onto a short track which crosses a stream (small bridge)
- go left up to corner of field and re-cross stream into small field
- then over the stile in upper right hand corner and then forward across a fenced path to the next stile into a small field. At the lower right hand corner go through an old iron kissing gate down church path across churchyard [GR 637765] to entrance gate then onto road at Hopton Wafers.

- [*Diversion - turn right and follow the road around bearing left to The Crown Inn for a fine pint of local ale, meals and lodging. View at www.crownathopton.co.uk]*
- turn left and proceed up the tarmac road (passing Hopton Court on the right) for about 1 km to a T-junction
- cross over road and then slightly to right through gate and young trees to a stile then through a field (bearing slightly right) to a way marked gate ahead into Sproselly garden [GR 646767] garden (please respect occupants' privacy)
- proceed across garden open space (well defined path through arbours) keeping to the right away from the house until over next stile (behind gazebo) then slightly to left over another stile, uphill and forward across two field stiles onto a dirt road (corner) – [note Little Woodhouse farm straight ahead down private drive – once part of smallest parish in the British Isles – 12 acres]
- go right through the field gate and downhill diagonally left across field keeping downhill hedge corner (fronting a small woodland) to the left then bearing straight ahead (use large oak tree as marker) until you reach an old railway sleeper bridge [GR 653766], over bridge and through old wooden field gate
- bear left after bridge and diagonally across field (or follow field edge to avoid crops) to stile on bank in line of poplars
- cross stile and walk through young trees (track) across next field (well defined track when crop present) to farm gate onto tarmac road (Common Lane) [GR 657764]
- go directly across (finger post) through metal gate and straight forward over two field stiles by right hand hedge
- once across these two fields note stile in corner hedge (now at back of Lea Farm)
- proceed over stile and keep left for about 60 m until opening in hedge
- turn left through opening and follow hedge line to the entrance to Lea Farmhouse drive
- upon reaching this unpaved road see to the right a well marked path leading across the farm field which takes you through a kissing gate onto Catherton Road (tarmac) [GR 665761]
- cross road and go through farm gate (way marked)
- proceed diagonally across field to stile at bottom (bordering a new housing development: Cleobury Meadows)
- turn left after this stile then through a wood gate to a tarmac track (on a parkland area for community recreation adjacent to Lacon Child Secondary School, Cleobury Mortimer)
- proceed forward along track bearing right uphill past sports field on right
- at end of track go left through gate then forward past the Cleobury Mortimer Sports & Social club building
- go across car park to road corner (note Wenlock Edge sign post – this point marks the south east end of the 100 km Jack Mytton Way)

- keep to the left down road (Love Lane) to a children's playground on the left
- [note: at the point by the Cleobury Mortimer Primary School you may wish to detour for a day or two on the scenic 25 km Simon Evans Way (note way marker) – booklet available at local newsagent (Cleobury News) or town VIP at The Market Hall]
- turn right along Langlands Road and follow this road which ultimately becomes a pathway (after crossing Viols Walk/Childes Road) keeping right through a churchyard (St. Mary the Virgin church) into the town centre of Cleobury Mortimer at the High Street (A4117)
- you may choose to pause here for refreshment and accommodation (view: www.cleoburycountry.com)

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