



Rail Rambles

Troeon Trên

www.railrambles.org/

Guided Walks from Railway Stations in Mid-Wales and the Marches Teithiau Cerdded Tywysedig o Orsafoedd Rheilffyrdd yng Nghanolbarth Cymru a'r Gororau

> 8 January – 25 June 2022 8 Ionawr – 25 Mehefin 2022

Welcome to Rail Rambles

Rail Rambles are guided walks from railway stations in Mid-Wales and the Marches. Each walk is planned to be accessible by a day return rail journey from a number of main line and connecting bus and rail stations. The walks are free to join and are open to the public, with no membership of any organisation required.

The Rail Rambles programme is organised by volunteer members of the Rail Rambles Association and produced with the support of Transport for Wales.

For more information about our walks please contact: enquiries@railrambles.org

We do not publish individual walk leaders' contact details, but are happy to put you in touch with leaders if you need more information about a walk or advice on how to join it.

How to join a Rail Ramble

Normally, to join a Rail Ramble, all you need to do is turn up at the start of the walk. Walks normally start from the appropriate railway station (e.g., Craven Arms station for a Craven Arms circular walk, Wrenbury station for a linear walk from Wrenbury to Whitchurch), when the listed train from the Shrewsbury direction arrives. But please do check the website just in case we are having to ask you to book, or for any specific joining instructions.

If you can join the listed train from Shrewsbury, you will be likely to find other Rail Ramblers on the way to the walk. If you are coming from another direction, you will need to plan your journey so that you arrive at the start point in good time – please feel free to ask us if you need help or advice.

Dogs:

To comply with the wishes of the majority of our walkers, we're sorry but dogs cannot be taken on any Rail Ramble. Assistance dogs are permitted, but please check with us first, as routes may not be suitable or safe for your dog.

Walk descriptions

- 'Easy' means mostly level ground and a gentle pace.
- 'Leisurely' means gentle climbs and some level ground for reasonably fit people.
- 'Moderate' indicates some steep paths and a steady pace for people with country walking experience and a good level of fitness ('moderate+' means as moderate but with a generally greater level of difficulty).

Preparation and safety

Walks are led by experienced volunteer leaders, all of whom are members of the Rail Rambles association and many of whom are also members of the Ramblers. Whilst every care will be taken to keep to the advertised programme, walk leaders reserve the right to make changes to suit weather conditions, the needs of the party or other unforeseen circumstances.

Most Rail Rambles are off-road in rural areas. Please have suitable footwear and clothing for the walk you intend to join, and bring some food and drink. Leaders may refuse to accept participants who in their opinion are inadequately equipped or unfit. When in doubt, contact the organisers or the walk leader in advance.

For your own and others' safety please abide by any instructions issued by the walk leader. Though walking is inherently one of the safest outdoor activities, no activity is completely without risk and it is your responsibility to behave sensibly and to minimise the potential for accidents to occur.

Please try to use the train for at least part of your journey – remember, these are after all RAIL Rambles!

Train times

The programme for each walk shows outward times from Shrewsbury (with arrival time at the walk start station) and return times from the walks destination stations (with arrival time at Shrewsbury).

For details of departure times from other locations and connecting services, please ring National Rail Enquiries (03457 48 49 50), ask at your local station, or visit https://www.nationalrail.co.uk/ or https://tfw.wales/.

Time details may be subject to change. Walkers are strongly advised to check times of trains before travelling, and to check our website, www.railrambles.org, in case of last minute changes to the programme.

Fares and tickets

The normal range of tickets can be used to travel to the walk start point. Where a walk returns from a different location, a ticket to the furthest point should be purchased. We try to tell you the furthest point from Shrewsbury, where this is not obvious, but be careful if you are coming from the opposite direction!

Discounted fares are available to holders of railcards and it is always worth enquiring about the availability of group discounts or investigating whether splitting your ticket would save you money (many of our walkers find this to be the case).

On walks where a **bus** journey is shown, remember to bring your Welsh or English bus pass if you're lucky enough to have one!



RAIL RAMBLES PROGRAMME January to June 2022

Saturday 8 January

Chirk Circular via Chirk aqueduct, Ceiriog Valley, Offa's Dyke Path to Tyn-y-groes and Chirk Castle woods (7 miles moderate). Leaders John Mattocks and Steve Paynter. Depart Shrewsbury 09.27 (arr. Chirk 09.49), return Chirk 16.05 (arr. Shrewsbury 16.30).

Saturday 15 January

Wrexham Circular via Minera Mountain, Clywedog Trail, Nant Mill and Erddig (10 miles moderate). Leaders Douglas and Ian Hill. Depart Shrewsbury 09.27 (arr. Wrexham General 10.03), **bus** to Minera (fare extra), return Wrexham General 16.34 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.12).

Saturday 22 January

Craven Arms to Church Stretton via Strefford, Marshbrook and Ragdon (9 miles moderate). Leaders Pete Lightwood and Nigel Hotchkiss. Depart Shrewsbury 09.41 (arr. Craven Arms 10.04), return Church Stretton 16.56 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.12). (**Book Craven Arms return**.)

Saturday 29 January

Borth to Aberystwyth via Ceredigion Coast Path (6.5 miles moderate). Leaders Pam Swales and Clare Gathercole. Depart Shrewsbury 09.30 (arr. Borth 11.06), return Aberystwyth 17.28 (arr. Shrewsbury 19.19). (**Book Aberystwyth return**.)

Saturday 5 February

Shrewsbury Circular NEW via Hencote, Alkmund Pool and Coton Hill (6.5 miles easy). Leaders Judith Griffiths and Pat Fielden. Meet outside Shrewsbury Station main entrance for a 10.30 start.

Saturday 12 February

Caersws Circular via Cefn Carnedd, Llandinam, Cobblers Gate and Giant's Grave (8 miles moderate). Leaders Bob and Liz Owen. Depart Shrewsbury 09.30 (arr. Caersws 10.14), return Caersws 16.35 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.19).

Wednesday 16 February

Broome to Craven Arms via View Edge and Aldon (8 miles moderate). Leaders Mike Ledlie and Les Lumsdon. Depart Shrewsbury 10.09 (arr. Broome 10.42), return Craven Arms 16.24 (arr. Shrewsbury 16.48). (**Book Broome return**.)

Saturday 19 February

Ludlow Circular (snowdrop walk) via Halfway House, Stanton Lacy churchyard and Ludlow Racecourse (7 miles moderate). Leaders Pam Hill and Steve Paynter. Depart Shrewsbury 09.41 (arr. Ludlow 10.11), return Ludlow 16.23 (arr. Shrewsbury 16.54).

Saturday 26 February

Church Stretton Circular via Snatchfield Farm, Cwms Cottage and Caer Caradoc (7 miles moderate). Leaders Audrey Menhinick and Richard Inett. Depart Shrewsbury 09.41 (arr. Church Stretton 09.55), return Church Stretton 16.56 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.12).

Saturday 5 March

Knighton Circular via Offa's Dyke Path south, Lower Penllan, Hengwm Hill, Llan-wen Hill and Farrington Lane (8 miles moderate). Leaders Mike Plume and Steve Paynter. Depart Shrewsbury 09.04 (arr. Knighton 09.54), return Knighton 16.21 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.12).

Saturday 12 March

Church Stretton Circular via Folly Bank, Cardington, Hope Bowdler Hill, Gaer Stone and Hazler Wood (8 miles moderate). Leaders Darren Hall and Peter Jones. Depart Shrewsbury 09.41 (arr. Church Stretton 09.55), return Church Stretton 16.56 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.12).

Wednesday 16 March

Shifnal Circular via Evelith Mill and Ryton (9 miles moderate). Leaders Mick and Linda Hemming. Depart Shrewsbury 09.43 (arr. Shifnal 10.09), return Shifnal 15.41 (arr. Shrewsbury 16.10).

Saturday 19 March

Albrighton (changed) Tong, Monarch's Way, White Ladies Priory (8 miles moderate). Leaders Jean Bell and Peter Jones. Depart Shrewsbury 09.41 (arr. Albrighton 10.14), return Albrighton 15.32 (arr. Shrewsbury 16.08).

Saturday 26 March

Montford Bridge to Shrewsbury via Severn/Shropshire Way (7 miles easy). Leaders Pat Willday and Pam Swales. **Bus** from Shrewsbury to Montford Bridge (fare extra). Depart **Shrewsbury Bus Station** 10.05.

Saturday 2 April

Kelsall to Chester via Tarvin, Packhorse Bridge, Baker Way and Shropshire Union Canal (9 miles moderate, fairly flat). Leaders Douglas and Ian Hill. Depart Shrewsbury 09.27 (arr. Chester 10.20), **bus** from Chester to Kelsall (fare extra), return Chester 16.19 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.12).

Saturday 9 April

Hereford Circular via Wyvale Wood, Breinton and the Wye Valley Walk (7 miles moderate). Leaders Bob and Liz Owen. Depart Shrewsbury 09.41 (arr. Hereford 10.38), **bus** to White Cross (fare extra), return Hereford 16.29 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.22).

Saturday 16 April

Church Stretton Circular via Chelmick, Soudley, Woodgate Farm, Middle Hill and Cwms Farm (8 miles moderate). Leaders Darren Hall and Doug Hill. Depart Shrewsbury 09.41 (arr. Church Stretton 09.55), return Church Stretton 16.56 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.12).

Wednesday 20 April

Greenfield to Flint NEW via Heritage Park, St Winefride's Well and Wat's Dyke Way (8 miles moderate, but some uneven terrain and one steep climb). Leaders Mike Ledlie and Les Lumsdon. Depart Shrewsbury 08.50 (arr. Flint 10.12), **bus** from Flint to Greenfield (fare extra), return Flint 17.17 (arr. Shrewsbury 18.30).

Saturday 23 April

Ruabon Circular via Stryt-issa, Trefechan and Frozen Clock (9 miles moderate). Leaders Richard Inett and Mick Hemming. Depart Shrewsbury 09.27 (arr. Ruabon 09.56), return Ruabon 16.41 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.12).

Produced by Mid-Wales and Marches Rail Rambles

Saturday 30 April

Wellington Circular (bluebell walk) NEW via Lime Kiln Woods and the lower slopes of the Wrekin and the Ercall (8 miles moderate). Leaders Aisling Amato and Pam Hill. Depart Shrewsbury 09.31 (arr. Wellington 09.45), return Wellington 16.06 (arr. Shrewsbury 16.20).

Saturday 7 May

Hopton Heath to Bucknell via the Heart of Wales Line Trail and Bucknell Wood (7.5 miles moderate). Leaders Douglas and Ian Hill. Depart Shrewsbury 09.04 (arr. Hopton Heath 09.42), return Bucknell 16.27 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.12). (**Book Bucknell return**.)

Saturday 14 May

Aberdovey to Penhelig via Trefeddian, Dyffryn-glyn-cûl, Gwyddgwion, Llechwedd, Trefrifawr and Bryneithyn. Leaders Peter Jones and Pete Lightwood. Depart Shrewsbury 09.30 (arr. Aberdovey 11.14), return Penhelig 15.35 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.19). (**Book Aberdovey return**.)

Wednesday 18 May

Welshpool Circular via Powis Castle estate paths (6 miles moderate). Leaders Pat Willday and Linda Hemming. Depart Shrewsbury 09.30 (arr. Welshpool 09.51), return Welshpool 14.55 (arr. Shrewsbury 15.21).

Saturday 21 May

To be confirmed.

Saturday 28 May

Machynlleth Circular via Gallt y Gôg, Garth, Pont-ar-Ddyfi and Bryn-glâs (7 miles moderate). Leaders Nigel Hotchkiss and Clare Gathercole. Depart Shrewsbury 09.30 (arr. Machynlleth 10.45), return Machynlleth 16.08 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.19).

Saturday 4 June

Shrewsbury Circular NEW via Betton Strange, tracks and lanes to River Severn near Atcham, and Severn Way to Weir Hill (10 miles moderate, fairly flat). Leaders Judith Griffiths and Pat Fielden. Meet outside Shrewsbury Station main entrance for a 10.30 start.

Saturday 11 June

Llandrindod Circular via Dan-y-graig, Shaky Bridge, Castle Bank, Shaky Bridge, Pantpurlais and The Lake (7 miles moderate). Leaders John Mattocks and Pam Hill. Depart Shrewsbury 09.04 (arr. Llandrindod 10.34), return Llandrindod 15.42 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.12).

Wednesday 15 June

Mordiford to Fownhope NEW via Joan's Hill and Common Hill nature reserves (8 miles moderate). Leaders Mike Ledlie and Les Lumsdon. Depart Shrewsbury 09.15 (arr. Hereford 10.10), **bus** from Hereford to Mordiford 10.40, **bus** from Fownhope to Hereford 16.04 (bus fares extra), return Hereford 17.57 (arr. Shrewsbury 18.54). (**Book Hereford return**.)

Saturday 18 June

Nantwich Circular via River Weaver, Nantwich Lake and Shropshire Union Canal (6 miles easy). Leaders Clare Gathercole and Aisling Amato. Depart Shrewsbury 09.54 (arr. Nantwich 10.19), return Nantwich 16.18 (arr. Shrewsbury 16.48).

Saturday 25 June

Church Stretton Circular via Ragleth Hill, Barrister's Plain, the Port Way, Townbrook Valley and Rectory Wood (8 miles moderate). Leaders Peter Hollinrake and Steve Paynter. Depart Shrewsbury 09.41 (arr. Church Stretton 09.55), return Church Stretton 16.56 (arr. Shrewsbury 17.12).

Why not join the Ramblers?*



If you'd like to get out more and enjoy your local area with like-minded people, the **Ramblers** could be for you, with walk programmes catering for all abilities, many aimed specifically at beginners. Your membership will also help to protect footpaths and walking spaces for everyone to enjoy. To join, visit www.ramblers.org.uk/join or call 020 3961 3232.

*Rail Rambles is an independent walking organisation currently affiliated to the Ramblers (Powys area). We have received a lot of support from the Ramblers over the years and very much share their values and aims. However, Ramblers members, please be aware that the Rail Rambles themselves are not official Ramblers activities, so your Ramblers insurance policy does not cover them.

Thank you, Transport for Wales

For continuing the support which makes it possible for us to run the Rail Rambles programme.



