



Stage 4: Clun to Craven Arms

Clun Youth Hostel



This walk takes in two of the finest Iron Age hill forts in Shropshire, down to quiet unspoilt valleys and over common land that has not been ploughed for centuries. The unspoilt villages in this area were immortalised by A. E. Housman in his Shropshire Lad:

*Clunton and Clunbury, Clungunford
and Clun,
Are the quietest places under the sun.*

Bury Ditches

Bury Ditches Hillfort



Leave Clun to the north east and climb to Bury Ditches Hill Fort. The Shropshire Way passes over the ramparts to the central plateau of this ancient place. It was once obscured by trees but is now enjoyed by walkers since tree felling opened up the site.

En route to Kempton you will pass Walcot Wood, an ancient woodland managed by the National Trust.

Burrow Hill Fort

Burrow Hillfort



This is regarded by some as superior to Bury Ditches and can be reached by a diversion at SO377835 along the edge of a wood.

Hopesay

A good place for a rest and if you are lucky the tea shop opposite the church may be open for some refreshment before another climb to Hopesay Common.

The 13th century church with its interesting architecture is worth a visit.

Hopesay Common



Craven Arms

This small town on the A49 is a useful for rail and bus connections. Here the Heart of Wales railway line veers off towards Swansea. Interesting places are The Discovery Centre, The Land of Lost Content Museum and Harry Tuffin's the supermarket of the Marches.



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