

# SHROPSHIRE WAY

## SOUTH & NORTH SECTIONS



About  
5 miles

## Stage 10b: Haughmond to Shrewsbury

This is the junction where you have the choice of completing the Southern loop of the Shropshire Way and returning to Shrewsbury or continuing north on **Stage 11 to Wem**.



Haughmond Abbey

### Haughmond Abbey

If you have time this ruined 12th century Augustinian Abbey is worth a visit as it has some impressive architectural features reflecting the rich endowments it received for its founding. Following the dissolution in 1536 the buildings fell into ruin but enough survives to give a good impression of the life in the monastery. Opening times are March to September under the care of English Heritage.

### Shrewsbury Canal

About one mile from Haughmond, you will cross an insignificant looking old canal just before crossing the road at Uffington. This is the remains of the Shrewsbury to Newport canal that used to carry coal and iron to Shrewsbury. The path then follows the old towpath and eventually meets the River Severn. Although the canal was extended in 1836 to reach the Buttermarket in the centre of Shrewsbury, railway transport arrived and the Buttermarket became a railway warehouse and is now a nightclub.

### The Flaxmill

At SJ509145 the route veers left towards the River Severn but the right fork will take you to another historic building. The Flaxmill is the earliest iron framed building in the world having been constructed early in the industrial revolution to reduce the high risk of fire in the processing of flax. Restoration is underway and there are plans to restore the canal to this point.

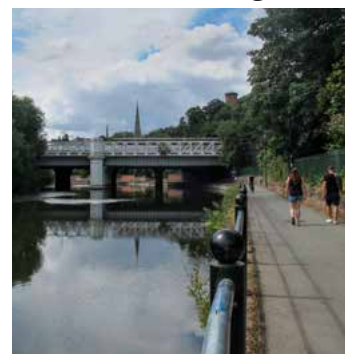


The Weir

### The Weir

Sailing barges navigated the River Severn to Shrewsbury until 1907 when the variability of water levels made this increasingly difficult. The weir was built in 1909 to maintain the water level around the 'loop' so that pleasure boating could still be enjoyed. There have been many plans to build locks, a hydroelectric plant and improved access for fish but none has been realised.

As you approach the massive railway bridge there is a flight of steps in the bank leading to the railway station and Shrewsbury Prison, now a visitor attraction. To complete the walk continue under the English Bridge and round the river loop to Kingsland Bridge.



River Severn & railway bridge

# Stage 10b: Haughmond Hill to Shrewsbury

