

SHROPSHIRE WAY

NORTH SECTION



About
14 miles

Stage 13: Ellesmere to Llanymynech



Swing bridge at Maesbury Marsh

Much of this stage is along canal towpath, a permissive right of way without the need for extensive way-marking; you can't go wrong! However you may find restoration work still going on in some places so be prepared for a diversion if necessary.

Lower Frankton

The Montgomery Canal branching off to the south at this point has been undergoing restoration over the last fifty years or so. The locks here have been brought back to life and what was literally a backwater is now a lively junction. A long straight where otters can be spotted leads to a bridge under the busy A5 road or Watling Street.

Queen's Head at this point provides a good halfway refreshment stop with a pub of the



Canal locks, Lower Frankton

same name. On from here St Winifred's Well is a quiet haven accessible from the footpath at GR SJ321249. There is a myth that St Winifred was brought back to life after being de-capitated by a frustrated suitor.

Maesbury Marsh

Horse drawn canal boats, cycle hire, canoe hire, accommodation and a café can all be found at Canal Central close by. If you wish to visit Oswestry you can take the Wat's Dyke Way footpath from here for a three mile walk along lanes and over fields to the town.

Pant and Llanymynech

Railway and canal transport systems in turn provided transport for the products from local mines and quarries. There is a heritage railway project at nearby Llynclys, the canal is being restored and there is an interesting industrial heritage site at Llanymynech. A Hoffman lime kiln in a remarkable state of preservation is worth a visit; its tall chimney providing a distinctive landmark. Limestone was quarried from Llanymynech Hill and processed for use as a fertiliser and lime mortar until early last century.

The Offa's Dyke path and The Shropshire Way meet at Llanymynech.



Limekiln chimney at Llanymynech Heritage Area



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