SHROPSHIRE WAY

NORTH SECTION



Stage 14: Llanymynech to Nesscliffe



For about half of this route you will be following the River Vrnwy on the Argae. This a flood defence so beware of floods in wet winter weather.

Llanymynech

Offa's Dyke Path runs through the village of Llanymynech and is testament to the fact that the village is right on the English / Welsh border; literally half lies in England and half in Wales. Head eastwards into England along the B4398 before taking a footpath right towards the river Vrnwy. This is a tributary of the River Severn, the confluence of the two is near Melverley and just south of the route.

Melverley

The striking St Peter's church here is the oldest half-timbered church in England. It stands right on the river bank and has many interesting features including a chained Bible on the lectern dating from 1727. A good refreshment stop is the Royal Hill a small pub on the river bank about a mile further on.





The Potts Line & Nesscliff Camp

In the 1860s the vision of connecting The Potteries with Llanymynech was almost realised when a light railway was opened from Shrewsbury to Llanymynech. It never did reach Stoke on Trent to carry minerals from the quarry but it functioned as a passenger and goods line, although never profitably. In 1941 it was requisitioned by the War Department for the transport of ammunitions to a huge secret depot at Kinnerley. The railway came to life again with investment to rebuild bridges over the Severn and the Vrnwy. It was closed in 1959 and all the rails removed.

Nesscliff Camp was built around the ammunitions depot as a training area for cadets and is still in use today. The Shropshire Way follows a new diversion around the camp.

Nesscliffe Hill

At last you will reach the only hill on this walk.

There are vestiges of ramparts of the ancient hill fort as you climb to Oliver's Point for the view to the Breidden Hills and the Welsh hills beyond. A cave in the rock face as you descend to the village is reputed to have been the hiding place of a local highwayman called Humphrey Kynaston.













shropshireway.org.uk

