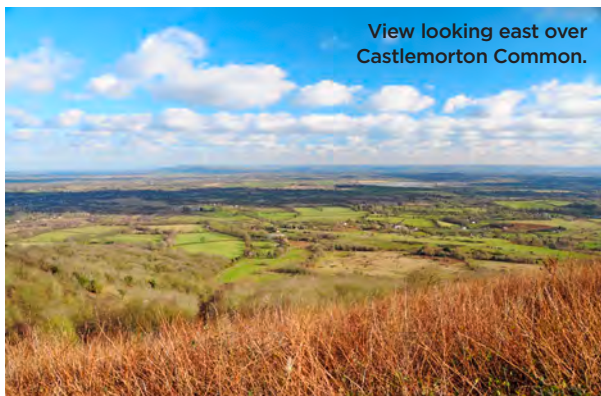




09 WORCESTERSHIRE CASTLEMORTON COMMON

▶ Distance: 7 miles/11.25km ▶ Time: 4 hours ▶ Grade: Moderate



View looking east over Castlemorton Common.

PHOTO: ROGER BUTLER



CHOSEN BY... ROGER BUTLER

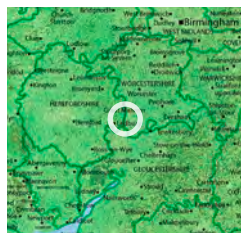
The Malvern Hills always make a great day out but the wide open spaces on the south-east side of the ridge provide different views of the distinctive scenery. Castlemorton Common forms part of a mosaic of open commons which wriggle between timber-framed hamlets and clusters of small cottages. Little valleys still contain orchards and smallholdings and this walk also climbs through the woods to the crest of Hangman's Hill, with views to the main Malvern tops. Castlemorton was once part of Malvern Chase, which became a royal hunting

ground after 1066, and the extensive commons played an important part in local life. Today, a substantial part of the area has been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest, mainly due to its valuable unimproved open grassland.

1 Start

With the church behind you, walk L along the lane for 100m and take the path on R. Cross field to a stile in hedge and continue ahead to next hedge with small footbridge. Cross next field to stile, go L over another stile after 50m and follow hedge, with lots of mistletoe, for 100m. Turn R to stile and cross a couple of paddocks to stile at lane.

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking By the church in Castlemorton, grid ref SO794372, post code WR13 6BG

Is it for me? Field paths, good tracks & quiet lanes
Stiles 15

PLANNING

Nearest towns Great Malvern and Ledbury
Refreshments

The Farmer's Arms at nearby Birts Street

Public toilets None

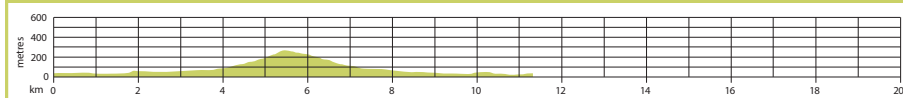
Public transport Nearest stations Great Malvern and Ledbury - taxi required to Castlemorton

Maps Explorer 190; Landranger 150

2 ¾ mile/1.25km

Turn L for 170m and go R on the driveway signed 'The Turbles'. Pass buildings on L, walk over camp field to go through small gate and proceed to another small gate. ➔

GRADIENT PROFILE



09 WORCESTERSHIRE
CASTLEMORTON COMMON► OS Explorer map 190 ► Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop

One more gate leads to a grass track – turn L here are walk through a small wooded holloway. Go through next gate and follow track to road. Go across and take the tarmac track onto Castlemorton Common. Cross stream after 250m.

3 1½ miles/2.25km
Leave track to walk west over the common until it narrows after 1.3km, where a track leads up to a small gate and pasture. Walk ahead, with fence on L, uphill to another small gate and continue over more common land to a grassy plateau with telegraph pole. Take the path leading L uphill into the woods and climb past yew and holly to a fork. Go R uphill to meet the path onto Hangman's Hill, from where there are fine views as well as the ancient earthworks of the Shire Ditch.

4 3¼ miles/5.5km
Return to main path and descend to a T-junction – go L and carry on straight over at the next junction to join a track with an isolated pink house on L. Continue downhill on track to small car park and continue along lane for 250m, with black poplar trees by the small pond.

5 4¼ miles/7km
Pass house on R and immediately turn R, with hedge on R (ground can be boggy here). Go past a white house

after 600m and veer slightly R to walk straight ahead over open common to Mill Pond. Cross the weir (with stepping stones) and dam and then go straight over tarmac lane to a track, soon turning into grass.

6 5½ miles/9km
Cross road after 500m, walk along lane for 550m to gate on L (no fingerpost) between barn and large farmhouse. Go through yard and two gates and turn L uphill with hedge on L. Go through

gate at top and now continue downhill, via stiles, to cross small footbridge. Veer R to stile in hedge and cross next larger field to small gate at lane. Turn R to return to start. **CW**

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:
lfto.com/cwroutes

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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DATE WALKED

 TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING

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