

# 09 BEDFORDSHIRE PAVENHAM TO BEDFORD

Distance: 8½ miles/13.8km ■ Time: 4½ hours ■ Grade: Moderate



SOUTH EAST

# 10 SHROPSHIRE CRAVEN ARMS TO LUDLOW

Distance: 11¾ miles/19km ■ Time: 4½ hours ■ Grade: Challenging



MIDLANDS

Riverside walkway in Bedford near the end of the walk.

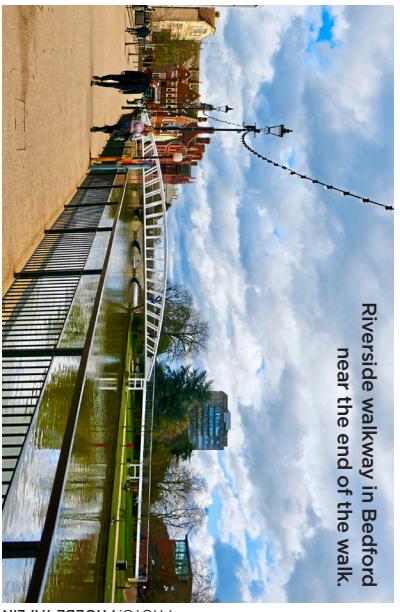


PHOTO: PHOEBE TAPLIN

**CHOSEN BY...**  
**PHOEBE TAPLIN**  
Bedfordshire  
Clangers are pasties with one end savoury and one sweet, filled with pork and apple or with veg curry and mango. You can (usually) buy them from Gunn's Bakery near the end of this walk. Take bus 25 from Bedford to Pavenham and walk back through lovely riverside villages, passing a windmill, watermill and thatched cottages as you go.

Turn R to higher ground near springs at end of first field, then down to gate near river. Cross footbridge and continue on riverside path. Fork R with small wood, turn L through gate, staying on waymarked Ouse Valley Way (OVW).

## 2 1 mile/1.5km

Follow path through more gates, turning L and R, river below on L. Continue past holy well to St Mary's Stevington. From church, continue on lane and turn L at Red Lion down Park Road. Turn R at house 68 into Windmill Lane.

**3 2½ miles/3.5km**  
Follow rough lane L with views of Stevington Windmill,

## PLAN YOUR WALK



### ROUTE

**Start/parking** Weaver's Lane bus stop in Pavenham, grid ref SP900555, postcode MK43 7NJ

**Is it for me?** One very busy road crossing, short roadside sections, some boggy patches. Long but level and straightforward hike on tracks and paths

### Stiles

None

### PLANNING

#### Nearest town

Bedford

#### Refreshments

The Cock in Pavenham (01234 822834), Mill coffee shop in Bromham, choice in Bedford

#### Public toilets

St Mary's, Stevington, and Bedford bus station

#### Public transport

Bus 25 (Grant Palmer) Bedford-Pavenham (not Sunday). Buses also to Stevington for shorter walk

**Maps** OS Explorer 208; Landranger 153

SEE FEATURE ON PAGE 18

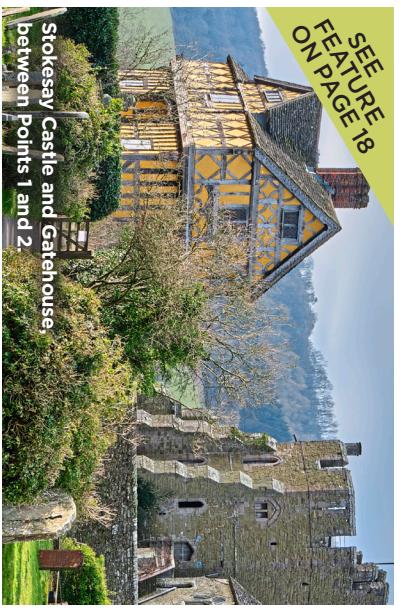


PHOTO: SIMON WHALEY

**CHOSEN BY...**  
**SIMON WHALEY**  
Kick off this linear route with a hearty breakfast at the Shropshire Hills Café. Discover some of Shropshire's woolly mammoths, and savour the delights of Stokesay Castle. Tuck into tea and cake at the Ludlow Kitchen, and leave room in your rucksack for some local award-winning produce from the scrumptious Ludlow Farmshop.

Discovery Centre car park. Bear L of building, through mammoth tusks. At first junction, continue ahead, then fork R at second junction, signed Shropshire Way (SW) through trees. Bear R to A49. Cross carefully. Turn L behind layby to lane. Turn R to church, then L through churchyard. Fork R to gate. Turn L onto lane (SW) to level crossing, cross, and continue on stone track.

Where track turns R, take stile ahead into field, then turn R. Climb to stile and rejoin track. Follow this, ignoring side paths, climbing through trees, and later, between hedges to road.

## 2 2½ miles/4km

From station, head to A49 and turn R, passing Tuffins Supermarket (R). Cross A49 at lights. Pass roundabout, later turning L after next pedestrian crossing into Shropshire Hills

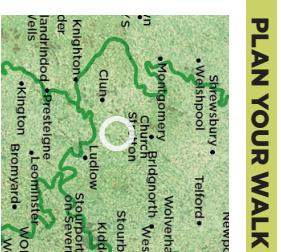
**PLANNING**  
**Nearest town** Ludlow  
**Refreshments** The Shropshire Hills Café (01584 676060), Ludlow Hills Discovery Centre, Ludlow Farmshop

#### Public transport

Transport for Wales trains Ludlow-Craven Arms. Minsterley Motors Bus Service 435 (Mon-Sat, 01743 791217 & 203; Landranger 137)

**3 2½ miles/4km**  
Turn L. Follow lane to junction, turn R, through Aldon. Where lane drops, turn L (SW), through gate, down to

## PLAN YOUR WALK



### ROUTE

**Start/parking** Craven Arms railway station, grid ref SO431830, postcode SY7 9QP. Or park at end in Ludlow (P&D), SY8 9PQ

**Is it for me?** Country lanes, woodland tracks, field and riverside paths

### Stiles

2

### PLANNING

#### Nearest town

Ludlow

#### Refreshments

The Shropshire Hills Café

#### Public toilets

Shropshire Hills Café

Ludlow Hills Discovery Centre, Ludlow Farmshop

#### Public transport

Transport for Wales trains Ludlow-Craven Arms. Minsterley

#### Maps

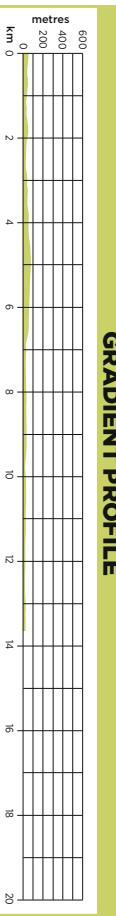
Morrisons Bus Service 435

(Mon-Sat, 01743 791217 &

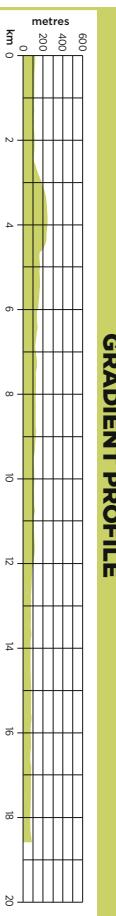
203; Landranger 137)

**Maps** OS Explorer 217 & 203; Landranger 137

MIDLANDS



## GRADIENT PROFILE

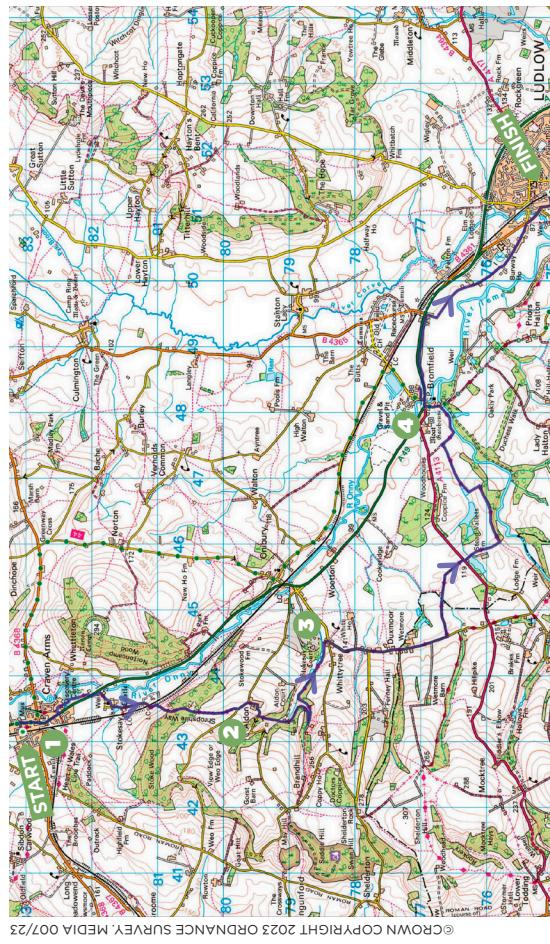


## GRADIENT PROFILE

# 10 SHROPSHIRE CRAVEN ARMS TO LUDLOW

■ OS Explorer map 217 & 203 ■ Buy maps at: [ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop](http://ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop)

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keeping L at first with hedge on L. Follow track R, still with views of windmill, and cross old railway, now Country Walk. Continue up slope and follow waymarked path straight across field. At junction, keep on with hedge on R and then fence on L, under pylons. At end of field, head slightly L on surfaced track beside wood. Keep straight along Molivers Lane into Bromham, passing lane with shops.

### 4 miles/6.5km

**4** Fork R past green and continue R on Village Road. Just after Grange Lane on R, turn L into park and immediately R onto grassy path. Keep straight on grassy path, crossing other paths. Go through gate at bottom into trees. Cross footbridge, continue on Millfield and turn L onto pavement of Bridge End Road (Swan is R).

### 5 ½ miles/7.2km

**5** Walk past watermill and carefully over pavement-less Bromham Bridge. On the far side, take second R, just beyond bus stop, onto footpath (first R is OVW, which takes longer, mostly riverside route to Bedford, avoiding main road crossing). Carefully cross busy A4280. Keep straight by fence, past church, and turn L on lane through houses. Turn R on Manor Road and go through gate onto path. Keep straight, bearing

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DATE WALKED  
TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING  
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**VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:**  
[walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes](http://walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes)

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



pedestrian path opposite, cross stream, pass bus stop, heading along A49 for 400m. Take signed path (R) between trees, running parallel to road. At field corner, turn R to opposite corner, then L along field edge. Take two gates to join track through farm to tarmac lane. Cross over. Path becomes lane, alongside properties. At road junction, turn R into Ludlow. For railway station, take L by Tesco. CW

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field. Follow R-hand edge. Cross stream, keep fence-line close, into trees. Pass derelict building (L) to track. Cross over, onto grass path by stream. Bear R. Cross stream (no bridge) at path junction, doubling back by stream (L) and fence (R). Follow through trees to kissing gate by pool. Go through field, past pools (L). Bear R by third pool, on track to barn. Take gate to road.

**3 ½ miles/7.1km**  
**4 ¾ miles/14.1km**  
**4** For Ludlow Farmshop and Café, take path (R) before barrier, using underpass. Take slip road past The Clive to Farmshop and Ludlow Kitchen Café. Return via underpass to

Turn R ('Clungunford'), along SW through Duxmoor, and Wetmore. After 2km, take signed (SW) track on L. Drop, between fields, and fork L of property, continuing through trees. Take gate onto track, passing Cookridge Cottages,

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slightly L through trees and past houses with fence on R. Keep straight through more houses and along path to river.

### 6 miles/9.7km

**6** Turn L on waterside path and continue on path closest to river for 2 miles to Bedford, past footbridges, under low railway bridge and roads. Reaching Bedford town bridge, cross St Mary's Street and continue along Embankment.

### 7 8 miles/13km

**7** Turn L on surfaced path past castle mound to The Higgins. Turn L at museum and

R along Castle Lane. Turn L into Ram Yard and keep straight into pedestrian alley to emerge by Gunn's Bakery. Turn R on High Street and L past giant metal faces into Silver Street. Just before Costa, turn R into Althallows and L to Bedford bus station. Or follow signs for train station. CW

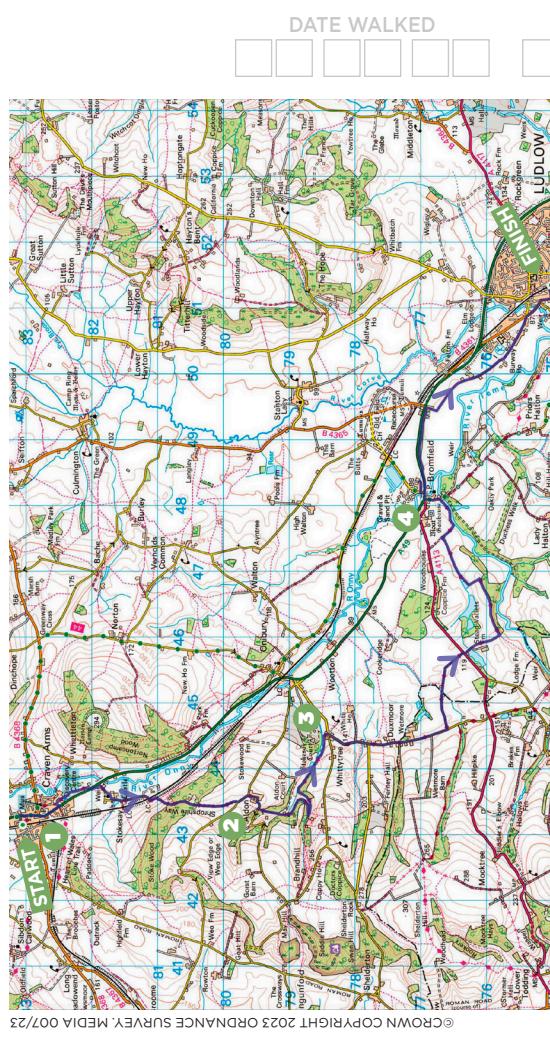
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and follow to A413. Take tarmac lane opposite, passing pond (R). At lane corner, bear L (SW) into field, following R-hand edge around field, turning L at two field corners, before dropping to third. Turn R, pass pond (L) to opposite field corner. Turn R, then L, then R along field edge. Continue along River Teme (R), taking kissing gate, then path to bridge. Climb to road and turn L. Pass Bromfield Gatehouse (R) to reach A49.

**3 ½ miles/7.1km**  
**4 ¾ miles/14.1km**  
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