



WORCS FOR ME!

Jo Vaughan sets off on a magical stroll from Bromyard Downs

THE CLUB'S Bromyard Downs site is a wonderful base for walkers. I chose a route that isn't obvious to visitors but there are plenty of other directions in which you can head, not least thanks to the proximity of the National Trust's Brockhampton Estate, which is literally across the road. Here, there are endless walks and strolls for you to enjoy through grounds that are shared by historic farming breeds, such as Hereford cattle and Ryeland sheep. The main attraction, though, is the beautiful medieval manor house, entered by a timber-framed gatehouse.

DIRECTIONS

1 Leave the site via its main entrance and turn left up the road, keeping to the grassy embankment. Continue straight ahead over the junction with the B4220 to Malvern, still keeping to the embankment. After a short while, cross the road to join the pavement (beside the bus stop).

2 Just before Linton Court, a large cream building on the left-hand side (beside another bus stop), turn left down a small road (marked unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles), signed Burley. Go over the stone bridge and then immediately turn left, following a yellow arrow over a stile. Keep to the left side of the field and continue ahead.

3 Cross the two stiles that flank a small wooden bridge and carry on ahead. Walk to the next bridge and double stile combination and continue again. At the end of this field, continue through the gap in the fences and follow the yellow arrow straight ahead.

4 Go over another stile and follow the overgrown path for a very short distance until you cross a bridge. As you emerge into a field, turn right and go over another stile almost immediately in front of you. In the middle of this field you'll see a wooden bridge (with twin stiles) spanning the stream – cross this and then follow the arrows ahead.

5 Go up the hill, keeping to the right of a line of trees along the left edge of the field. At the top of the hill go through a metal gate, and turn left at the lane. Continue, almost immediately crossing a cattle grid – still keeping to the lane. Walk along the road for a short while.

6 When you come to a wooden gate on your right, you'll see a public footpath sign on your left – if you reach the house



Ordnance Survey
Landranger Map 149





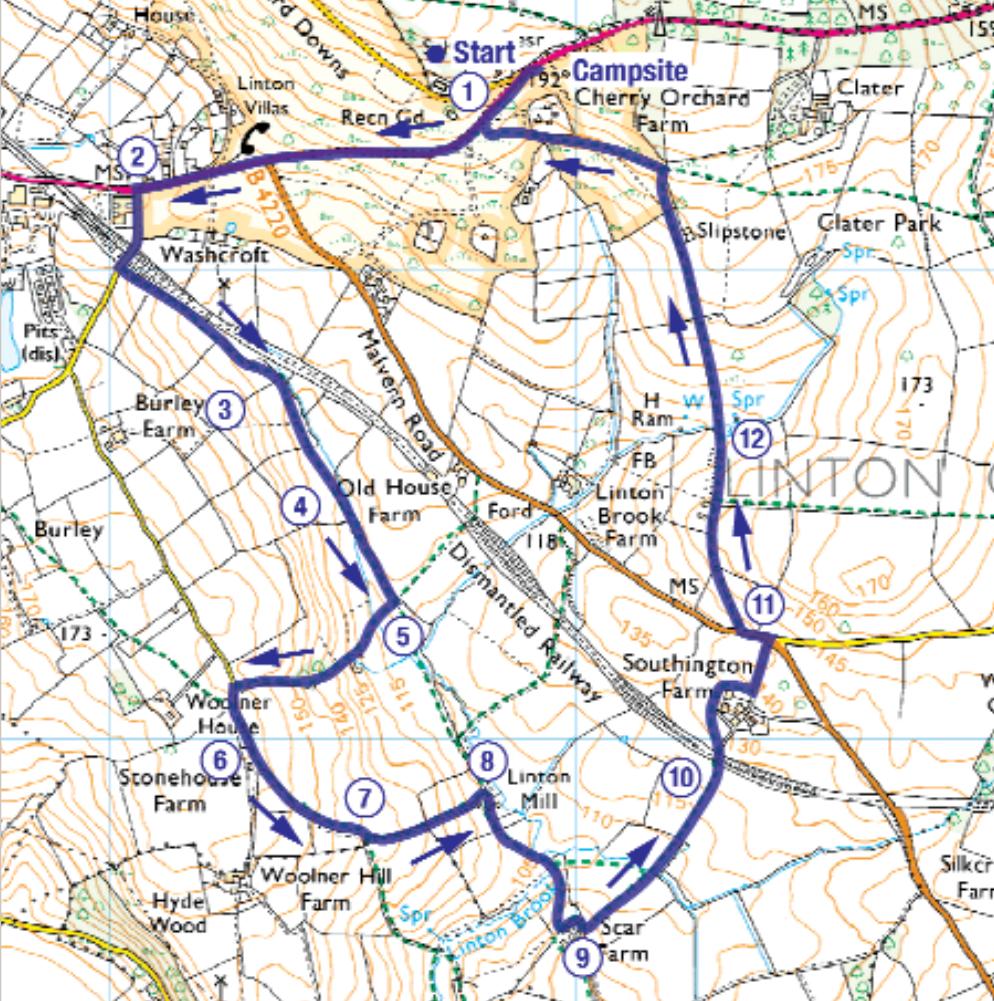
you've gone too far. Cross the stile beside this public footpath sign and then turn right, following the boundary of the field.

7 You'll soon reach a stile on your right-hand side – cross this and then turn left, following the field's boundary on the left. Cross another pair of stiles and then follow the arrow diagonally right across the field towards the far right-hand corner. Go through the gap in the fence and continue ahead along the left side of the next field, following the line of the brook.

8 Go over the two V-stiles either side of the wooden bridge across the brook, and then go over another standard wooden stile. There are two arrows here – turn right to walk along the left side of the field towards the farmhouse. Just before you reach it, there's a gap in the hedge to the left – go through this and immediately turn right to go through a small metal kissing gate.

9 Turn left and follow the field's left side down the hill. At the end of the field, straight ahead, go through the metal gate (you may have to climb over this as it can sometimes be roped off but there are two yellow arrows beside it to confirm you're in the right place). Continue directly across the field towards the house you can see through the trees in front of you.

10 At the end you'll see a track that rises up onto the bank, again towards the house on the other side of the trees.



Continue up here before passing through a wooden gate. Immediately turn left and walk along the perimeter of the garden. Just past the oak tree, go through a wooden gate and up the driveway a short distance, before passing through another wooden gate. Continue along the driveway.

11 At the road, turn left and walk along it for a very short distance before crossing the road and turning right following a partially-hidden public footpath sign through a metal gate (if you reach the road's blind right-hand corner you've gone too far). Walk straight ahead up the grassy track (passing beneath the electricity wires).



12 Keep along this track into the valley. At the bottom, go through a metal gate and continue ahead up the next hill. At the end, go over a stile and continue along the right side of the field. Go over the next stile and, when you get to the T-junction, turn left up the track (ignoring the footpath sign ahead of you). At the next T-junction, turn left up the tarmac track to the road. At the road, turn right and continue walking until you return to the site.



CENTRE ACTIVITIES

Extend your stay at Bromyard Downs by finding out whether a Centre rally is taking place in the area. To search, log onto caravanclub.co.uk/rallies.

INFORMATION

Club site: Bromyard Downs, Brockhampton, Bringsty, Worcester WR6 5TE. Open 25 March to 17 October. See p139 of the *Sites Directory & Handbook 2011/12* for full details. To book, call 01342 327490 or see caravanclub.co.uk/searchhandbook.

Distance: 3.8 miles/6.1km

Terrain: mostly good paths with a small amount of asphalt lane

Number of stiles: 17

Essential equipment: long trousers (overgrown at one point), Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 202 – Leominster & Bromyard

Level of difficulty: easy with one steep climb

Refreshments: none

Toilets: none

