

Shropshire Way: linear walk using the local bus service

## White Grit to Bishop's Castle

8 miles (10km) linear walk via The Bog and Linley Beeches

Allow 5 hours

Grade \*\*\*\* (19 stiles)

OS Map: Explorer sheets 216 & 217

**You start this walk at the Old School House on the A488 (near the turning for White Grit)**

Bus:

**552/553 Shrewsbury to Bishop's Castle: two hourly daily**

Key bus stops as follows:

- Shrewsbury Bus Station
- Pontesbury
- Minsterley
- Bishop's Castle (opposite the Boars Head, Church St.)

To look up bus timetables for this walk and for further information visit [www.travelinemidlands.co.uk](http://www.travelinemidlands.co.uk) or contact Traveline 0871 200 22 33

**Dogs are allowed on the buses at the driver's discretion;** please contact the bus company direct for further information:

- 552 Shrewsbury to Bishop's Castle (Mondays to Saturdays) – Minsterley Motors 01743 791208
- 553 Shrewsbury to Bishop's Castle (Sundays) –Arriva 0844 800 4411

The **Shropshire Hills Shuttles** operates at weekends in the summer months from Church Stretton to The Bog Visitor centre – see [www.shropshirehillsshuttles.co.uk](http://www.shropshirehillsshuttles.co.uk) for more information.

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*This walk takes you up to the Bog Visitor Centre which includes refreshments, local information and toilets (open Wed – Sun until 4pm and everyday during school holidays). There is also a choice of cafes and pubs in Bishop's Castle where you end the walk.*

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Walk directions:

1. Follow the concrete drive behind the Old School House and go left at the fork along the drive to Gritt Farm. Turn right as you approach the farm buildings and head through a 5-barred gate. Head straight across this field to a stile and wooden plank bridge.

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2. Continue in the same direction to a stile (next to a gate) at the top of the bank. Climb over and continue down in the same direction to a second stile with Shelve Pool in front of you.
3. Head to another stile to the left of the pool. Once over continue ahead with the pool and woods on your right. Bear slightly left down to cross a footbridge and double stile.
4. Rise up the track to a way-marked post on the bank – follow the next two Mucklewick Walk way-markers down to a bridge and over a stile. Bear left to the next stile in the top right corner of the field and go over a stile next to gate.
5. Bear right to a double stile and continue straight across to the woods and over the stile onto the track. Turn left to join the stone track alongside the wood and follow this track up to the Bog Visitor Centre.
6. Turn right onto the Linley Road to pass the mine and climb up by a wood to a car park at Nipstone. Turn left here and walk through parking area and through a gate. Cross the stile on the right and the path skirts to the left of the rocks. Keep ahead to join a more prominent path.
7. Turn right here and follow the path along the hillside at first then descending to the right of The Rock to a waymark post where you go left. The track bends to the left beneath the outcrop and drops down the hillside offering magnificent views before it dips into the trees and exits onto a road. Go right and immediately left over a stile into the field. Walk down to the footbridge and cross the stiles to enter a wood and rise up steeply to the road.
8. Go right and you will soon pass Ridge Farm. Go left through the second barred gate on the left. Climb up the green track with the hedge to your left to a stile by woodland. Keep ahead alongside woodland and ignore first stile on the right. However, cross the next stile beyond a five barred gate. Join a green way to the brow of the hill and by the wonderful trees to be found on Linley Hill. Ignore the first bridleway gate to the left but keep ahead to pass through a gate on the rise.
9. Ease away from the tree line slightly right to cross a stile by a gate into the next field. Then go ahead to another gate to join the magnificent trees known as the Linley Beeches where there are excellent views across the upper Onny Valley. Cross a stile and continue ahead the path descends gently to a lane where you turn left.
10. Follow this to a junction. Turn right and walk along the road to a T junction where you go left. Part way down the lane on the right is a stile on the right. Cross it and pass through a narrow pasture to cross a stile then ahead in the same direction to exist onto road by a gate at the edge of More hamlet.

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11. Cross the road and enter a field where you walk ahead through the remaining earthworks of an early motte and bailey castle. Cross a footbridge and keep ahead across a field and beneath an oak mid way. Go through a kissing gate into the next field and proceed ahead again to another small gate to Lydham village hall car park (the wholefood shop is next to the garage and offers refreshments, open Mon – Sat until 5.30pm).
12. Cross the road with care and turn left to walk along the shoulder of the road until you reach a track bearing off left. Follow this until you reach a large set of gates on the left. Go through here and walk up alongside the wood and through a gate to then proceed through the woodland. Continue ahead to rise up alongside a hedge and look for a marker post. Turn right here to dip down through a gate into a field. Head diagonally across it to a stile and entrance road to the farm on your right. Turn left.
13. On reaching the road go right to walk down to a junction. Look for a stile on the left of the main road. This is your way; it is a climb into the field. Walk up the field with a hedge and wood to your right. On reaching the top corner of the wood keep ahead to a stile in a hedge. Cross this and continue ahead alongside the hedge to your left. You reach a gateway where you cut through left and then turn right in a small enclosure to pass through two gates and the path bends left to another gate. Walk across the field to a point to the left of the corrugated iron barn.
14. Leave the field through a small gate and the path now runs between hedges to a track and through a piece of rough ground to another gate. Keep ahead along track to a road. Turn right and then left between houses to pass by Bishop's Castle Bowling Club. Go next left to drop down to Bell Street and turn right. This leads into the main street which you walk down to access the Shrewsbury bus opposite the Boar's Head.