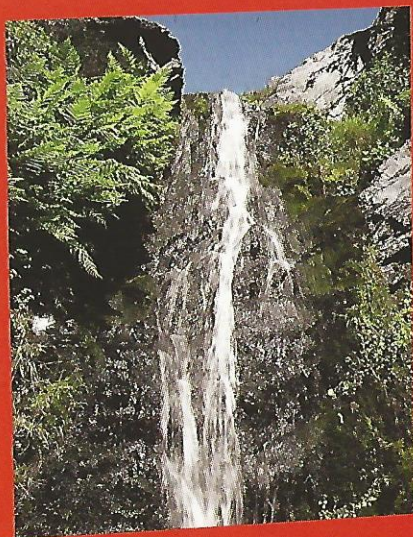
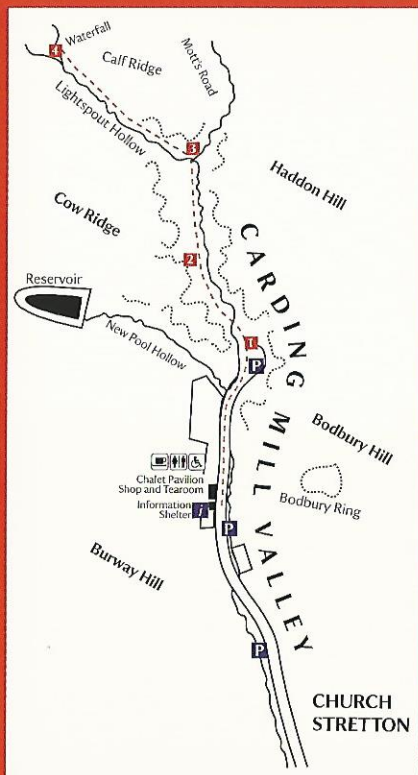


Shropshire Hills Walks Card - Medium



Walk 2 Lightspout Waterfall

Walk Length

2.5km, 1½ miles, 1-1½ hours

Description and Terrain

A steady ascent up the valley beside the hill and up the stream to a picturesque waterfall. This walk requires some scrambling over rocks, suitable footwear is recommended.



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Trust

Walk 2

Lightspout Waterfall

Start: At either the Chalet Pavilion or the Top Car Park. The walk is waymarked, so look out for the red stripes on the directional posts.

If you are starting from the Chalet Pavilion, follow the stream uphill to the Top Car Park. Notice the almost upright strata of hard grey rock here, **1** in the streambed and protruding from the hillside turf. These, originally horizontal, sedimentary shales and mudstones were laid down in a shallow sea around 590 million years ago, when simple marine algae were the only life on earth.

Continue up the valley on the stony track on the left side of the stream **2**, alongside the stream grow lemon scented fern and in the stream watermint and yellow monkey flower can be found.

When the valley divides, 500 metres later, take the left-hand fork, up crude, "pitched" stone steps into the narrow Lightspout Hollow. **3** The sound of tumbling water fills the deep, V-shaped valley whose bilberry, bracken, and heather clad slopes are dotted with hawthorns and mountain ash.

Watch for brown trout in the pools and noisy stonechats, buzzards and red kites overhead.

Rising above the stream, the rocky path snakes uphill around interlocking spurs before opening out, 500 metres on, below the Lightspout waterfall **4**. It was here that the Reverend Carr nearly plunged to his death, lost in a blizzard in January 1865. To Victorian visitors the Lightspout was a "miniature Niagara"; and after prolonged rain the four metre cascade is spectacular.

Returning downhill by the same route, the view opens out to Caer Caradoc and beyond.

Eat, drink and shop

The tea-room, shop and visitor facilities can be found at the Chalet Pavilion in Carding Mill Valley. Why not drop in after your walk or call 01694 725000 for opening times.

Find out more

Tel: 01694 725000

Email: cardingmill@nationaltrust.org.uk

Web: www.nationaltrust.org.uk

The National Trust welcomes responsible dog owners. Please clear up after your dog and use the bins provided. Please also respect the countryside, and take your litter home with you.

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