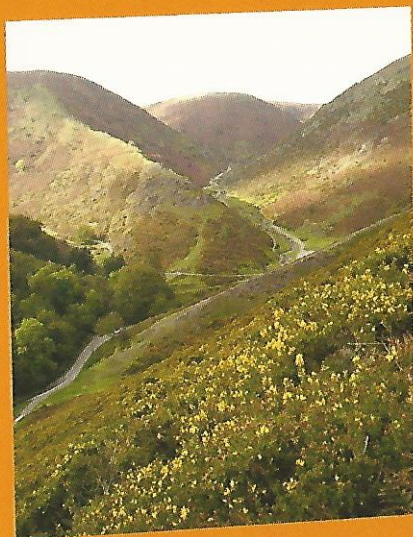
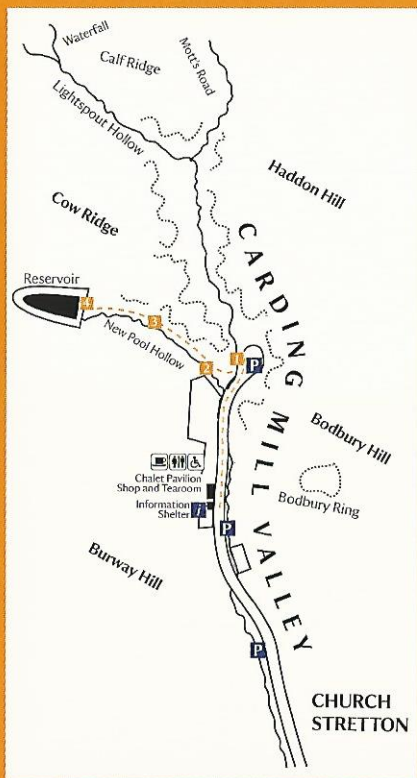


Shropshire Hills Walks Card - Easy



Walk 1 New Pool Hollow

Walk Length

1km ½ mile, 30 minutes

Description and Terrain

Take a short stroll up the stream valley, then climb up steps to the Edwardian reservoir.



National
Trust

Walk 1

New Pool Hollow

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

If you are starting from the Chalet Pavilion, follow the stream uphill to the Top Car Park. **1** Filled in, in the 1960s, this car park was originally a millpond and popular swimming pool.

Once in the Top Car Park cross the stream on the sturdy vehicle bridge opposite the green ticket machine. Ahead, the track curves around a spur of the hill, before opening out into a broad side-valley. This is New Pool Hollow, **2** named after two early mill pools.

Wild thyme and sky-blue harebells edge the path in summer. The damper soil beside the stream **3** holds soft rush, marsh thistle, forget-me-not and curious yellow monkey flower, originally from North America. Look out, too, for golden-ringed dragonflies patrolling their territories along the stream.

Within 400 metres, climb the reservoir's retaining bank and cross the stile into the enclosure **4**. Completed in 1902 this 12 million-gallon reservoir was built to support Church Stretton's aspirations of growth as a fashionable spa. Thickening scrub inside the fence shows how the Long Mynd would soon revert to trees if ungrazed; in contrast, the impoverished bilberry and heather outside the fence is the result of chronic overgrazing in the 1980s and '90s. Finding the right balance is the only way to ensure the Long Mynd's value and beauty for future generations.

To return to the start, retrace the path back to the Top Car Park.

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.