

Walk 3

The Burway Loop

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

If you are starting from the Chalet Pavilion, follow the stream uphill to the Top Car Park. Continue straight ahead, on the stony track alongside the stream **1**, to the head of Carding Mill Valley. When the valley forks, go right, uphill on Mott's Road **2**. The path is named after a local doctor who improved it to visit outlying patients in the 1850s. High to the left of the path is Calf Ridge **3**.

Emerging on the top, the breezes, open sky and changing light evoke a sense of space and solitude. The path runs on across the moor to join a broader stony track. Go left and, almost immediately, left again, onto the ancient Portway **4**. This 5,000 year old Ridgway once carried Neolithic traders high and dry above the wet and wooded valleys.

When the main track bends left, 400 metres later, turn off to the right, and go straight ahead on the narrower continuation of the Portway. 400 metres on, beside the road to Ratlinghope, a rare bell barrow survives at the Shooting Box **5**.

Cross the road and take the path straight ahead, uphill, through the rolling heather. A kilometre on, beyond side paths to Priory Cottage and Medicott is Pole Bank **6**

– 517 metres above sea level, the Mynd's highest point. On a clear day, you can see as far as the Brecon Beacons and the Malverns.

From Pole Bank, retrace the path for 250 metres to its junction with the Medicott track, and turn right, to join the tarmaced Burway road below, beside the spring at Boiling Well **7**. Go straight on along the road. Within 100 metres, on the right, is a waymarked path to "Townbrook" **8**. Turn right here, on a grassy path, running roughly parallel with The Burway. Continue downhill around a low ridge, to the lip of the dramatic Townbrook Hollow **9**. Follow the narrow path down the valley. Beyond the Victorian reservoir **10** at the foot of the valley, bear left along the top of Old Rectory Wood to emerge on the Burway. Cross the road and descend the "Burway Track" back into Carding Mill Valley.

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

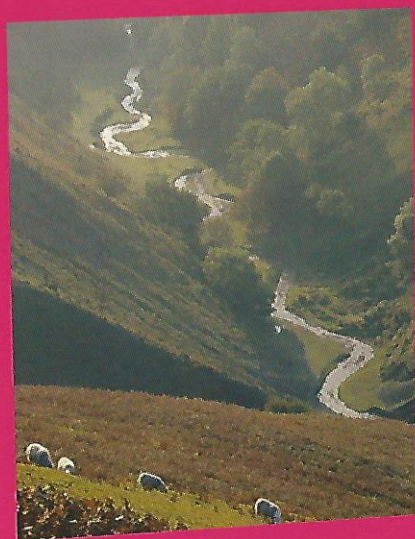
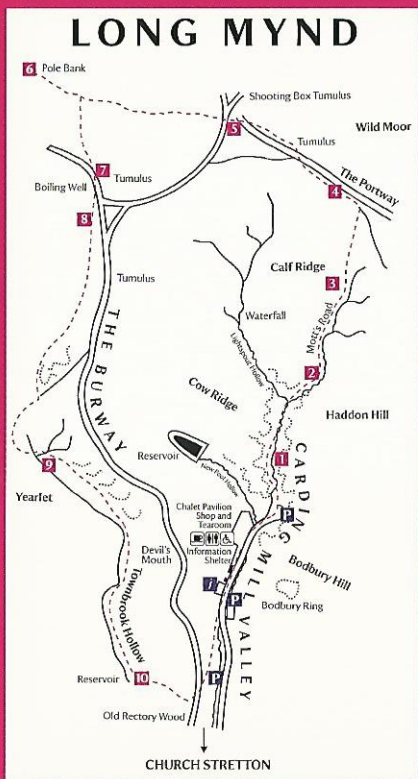
Web: www.nationaltrust.org.uk

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Shropshire Hills Walks Card - Hard



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Walk Length

8km, 5 miles, 2½-3 hours

Description and Terrain

A longer, more rugged route crossing open heather moor on ancient tracks before circling back down a deep, stream valley.



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