

THE RIVERSIDE
At Aymestrey

RIVER LUGG CIRCULAR WALK

500-1000 ft
MODERATE

KEY TO MAP

- Roads
- Track
- Bridleway
- Footpath
- Keypoints
- Cafe
- Parking
- Occasional Cattle
- Live link
- Viewpoint
- Take care!
- Ascent
- Descent
- Picnic site
- Church



We can email you the GPX file for this walk - just ask!

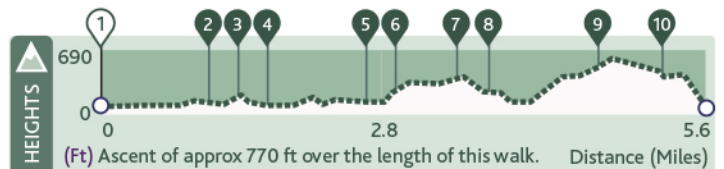
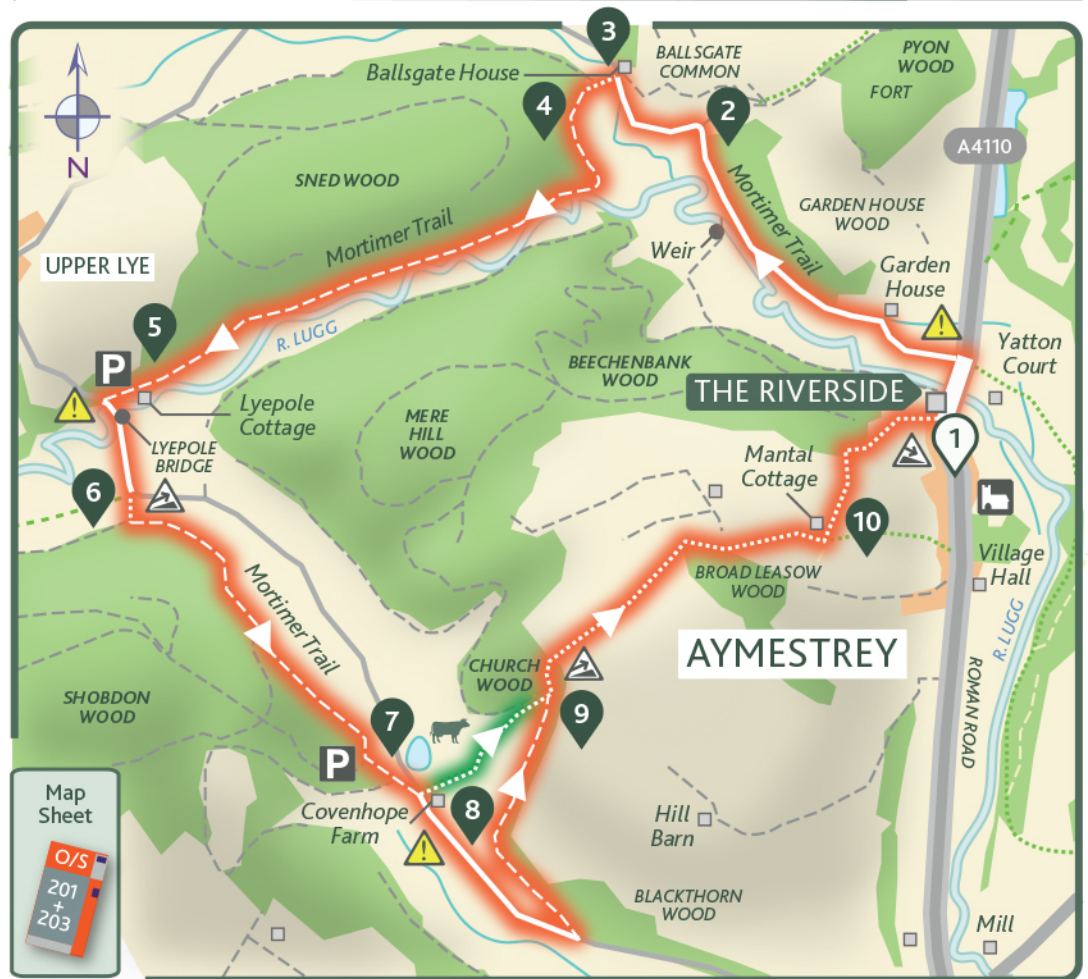
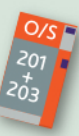


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Map Sheet



THE RIVER LUGG

Embark on a tranquil journey alongside the River Lugg, a hidden gem perfect for hikers seeking serene beauty. As it meanders through Herefordshire's idyllic landscapes, the Lugg offers a peaceful walking experience far from the madding crowds. Discover picturesque riverbanks, ancient meadows,

and abundant wildlife, from darting kingfishers to graceful otters. The gentle flow of the water provides a soothing soundtrack to your adventure, leading you through charming villages and past historic churches. Ideal for leisurely strolls or longer treks, the River Lugg promises a refreshing connection with nature and a sense of calm.

The Riverside next to the Lugg



THE RIVERSIDE'S STORY

Dating back to 1580, The Riverside Inn at Aymestrey is a true historical gem, its black-and-white timbered façade hinting at centuries of stories within. Originally, it gained prominence in the 1700s as a vital stopping point for sheep drovers, who, with their flocks, traversed the rugged Welsh Marches.

Its strategic position by a ford across the River Lugg, and midway along the ancient Mortimer Trail, solidified its role as a welcoming haven for weary travellers.

The inn has beautifully preserved its heritage, with

original 400-year-old beams still gracing many of its rooms, offering guests a tangible connection to its past. Over the centuries, it has adapted: moving from serving drovers to becoming a renowned pub and restaurant, and more recently embracing local food and sustainability initiatives.

While evolving to offer modern comforts, The Riverside Inn remains deeply rooted in its traditions of hospitality and its picturesque riverside setting, continuing its legacy of welcoming all who arrive.



Point 2
BESPOKE MAPPING SOLUTIONS

DIRECTIONS

1 TL outside the front of the Riverside and go over the river Lugg bridge, continue to T junction with small track signed 'Lingen' (this is largely the Mortimer Trail on this section). TL here, continue down the lane initially past Garden House on R (beware occasional traffic here) and then continue keeping Garden House Wood on your R. Continue past a small river weir on L.

2 Continue along the lane as it curves L around the foot of Ballsgate Common until you reach Ballsgate House on R. Opposite, look out for the stile into an open field, signed Mortimer Trail.

3 Go over stile, continue straight across to foot of (Sned) wood and another stile. Go over stile on path that follows bottom of wood as it curves L. (This section of path can be slightly overgrown in spring/summer). Continue until path joins larger forest track as it curves left.

4 Continue on forest track (Mortimer Trail) as it runs around and aside River Lugg (on L) along the foot of Sned Wood. **N.B.** This is a good track but can occasionally be slightly overgrown in summer. In winter storms do occasionally blow trees down here over the track.

5 Continue straight along track/ Mortimer Trail until you eventually see Lypole Cottage on L and then bridge on L over R. Lugg. TL here over bridge on to quiet back lane. Continue along lane (beware occasional traffic here).

6 At corner of lane (curves left) go straight uphill through stile/gate to another stile and the foot of Shobdon Wood (this next stile is often wobbly - take extra care). TL here on forest track (Mortimer Trail) and continue around on a contour/roughly level to Shobdon Hill Car Park and cottage on L.

7 TL and down to Covenhope Farm (**N.B.** beware occasional farm dogs here, normally they're kept

tethered or behind a fence though).

SHORT CUT

N.B. You can TL in the farm and then uphill through field behind barns on FP to Church Wood. There's often cattle in this field though which makes our 'recommended route' less challenging if you have a dog.

8 Continue straight along quiet lane past farm (beware occasional traffic here) and slightly downhill until you see Forestry turning and small car park on L. TL here and follow track around to L past the barrier and uphill on forestry track.

9 You reach Church Wood on track. As it curves L, TR here on path uphill through small wood (this can be occasionally overgrown in spring/summer). Go through gate into open field over to another gate/stile, continue down RH side of next field to edge of Broad Leasow Wood. Path turns L and follows wood edge to stile. TR here over stile through farmyard to track. Go across track to next stile, TR after stile around field edge to next stile ahead by large tree. TL after stile, follow path down past Mantal Cottage to access track.

10 TL here through farm gate, up track along field edge, keep R until you reach gate into Beechenbank Wood. Continue through wood and TR downhill following path (**N.B.** occasionally slippery descent when wet here). Continue down until you reach gate on R and go through down past side of Riverside's garden rooms and kitchen garden to the Inn again.

THE MORTIMER TRAIL



Lace up your boots for the Mortimer Trail, a captivating 30-mile journey through the heart of the Welsh Marches! This historic route from Kington to Ludlow offers hikers an unforgettable blend of dramatic landscapes and rich heritage.

Traverse ancient woodlands, conquer rolling hills offering breathtaking views of the Black Mountains, and discover imposing castle ruins and Iron Age hill forts steeped in history.

Enjoy unparalleled peace and quiet as you explore vibrant ecosystems and charming villages. The Mortimer Trail promises a truly immersive escape for every avid walker, blending stunning scenery with a tangible sense of the past.