



Walking with Offa 12

Food, drink and accommodation

Imagine patrolling the border without a decent pub. How would Offa's Dyke have been built without them? Over a thousand years later, keep up the tradition and stop for a drink or a bite to eat at the following:

The Baron at Bucknell is a charming country inn with excellent home cooked food and five luxury en-suite rooms, so you could enjoy the hospitality and then stay the night. Contact Debbie and Phil on 01547 530549. www.baronatbucknell.co.uk. Camping is also available.

The Sun Inn at Leintwardine is one of "Britain's true heritage pubs" and Herefordshire's CAMRA Pub of the Year 2011. Ideal for walkers and dog friendly. A classic example of a Parlour Pub and a Grade II listed building. Locally brewed real ales and cider. Food available from chip shop next door. Ploughman lunches can be provided for parties providing prior notice is received. Open 11am to 11pm (except Monday opens at 5.30pm). Tel 01547 540705 www.suninn-leintwardine.co.uk

The Lion Bar, Restaurant and Rooms at Leintwardine provides locally sourced food, drink and accommodation, with the restaurant having recently received its first AA rosette. Contact them on 01547 540203 or www.thelionleintwardine.co.uk

Fiddlers Elbow Fish and Chip shop is open 5.30-8.30 pm Tues to Thurs. and 5.00-8.30 pm Fri and Sat. Contact them on 01547 540262

Griffiths Garage, Post Office and Shop sells a variety of drinks and snacks. It is open Monday to Saturday 5.15am until 8pm and Sunday from 5.15am until 7pm. Contact them on 01547 540223 or visit www.griffithsgarage.co.uk/.

See www.exploremortimercountry.com for other lovely places to stay in the area.

Getting there:

You can find public transport options throughout Shropshire through the Travel Shropshire website- www.travelshropshire.co.uk. Or contact Traveline on 08712 002233.

By train: Bucknell is on the Heart of Wales railway line.

By bus: The bus (service no 740) travels between Bucknell and Leintwardine. ShropshireLink may be able to transport you from Bishop's Castle, Knighton, Clun, Craven Arms or surrounding areas. Journeys can be booked up to seven days in advance or with as little as 24 hours notice. Bookings are handled on a first served basis so where possible, book early. Call 0345 6789068 and ask for The Baron at Bucknell, stop reference 16011.

By car: Parking at The Baron at Bucknell, SY7 0AH.

To get the best from your walk we recommend comfortable walking boots, waterproof jacket and overtrousers, warm clothing, gloves and warm hat or sun cream and sun hat (depending on the season!), a mobile phone and something to eat and drink. Sheep and cattle are often in the fields on these routes – dogs must be kept under close control or on leads at all times.

Walking with Offa Promoting the Welsh English border as a great place to get your boots on, enjoy the beautiful countryside and indulge in some fabulous food and drink.



For more details contact the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership on **01588 674080** or see www.shropshirehillsaonb.co.uk

Many thanks to Mike Starr from Bucknell for developing this walk. Photographs by Steven Levers.



There are twelve pub walks in this series and four 'Days Out'. Download, including podcasts, from www.shropshirewalking.co.uk/walking-with-offa. Turn your Smartphone into a complete outdoors GPS. Download an app: www.viewranger.com and search for 'Walking with Offa'. A guide featuring all twelve walks is available.



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Walking with Offa 12

Riverbank and Otters along the Redlake and Teme

A flat, easy five mile linear walk along the Redlake and Teme Rivers between Bucknell and Leintwardine taking around two and a half hours



The Welsh English Border - where King Offa met his match!

One of a series of walks with spectacular views and glimpses of history, wildlife and archaeology.

in the Shropshire Hills



Walking with Offa 12

Riverbank and Otters along the Redlake and Teme

A flat, easy 5 mile linear walk along the Redlake and Teme rivers between Bucknell and Leintwardine taking around two and a half hours. Return by bus.

Turn left out of The Baron of Beef, Bucknell, and follow the road round to the church.

- ① Turn left in front of the church and follow the footpath past the churchyard and along by the river into the village. Cross the road onto a stony track and pass through two kissing gates into the meadow beyond. Go to the far end of the field, through a gate and then bear half right to the double gates over the railway at the far end of the next field. *Ahead of you is the wooded Coxall Knoll, which hides an Iron Age hill fort.*
- ② Turn left after the gates and walk along the edge of the field by the railway. Don't go through the gap at the end of field, but turn right and pass under the power line until you reach the corner of the field by the end of the wood. Above you is a stile partly obscured by a tree. Cross this stile into the meadow beyond. Head for the house and cross the stile in the far corner. Go straight ahead past a red brick barn to the corner of the field, then turn right and walk along to the finger post in the hedge. Cross the stile and turn right onto the road.
- ③ Walk along the road for about half a mile.

- ④ Just past a small wood on your left a fingerpost directs you through a gate, then bear right across a field and just to the left of a group of trees. Keep straight on past a waymarked post at a field corner and follow the hedge on your left to a gap. Turn right and then left to keep this field's hedge on your right and go through two gates to a track. Turn left and then immediately right through a gate, and cross the field keeping close to the hedge on your right. You exit onto a road (at a bend), where you turn right and walk through the village of Buckton. Keep left at the fork, cross the leat of an old water mill, and carry on until you reach the River Teme. Cross the bridge and turn left over a stile.
- ⑤ Shortly afterwards you pass through a gate and enter a large field. Keep close to the river bank through this and the next field. *The River Teme is rich in wildlife including otters, trout and salmon, and many different bird species can also be seen.* At a gate bear right and cut off the next meander of the river – Leintwardine church beckons to your left.

- ⑥ Your route now brings you close to the hedge by the road, which you follow for the remaining half mile into Leintwardine. Leave the field by a stile and you will find the bus stop next to a convenient seat on the far side of the bridge.
- ⑦ *Leintwardine is the site of the ancient roman fort of Branogenium. The church is worth a visit in its own right, as well as to see one of the oldest church clocks in the country (early 16th century). It is reached by walking up the main street and taking the first turning on the right. If time allows good food is available at the Lion hotel, while good beer can be had at the historic Sun Inn parlour pub, 100 yds past the bus stop.*

