

## Bucknell Railway Station to Knighton Railway Station

### 14km

1. From Bucknell station, go left over the level crossing and right along the pavement to pass the Sitwell Arms. Just beyond, turn left to walk along a surfaced path by the Redlake River. Keep to the right of the church and turn right to walk over the bridge; the road bends left and passes the Baron Inn. At the junction of Bridgend Lane you join the main route. Continue west on the lane in Bucknell and over a small bridge. At the right hand bend keep straight ahead onto Daffodil Lane past recreational grounds. It begins to rise; keep straight ahead.

2. The track rises, to then level for a section before reaching a junction in Bucknell Wood. Go right here to join a forestry track and stay on this as it rises up and bends to the right. At the second fork take the left hand track upwards; the track curves further leftwards and rises again through a group of native trees, principally oaks. Eventually you reach a staggered junction; go left and then follow the track as it curves right, climbing to pass beneath a line of fine beech trees. The track bends left and continues along to the top of the wood where a gate leads out onto open pasture.

3. The route continues westwards for some miles now along an old droving road until it reaches Offa's Dyke Path. Follow the tractor track ahead from which there are fine views to Caer Caradoc hill fort sitting above the hamlet of Chapel Lawn below. There are also distant views back to the other Caer Caradoc near Church Stretton. At the junction of tracks, keep ahead through a gate and walk up to the wood. Go through another field gate and pass by a stile on the right.

4. Continue ahead to go through two gates by a belt of woodland. Follow the track ahead through a number of pastures, passing through four field gates. The track becomes enclosed by hedges and is wet in places as it descends through another gate and past buildings to reach the main road at Five Turnings; this literally describes a junction of five ways in earlier times.

5. Cross the main road with care and go through a narrow gate just behind the GR- marked post box to continue on the drovers' route between hedges and then through a gate and slightly left, rising up a large field towards pine trees on the ridge ahead. Follow the fence on the left hand side to a small gate and ahead along a track which joins Offa's Dyke Path national trail.

6. Turn left to follow the national trail (which is waymarked with acorn symbols) through to Knighton. There is a good section of the ancient monument just to your left. Make your way along the path, passing through several gates, always with a fence to the left. There are also magnificent views up the Teme Valley and across to Knucklas Castle, village and railway viaduct. On reaching a seat at a local viewpoint the path curves left and becomes narrower as it drops down the hillside to a finger post. Go right here to drop steeply down to a lane: neat footwork is required as the path is heavily eroded in places. Those needing to walk directly towards Knighton railway station should turn left here along the lane: it takes about ten minutes to walk to the station

7. Cross the lane, go through a gate and follow the worn path to cross the railway track with extreme care and then the footbridge which crosses the River Teme. Follow the river bank as it curves to the left, through kissing gates into woodland, in which you cross the England-Wales border. The path then rises as it turns right, heading up to the Offa's Dyke Centre and left for Knighton town centre.

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