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Start at WR1 1DB or W3W///drives.calm.baking

Foregate Street to Droitwich Spa

Easy

1) R out of station. R on Pierpoint Street. R on Samsome Walk. After passing under railway bridge L on Samsome Place continue on Lion Court then follow FP to steps and Worcester and Birmingham Canal.

Continue on the signed FP on the opposite side of the roundabout. Where paths cross continue straight ahead to emerge through gate onto 1 a road. R then almost immediately cross L to FP between fence panels. Follow across an open field to a stile and steps down to a road.

Fairey Battle fighter bombers were tested at the airport by the Austin company's air division who made them at Longbridge.

N.B. If starting at Shrub Hill: L from station entrance following access road. Pass by station car park to cross at traffic lights and go to R side of main road opposite (with retail park on your R). After crossing the canal immediately R to drop down to towpath. Follow this all the way to point 2.

- At canal L then continue on towpath underneath viaduct. Follow the canal towpath (also the Monarch's Way) for approximately 3km to bridge No 17.
- Cross to the other side of the canal. As you drop down from the bridge follow path around to the R. Almost immediately The Monarch's Way continues R but our route follows a bridleway straight on. Follow the obvious track with a golf course to your L and shrubs and then tall trees on your R. Shortly after the trees leave the main track to follow the bridleway slightly R.
- You soon enter a wood and continuing around to the R it develops into a tree lined track through the golf course. Soon after emerging on a surfaced lane between houses take the FP L through horse paddocks and then along to edge of a mini golf course. Cross the golf clubs access track then a gate onto the A38.
- R at the A38. Continue on the pavement on the R side of the road, over a junction under the A449 bridge then along a path that's set slightly back from the road. Where the path comes back to the road use a protected crossing point to cross L to Grange Lane. Follow the cycle footway on the L side to a roundabout and the entrance to the RGS Grange school.

Cross road and steps almost immediately opposite and over stile into a field. Follow path alongside gardens to end of field then L on path between houses to lane. R on lane. Where lane turns sharp R at Martinbrook Farm continue L on bridleway (for most of the rest of our route we're following the Monarch's Way again) that drops down to cross the canal bridge at Porter's Mill.

- After crossing the canal take first R on road that soon runs parallel to the Droitwich Canal. Join the canal towpath and follow for approximately 3 kms to Droitwich. En route (after Bridge 7) it's well worth popping off the canal to visit Salwarpe Church.
- At Bridge 11 climb steps L to road. Cross road then R over canal bridge. Continue on cycle footway using an underpass to cross Ombersley Way. On the other side bear L to road that passes underneath a railway bridge. Follow pavement on L then cross to footway heading L in front of St Nicholas's Church Follow this around to R and a a second underpass. On the other side L then R to drop down steps on L to station.

Perdiswell Airfield

Situated just north of the city, the now disused Municipal Airport, (RAF Worcester during WWII), first opened as Perdiswell Airport in the 1920s - the first one of its kind in the world. It hosted the Prince of Wales (King Edward VIII) in 1932 when he flew in to open the city's new main river bridge.

In WW2 the site became RAF Worcester which was a 'Relief Landing Ground'. In terms of activities it was primarily used for flight training using DeHavilland Tiger Moth biplanes but did occasionally host larger aircraft.

There is a story that American film star Clark Gable was in the co-pilot's seat of a Douglas DC3 'Dakota' aircraft called "Idiot's Delight" bound from Pershore. The aircraft came in too fast and made an emergency landing. It overshot the grass runway and crashed through railings onto the Bilford Rd and the city's rubbish dump. The occupants were reportedly taken off to the Officer's Mess for "something stronger than tea" to help them recover. The road was blocked for a number of days while the aircraft was dismantled and then transported away.