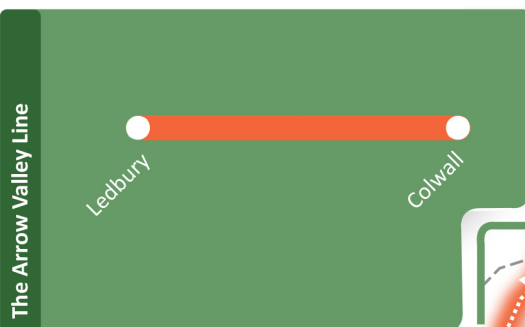
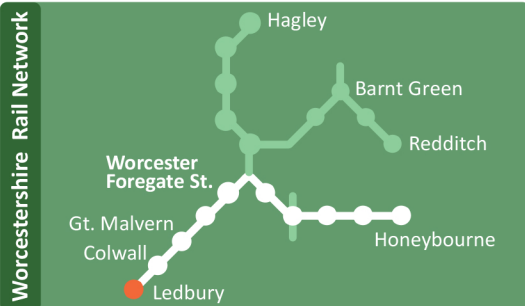




Ledbury to Colwall (Short route)

748ft/227m
Moderate

Disclaimer You undertake this walk entirely at your own risk, the author takes no responsibility for injury or loss.



Points of interest
Bruce Bairnsfather, the celebrated British humorist and cartoonist, is famously linked to the Herefordshire village of Colwall, where he settled in the early 1950's. Bairnsfather rose to prominence during WW1 for his hugely popular series,



Feedback to us..
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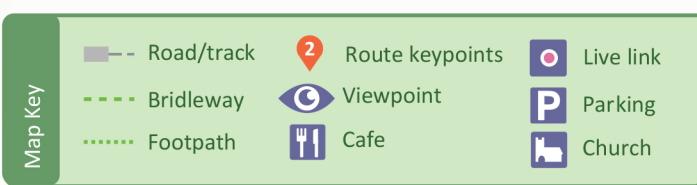
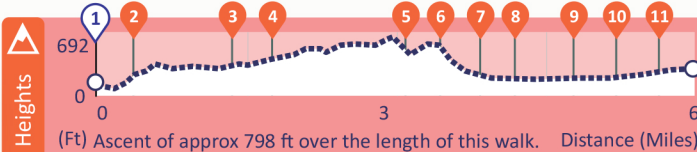
Train Times

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Colwall cartoonist
Bruce Bairnsfather



"Fragments from France," which provided a wry, witty, and deeply human look at trench life. His most iconic creation, the curmudgeonly yet lovable soldier 'Old Bill,' became a symbol of the common British

Tommy, capturing their stoicism and dark humor amidst the grim realities of the front line.

While in Colwall he continued his creative work. His home in the village served as a base for his ongoing projects, including further cartoons, plays, and memoirs. While his legacy is intrinsically linked to his wartime cartoons.

On 24 September 2011, a plaque commemorating Bruce Bairnsfather was unveiled on the wall of Colwall Royal British Legion Club in Crescent Road, Colwall, near Malvern in Worcestershire. The plaque was instigated by the Colwall Village Society and was unveiled by Mark Warby. Bairnsfather lived in Colwall from 1951 to 1954 and was well known at the British Legion Club in the village.



Ledbury to Colwall (Short route)

748ft/227m
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Directions

1 From Platform 2 cross car park to main road. R on pavement to pass under railway bridge. After bridge R over stile to climb steadily along the edge of an orchard.

2 At the top L on footpath to follow the well signed Geopark Way & Herefordshire Trail as it contours along the bottom edge of Frith Wood. Take care not to miss where the path enters the wood when you reach a large three storey farmhouse (Firth Farm).

3 Where Geopark & Herefordshire head off downhill through fields continue straight ahead to emerge on a well-made gravel track.

4 At road L. After passing through a rock cutting R up access road to Hope End then immediately L through a gate. (We now follow the Geopark Way to Colwall Church). Continue on obvious path through fields with Hope End's walled garden on your R. Continue through gate and by wood then climb up and over Oyster Hill.

5 At the bottom of the hill there are two farm and pedestrian gates in a wood. Double back through the one on the R and climb gradually up a track. As you leave the wood its important you leave the track and bear L to find a stile with views of the Malvern Hills.

6 Drop down over 4 stiles and an awkward set of steps in a wood to an orchard. Follow the right-hand edge of the orchard to emerge at a further stile into a road.

7 R on road. At junction pass through gate into an orchard and continue on FP to double stile in the orchard's R-hand corner. Cross the next field to a further stile as it enters a wood.

8 L over footbridge to enter a large field. Cross the field aiming for the church tower to a stile. Cross the car park then R through the churchyard. At road L to pass the Ale House. At T-junction straight

ahead on a wide track towards fishing ponds.

9 Just before a large green metal storage box and concrete bollards R on footpath along the edge of a large field. Drop down through gate to cross a stream into lane. L here until a metal kissing gate into Lugg's Meadow Orchard appears on the R.

10 Enter the Orchard and take the L-hand path. Ignoring the footbridge to the R continue through Kissing Gate and around L to path junction. R here through kissing gate then another kissing gate in the R-hand corner of the next field.

11 Emerging in a large field cross diagonally and slightly L to a gate in the opposite hedge. Continue diagonally R across the next field to a wide path between houses. At the road take the road almost immediately opposite and follow this to a T-junction. R here to cross the main road onto the access road for the station.

Project partners



Colwall Church

The Church of St. James the Great in Colwall is a beautiful and historically significant building with origins dating back to the 12th century. The core of the church, including its notable Norman south doorway, provides a tangible link to its early history. Over the centuries, it has been expanded and restored, with a south aisle added in the 13th century and a chancel in the Victorian era.

The church's setting, nestled in the idyllic countryside at the foot of the Malvern Hills, makes it a tranquil place of worship. The church's historic ale house is a rare surviving example of a medieval church house. This medieval ale house served as a community hub for brewing and social gatherings.

For walkers, the church offers up free tea and coffee-making facilities (while encouraging a small donation).

St James the Great Church, Colwall with it's ancient Ale House in the foreground.

