The nearest Tourist Information Centre is:

Droitwich Spa Tourist Information Centre

The Heritage Centre, St.Richard's House, Victoria Square, Droitwich Spa. Worcestershire WR9 8DS

E mail: general.office@droitwichspatowncouncil.co.uk Telephone: 01905 774312



About



Droitwich Canal

The restoration of 12km of canal, linking the River Severn and the Worcester Birmingham Canal, was completed in July 2011 giving a number of walking and cycling opportunities.



Hanbury Hall

Hanbury Hall was built in 1701 and is set in varied grounds and parkland. The Hall is managed by the National Trust and is open to the public (entry fee). For more information visit

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hanburyhall



Jinney Ring Craft Centre

Located in Hanbury and offering a wide range of crafts people, gift shop, gallery and restaurant. For more information visit www.jinneyring.co.uk



Hanbury Church

Set in an imposing position on a hill with panoramic scenic views overlooking the Worcestershire countryside. Hanbury Church has seen many an 'Archers' wedding and the bells of Our Mary the Virgin are often heard in the programme.





For information about the best public transport options for you please call:



Traveline Tel. 0871 200 22 33 **NATIONAL RAIL ENQUIRIES** Tel. 08457 484950

or visit: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/transport

The Countryside Code Safe Walking

- Be safe plan ahead and follow any signs.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home.
- Keep dogs under close control.
- Consider other people.
- Keep children away from the water's edge.
- Always wear suitable clothing.
- Please ensure you park considerately.

Walking for Health

Just 30 minutes a day of brisk walking, on a regular basis, can have a positive effect on your health and quality of life.

web: www.wfh.naturalengland.org.uk

Hanbury Circular Walk: Fact File

Start / Finish: Gateway Park, Droitwich Canal GR: SO 915631. OS Explorer Map 204 'Worcester and Droitwich Spa'.

Length: 63/4 miles, 3 - 4 hours (approx.).

Parking: Parking is available at the Start / Finish point (parking charges apply), located off B4090 Hanbury Road, approximately 3/4 mile east of Droitwich, in front of Droitwich Rugby Club.

Gates and stiles: 12 pedestrian gates, 11 kissing gates and 2 field gates.

Terrain: Level canal towpaths, crossfield, field edges and parkland. One gradual climb, two shorter, steeper, climbs and one flight of steps.

Waymarking: Simply follow the Hanbury Circular Walk 'lock gates' symbol and direction arrows and you won't get lost.



If you have enjoyed this circular walk, why not try the Royal Hunters Walks, a series of lovely circular walks around Bromsgrove.

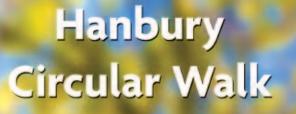


For information about walking in Worcestershire, or to order copies of our circular walks leaflets please contact: Worcestershire Hub on: 01905 766493.

e mail: worcestershirehub@worcestershire.gov.uk web: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/countryside

This document can be made available in other languages and alternative formats (large print, audio tape, computer disk and Braille) on request from the Worcestershire Hub on telephone number 01905 765765 or by e mailing worcestershirehub@worcestershire.gov.uk

Find out more online at: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/countryside **Worcestershire County Council Countryside Service**







A 63/4 mile Waymarked Circular Walk





Welcome to the

Hanbury Circular Walk

Gateway Park

A varied, 63/4 mile, circular walk, combining canalside walking, hedge-lined fields, historic buildings and parkland. The walk is indicated by the 'lock gates' symbol.

1) From the Gateway Park car park, go through the vehicle entrance, cross the drive and follow the path ahead. Continue with the Droitwich Canal on your left for 500 metres.

Droitwich Canal is 12km long and its restoration completed in 2011. The Barge Canal between Hawford and Droitwich was originally built in 1771, and later in 1854. Droitwich Canal Junction was constructed to join the Worcester & Birmingham Canal at Hanbury. Both were designed to carry salt out of Droitwich.

2) You will pass a lock and several narrowboat moorings. Briefly leave the canal, crossing a minor road and cross the bridge on the footway, opposite the Eagle and Sun Public House. Turn left, down steps to re-join the canalside. You now follow the Birmingham-Worcester Canal.

3) Continue along the canal for two miles until you pass under bridge number 40 and pretty lock keepers cottage. Between the cottage and the next lock, take a footpath on your right through a gate.

4) Cross the field to a footbridge and follow the field edge to the next gate. Go through the gate and cross the field to another gate at the roadside.

5) Turn right and then almost immediately left, along a footpath with the hedge boundary on your left. Continue straight ahead, through a gate, cross a sunken track and through a further gate. Continue straight ahead along the field edge.

6) Before reaching the top boundary of the field, turn left, cross the footbridge and continue ahead with the field boundary on your right. Cross the footbridge and continue straight on to a kissing gate at the wood edge.

Astwood KEY Piper's Hill P Car Parking Route of the Hanbury Circular Hanbury Hall Wooded Area (National PH Public House Trust) Jinney Ring Craft Centre Hanbury Summer Woolmere Gallows Green Green Hanbur Mere Green

> 14) Continue straight towards Summer Hill Farm, go through a field gate and bear diagonally left (ignoring the track) and head to another field gate. Go through the gate and continue with the field hedge on your right. Passing a footpath on your right, continue through a gate ahead and over the railway bridge. Bear left and go through a kissing gate to rejoin the canal. Turn left to re-trace your steps back along the canal towpath. If you didn't start at the Gateway Park, turn right and follow the description from point 3.

7) Go through the kissing gate to enter the woodland at Piper's Hill.

Piper's Hill, a wood pasture of pollarded Beech and Sweet Chestnut, together with large Oak trees believed to be 300 - 400 years old. The woodland is also an excellent habitat for fungi and some 200 species have been found here. Pipers Hill is managed by Worcestershire Wildlife Trust.

Visit: www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk

When you reach the track, turn right and continue along the path, skirting the bottom of the wood. Bear right onto a stone track.

8) Go through the gate and head up a steep hill, passing through a couple of further gates to reach the churchyard of Hanbury Church.

Walkers starting at or taking a detour from the walk to visit the Jinney Ring Craft Centre, join and leave the route at this point, by turning left and descending down the steep slope, crossing the road and following the public footpath back to the Centre.

> 9) Continue through the churchvard to the main gates and then go down the road bearing right and then through a kissing gate on your left, to enter the parkland of Hanbury Hall.

> > 10) Cross diagonally to a kissing gate and head for the avenue of Oak trees, through a further kissing gate. Go through the next kissing gate and past the main gates of Hanbury Hall on your right.

If you wish to visit Hanbury Hall and grounds, tickets are available from an office located alongside the main drive next to the car park. National Trust members and ticket holders will be required to show their tickets, so please do not be tempted to enter the grounds unless you have one.

- 11) Go through the next kissing gate and continue diagonally across a large grazed parkland area, heading for a kissing gate to reach the roadside.
- 12) Turn right, and continue through a gate. With the fence on your right, continue through a kissing gate and turn right along the field edge. At the field corner, bear left, ignoring the first footpath and continue with the field edge on your right.
- 13) Turn right and cross footbridge. Head for the corner of a wood and a waymark post. Now bear slightly right and head to a clump of trees on top of the hill.