

The Beauty of South Shropshire

Explore rolling green hills, quiet footpaths and stunning views in this area of outstanding natural beauty.



- 5 nights 4 days walking
- Departure date: September 19th 2027
- Price: each room individually priced prices for 2027

- Grade 

I made south Shropshire my home in 1999. What attracted me? The beautiful scenery and the quirkiness of the town that became my home, Bishops Castle. The walks in this area are delightful: gorgeous green rolling hills, stunning views and quiet footpaths, with the next tea shop or pub never too far away. Each day we will explore a different part of this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, including Church Stretton and the Long Mynd, the Stiperstones, the hills on the skyline view from Church Stretton, Ragleth and the Iron Age hill fort of Caer Caradoc as well as walking from Bishops Castle for one of our walks.

Holiday highlights

- Take in views across England and Wales from Pole Bank, the highest point on the Long Mynd.
- Walk the hills on the skyline from Church Stretton; the mighty Caer Caradoc and Ragleth.
- Discover the mysterious Stiperstones rocks and visit the Bog tearooms.
- Explore the quirky town of Bishops Castle and walk the ancient drover's route, the Kerry Ridgeway and a section of Offa's Dyke.

Accommodation



Ads Ventures has a brilliant new base for this holiday: the relaxed, friendly and elegant Victoria House in Church Stretton. With its back garden overlooking the 11th Century church, this charming Victorian townhouse is centrally located yet within easy walking distance of the Shropshire Hills.

Using antique furniture, original artwork and luxury soft furnishings, the interiors have been individually styled and tastefully decorated to a high standard to create guest rooms with character.

A delicious breakfast served each day in the breakfast room overlooking the garden, is cooked to order

using local quality produce wherever possible.

With six guest en-suite rooms to choose from, there is a room to suit every taste. As each of the rooms is individual, they are also individually priced for this 5-night break. On this holiday, dinner is not included, however, on each evening I will book a table at a local pub or restaurant, either in Church Stretton, or just down the road in Little Stretton to give the opportunity to eat together. Alternatively, you can make your own arrangements for dinner each evening.



Holiday price for 5 nights

Each room is priced individually: If more rooms are needed I will find alternative accomodation in Church Stretton of a similar standard. Breakfast will still be taken in Victoria House.

Rooms in Victoria House

All rooms are equipped with bathrobes and toiletries and have a fridge along with complimenary sherry, teas, coffee, hot chocolates and biscuits.

Single rooms

1. Balmoral: Small room with a single bed, private dressing room and shower room £765
2. Snug: En-suite shower room with small double bed £780
3. Durbar: En-suite shower room with walk-in shower and standard sized double bed £850
4. Albert: Twin en-suite room with a walk in shower £850
5. Osborne: En-suite room with bath and a king sized bed £875
6. Florinda: Large en-suite room with a large corner bath and overhead shower. Super king bed £925

Double rooms

1. Durbar: En-suite shower room with walk-in shower and standard sized double bed £650 pp
2. Albert: Twin en-suite room with a walk in shower £650 pp
3. Osborne: En-suite room with bath and a king sized bed £675 pp
4. Florinda: Large en-suite room with a large corner bath and overhead shower. Super king bed £690 pp

Included

- En-suite accommodation with breakfast in the lovely Victoria House.
- Guided walking with a qualified and professional leader each day.

Not included

- Evening meals. Whilst these aren't included, each evening I will make a reservation at a local restaurant for us to eat together.
- Lunches -these can be bought locally in Church Stretton.
- Incidental expenses such as drinks.
- Transport to and from walks.

Detailed Itinerary

The following is the proposed itinerary for this short break. However, please bear in mind that in the event of local conditions changing, for example, due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, it may be necessary to change the itinerary.

Day 1

Arrive at the Victoria House and check into your room.
Meet at 7pm in the lounge for a short briefing about the week ahead before dinner.



Day 2: The Long Mynd



Today we walk from Victoria House to the neighbouring village of Little Stretton and from there ascend the hill that is a constant backdrop to the Stretton valley, the Long Mynd. We climb to its highest point, Pole Bank, to take in views across the county and way beyond. We retain our height as we walk it's length, before dropping down through the delightful Carding Mill valley back into Church Stretton.

13.5 km (8.5 miles) ascent/descent 420 m

Meals included: breakfast

Day 3: The Stiperstones and the Bog (which isn't a bog!)



Today we explore the jagged rocks of the Stiperstones. This quartzite ridge rises sharply above purple heathered moorland, making for dramatic scenery and an area steeped in myth and legend. The largest clump of rocks, called the Devils Chair is said to have been placed there when they fell out of the Devil's apron and rather than pick them up, he left there to rest on!

From Church Stretton we take the dramatic drive over the Long Mynd to park at Bridges. We walk to the Bog centre where there is a community run café for elevenses (if open) and from there, follow the length of the Stiperstones ridge before descending back to the Bridges and it's pub, The Three Horseshoes.

16 km (10 miles) ascent/descent 420 m

Meals included: breakfast

Day 4: Scots pine stomp from Bishops Castle

Until the mid-1800s men known as drovers walked with huge herds of livestock from the hills and valleys of Wales to markets in the Midlands and beyond. Scots pines were used along the way for navigation. In 2025, Scots pines were planted in the hills around Bishops Castle to replace the dying and fallen trees that once guided drovers on one of their main routes from mid Wales to London. This walk, the Scots Pine Stomp, was devised to celebrate the project.

On this beautiful 9.5-mile circular walk around Bishop's Castle, we ascend through the Wintles to Bishops Moat, onto Reilthtop and along Colebatch to explore this ancient route to discover some of these trees and their surroundings. If available, this walk will be led by a friend of mine, fellow leader Catherine Murphy; there will be explanations of this historic route along the way.

9.5 miles, ascent/descent 420m

Meals included: breakfast

Day 5: Caer Caradoc and Ragleth

The skyline view from Church Stretton is of a range of hills; Ragleth, the ancient hill fort of Caer Caradoc, and slightly further along the valley, the Lawley. The views from this stunning range of hills are extensive and stretch over the whole of Shropshire and its neighbouring counties. Walking from Victoria House we first follow a valley route to the neighbouring village of Little Stretton before heading up to the ancient hillfort of Caer Caradoc. Descending to the south side we



walk around Hazler Hill and then up onto Ragleth. The ascent to the very top of Ragleth along the long sweeping ridge is optional, but well worth it for those that want to. From the summit of Ragleth we descend back to Church Stretton.

14.5 km (9 miles) ascent/descent 625 m

Meals included: breakfast

Day 6: Farewells until next time!

After a good breakfast we say goodbye, until next time.

Meals included: breakfast

Kit list

For walking each day:

- Good walking boots or shoes
- Waterproof jacket and trousers
- Lightweight, quick drying trousers
- Base layer
- Mid-layer such as a fleece jacket and an additional 'spare' layer depending on the forecast
- Walking socks
- Warm hat and gloves -just in case the weather turns
- Sun hat, sunglasses, lip salve and high SPF sun block
- Day sack (25 litre capacity is a good size) to comfortably carry your kit, lunch and water
- Dry bag or rucksack cover to keep the contents of your daypack dry
- Water bottle
- Basic first aid kit (plasters, blister treatment, antiseptic etc)
- Some snacks to keep you going
- Walking/trekking poles (if you use them)

Maps: OS Explorer maps 216 Welshpool and Montgomery, 217 The Long Mynd and Wenlock Edge.

Group size

This guided holiday will have a maximum group size of 12.

Personal expenditure

All breakfasts and evening meals are included in the holiday cost.

You will need enough money to cover lunches and incidental expenses such as drinks.

Any other queries, please get in touch with me.