



Telford Coronation Walks

Walk 11 Oakengates Circular –

The route starts from the edge of the bus station in Oakengates TF2 6EH

<https://what3words.com/shocking.houseboat.awards>

Distance 3.25 miles

OS Map: <https://explore.osmaps.com/route/19276689/tcw11-oakengates>

The walk visits Cockshutt Local Nature Reserve (LNR) which provides a haven for wildlife, then goes to the view point at Snedshill. This route visits the remains of a canal, an inclined plane, a railway line and mining activity.

The route is on good paths for the most part. There is one stile on the route.

Further Reading: The Cockshutt LNR https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20629/local_nature_reserves/5232/the_cockshutt

Walk Directions

Leave the bus station by heading for the main road, Uxacona Way (*Uxacona was a Romano-British settlement located at Redhill, The settlement lies at the highest point of the Roman Watling Street, approximately 11 Roman miles from Viroconium Cornoviorum (Wroxeter) to the west, and 11 miles from Pennocrucium (Penkridge) to the east*)

Turn right along the pavement to the pedestrian crossing and cross the road carefully.

Turn right for a short distance then turn left to take the pedestrian route under the bridge (*The road ahead of you was on the line of the Watling Street, Thomas Telford's improvements changed the line from this route, pushing it further South.*)

Take the first left turn, then turn left again following cycle route 81. Continue until the path meets a road. (*Here you are above the beautiful tiled geological map on the A442 (Eastern primary or Queensway)*) Turn sharp right here and follow the Silkin Way up to a level path. At the junction turn left. Continue on the level path passing through a low gate and into an area of garages. Keep on until the end, then turn right passing through a gate into the Cockshutt LNR.

Follow the path up to a junction. Fork left here, briefly joining the T50, go straight over at a path crossing (Point A) leaving the T50. (You could deviate to the right here to visit a large grassy area with picnic benches. You could also take a short cut here by turning right and following the T50 to Point B, this shorter route would be 2.65 miles and is here <https://explore.osmaps.com/route/19660558/short-cut-on-tcw11-oakengates>).

Follow the obvious main path, ignoring turnings off the path until you arrive at the top of a sharp slope, (*This is the top of an inclined plane, taking*) Turn a very sharp right here to rejoin the T50. (*You are now on the line of the*) Continue straight on as the path becomes driveable. At a complex junction bear right. (*You will now be on, or just to the side of the route of the railway*) Continue on the T50 until it turns a sharp right (Point B), Continue on the same track, which bears slightly right after the “Tin Bridge” over the old railway line on your left. (*This bridge leads to some squatters’ cottages.*). Continue on the main track as it becomes tarmacked, which will first veer right then left (*this passes first the site of the Bird in the Hand pub, then the site of a Methodist Chapel which was demolished in 1930.*). At the road /path junction (a main entrance to the LNR) , turn left onto The Nabb to rejoin the T50, which you will now follow for the majority of the walk.

Follow the road to a fork (*note more former squatters cottages on the right*), where you bear left, still on The Nabb. (After passing some modern bungalows you could turn right through some green metal posts to reach the viewpoint on the Nabb, and rejoin the route though some large gates which are usually open.) Eventually you will come to Station Hill , turn left along the pavement. On the other side of the road you will see a decorated bus shelter . Cross the road near the Albion Inn to admire a monument, erected in late 2024, which recognises all those who worked – and in some cases lost their lives in -coal mining, steel making, brick making and farming. (*The memorial is on the site of a hall that was built by apprentices. Until recently (2022?) the side wall had the names of the apprentices fired into bricks.. These bricks have been preserved at*) Continue along the road for a short distance, then turn right over a stile. Bear left up a flight of shallow steps. As you emerge from trees into a grassy area turn sharp right. Follow the path through trees until a T-junction where you turn left, you will soon reach a gate. Go through and continue down the road until the second left, Athol Drive. Follow Athol Drive until its end on Eaton Crescent, where you turn right. At the end of Eaton Crescent, turn left along Canongate.

Very shortly turn right through a gate, then right again along a footpath. This path will take you to an excellent viewpoint on Snedshill (*the site of former mining activity*) . Turn to your right to find a flight of shallow steps (in 2 sections) which you descend. Turn right at the bottom of the second set to reach Canongate again, turn left and use the zebra crossing , turn left down the hill once over the crossing, Continue on the pavement all the way down the hill to the roundabout, here you can go straight on to visit the centre of Oakengates but the route turns right into Uxacona Way to return to the start at the bus station,