



This walk starts at the Kinnersley Arms.

A) Turn right out of the pub car park and walk down the lane towards Letton. Take the first road right towards Ailey.

B) Turn down the gravelled approach to the first house you come to on the left, reached after 250 metres along the road, the footpath continuing through the garden of the cottage and then through a small gate. Follow the sunken footpath (which can be very wet as it follows a water course), going through another small gate and then climbing up a steep bank. Continue ahead, passing to the left of Myrtle Cottage.

C) Enter the farmyard and continue straight ahead to a small gate to the immediate left of a poultry shed and which is reached by going down three steps. Still keep straight ahead, walking right alongside the poultry shed to its far end, where you go through a pair of metal gates on your right. Immediately turn left and go through a gate into a field where you'll find yourself next to a large array of solar panels. The footpath diagonally crosses this field to the far right-hand corner where there is a wide gateway into the next field.

D) The path crosses an arm of this next field on much the same line that you've been walking to another large gateway into the field beyond. In this third field you follow the field boundary on your left till you reach a footbridge in the next corner. Cross this and then follow the field boundary on your right to another stile which you take to leave the field and find yourself on a lane.

E) Cross the lane and take the stile on the far side, then walk down the field boundary on your left to another stile by the side of a large oak. Cross this to enter The Sturts Nature Reserve, and then take the bridge ahead over a boggy patch of ground. The path then aims for a corner of hedge on your left (behind

which lies The Old School House), and from that corner then heads on across the field to another 'corner' where a well concealed path leads through a very thick hedge to a stile out onto the Kinnersley to Letton road. (If confused as to where this path is, you can always leave the field by the car pull in and gate by the boundary with the Old School House.)

F) By whichever route you take to reach the road, once on it, turn right and walk along it till you reach a large oak on the left, immediately past which is a stile on each side of the road. You take the one on the right, and pay attention to its yellow waymarking sign, for that's the direction in which you need to cross the corner of the field – there is no clear marker to aim for! Hopefully as you cross it you'll see a stile just to the right of a fair sized oak. Cross the stile and associated bridge, then follow the stream on your right to enter the field proper.

G) The path crosses this field diagonally towards a large oak, where you will find a gateway, a finger post with three footpath signs and a wooden bench seat (just to the right). Go through the gateway and the path again crosses this field diagonally towards the far corner, passing between a pair of free standing oaks. Once past these trees, your target is the second large oak tree on the left of a length of treeless hedgerow, about 100 metres to the right of the far corner of the field. Here, in a slight kink in the field boundary you will find an old gate with a stile to its left. Cross here and walk along the hedge on your left for a few yards to a stile that leads you through this thick hedgerow into a small field. Head across this to a bridge on the far side to enter another field.

H) The footpath heads to the top right-hand corner of this next field where you go through the gateway just to the right of a small pond. A wide footpath curves up this field to The Sturts Nature Reserve car park. (Note the obelisk on the right-hand side when entering the car park.)

I) Exit The Sturts onto Ailey Lane and turn right. After approximately 100 metres, take some steps up the bank on your left and cross a stile into a field. The path crosses this field diagonally to the far corner where there is another stile. Cross this and the track on its far side to then cross a further stile and footbridge into another field. Turn right along the hedge and, when it makes a right-hand turn, carry on across the field, aiming for the white-painted house to the left of the Kinnersley Arms. You leave the field by a gate onto the Letton road, and here another obelisk is to be found.

Herefordshire Wildlife Trust's The Sturts North Nature Reserve

The 20.5 hectare reserve comprises seven differing fields lying in the River Wye flood plain which are subject to regular winter flooding. This leaves a layer of silt deposited onto the meadow which enriches the soils and produces really botanically diverse grassland – great for wildlife as well as for grazing livestock and creating top quality meadow hay. Species include great burnet, meadow fox-tail, meadowsweet, cuckoo flower, devil's bit scabious, greater bird's-foot trefoil, dyer's greenweed, crested dog's tail, sweet vernal grass, common knapweed, betony, tormentil, marsh bedstraw – to name but some! Mire and swamp communities occur in the most low-lying sections the reserve.

Please avoid trampling the vegetation in the wet areas, and use the bridges to cross streams and ditches. Conditions underfoot can be wet even in summer so boots are advised.

(Text from Herefordshire Wildlife Trust)