



This walk starts at the Kinnersley Arms.

**A)** Turn left out of the pub car park onto Letton Lane, go over the old railway bridge and carry on for about 200 metres where you will see a waymarker and stile on the right. Go over the stile and follow the footpath diagonally across the field, aiming for the black and white timber-framed house on the far side of the main road, to reach a stile about 30 metres to the right of the single oak in the hedgerow. Cross this and follow the hedgerow on your right to a stile in the corner of this field. Cross this, follow the hedgerow on your right to the point where it turns to the right, then cross the field on a diagonal, aiming once again for the black and white timber-framed house, or even better for the obelisk by the hedgerow this side of it, and here you will find a stile out on to a wide verge by the main road.

**B)** Turn right and keep to the verge past a gate and then barns on the right till you reach another gate. Go through this gate and cross the field diagonally to the far corner, where a stile will lead you out onto Hurstley Lane.

**C)** Turn right on the lane and almost immediately take another footpath signposted off to the right, crossing a double stile, and then a bridge over a stream near one of Kinnersley's obelisks and a dead tree. From here the path continues on the line of the bridge to cross the field to the corner in the hedgerow on the far side, along which it turns right to head to the far corner of the field.

Cross the stile in the corner of the field and continue along the hedgerow on your left through the next field, passing out via a small gate just to the right of a block of woodland. You'll immediately

cross the line of the old railway, and continue across a narrow strip of orchard to pass through a gap in the next hedge. Through the gap, turn right and follow the hedge along on your right, including where it kinks right and then left. At the end of this orchard, where you'll pass one of Kinnersley's obelisks, you cross straight over the next field, aiming just to the right of the tallest conifer (and with the Kinnersley Arms in front of you and slightly to the right). Once over the field the path passes through gaps left in the lines of trees in another orchard and then crosses out onto the Kinnersley to Letton road via a stile.

**D)** Cross the road and take that ahead signposted to Ailey. 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.

**E)** 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.

**F)** 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. From here the path turns right to cross the field, aiming slightly to the right of the far left-hand corner where you should see a gap in the hedge indicating where a stile is to be found. But don't cross the stile! Instead, turn left in front of the hedge and walk down to the corner of the field where you'll find another stile adjacent to an old gate. Cross this into the next field.

**E)** You head across this field to its furthest corner, initially aiming to pass between two trees that stand in the middle of the field and then heading on to the corner. Here you will find a gateway next to a large oak. Go through this and you will find a wooden bench seat and a three-way finger post on your left.

**H)** Turn right and walk across the field to a gateway, and then keep on across the next field, to the right of a pond, and aiming for a single poplar, and near the corner of the field you will find a bridge followed by two stiles. Having crossed these, turn right and follow the hedgerow till you come to a double metal gate.

**I)** Go through this gate and head just to the right of the white-painted Lower Kinley that stands in the field, from where you will see another double stile in the hedgerow beyond. Cross this and then aim for the far right-hand corner of the field where you will come to a stile the other side of which is a ditch. (Care should be taken as this could be full of deep water after heavy rain; a bridge should be being provided here not too long after this booklet goes to print.)

**J)** Once over this ditch, the path crosses the next field, aiming for a point just to the right of the white-painted farmhouse. As you near the far side of this field, you need to look out for a gateway in the hedgerow to your right, and this you head for and pass through. (Depending upon the crop in the field and availability of tramlines, you may want to use the headlands on the right of the field as an easier route.)

**K)** Once through the gate, head towards the far left-hand corner of the field where you go through a gate in the hedgerow on the left, just beyond a small pond. A wide footpath curves up this next field to The Sturts Nature Reserve car park. (Note the obelisk on the right-hand side when entering the car park.)

**L)** 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 Letton Lane, and here another obelisk is to be found.

#### **Herefordshire Wildlife Trust's The Sturts South Nature Reserve**

The 16.1 hectare reserve lies in the flood plain of the River Wye at the western edge of a low-lying basin known as Letton Lakes. This entire area is flooded every winter when the water levels rise in a nearby river, enriching the grassland soils. The reserve comprises a complex mosaic of grassland and wetland communities. Meadow-sweet, lesser-pond rush and pepper saxifrage can be seen at various areas throughout. There is a wide variety of birds species here throughout the year.

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)