

Prees Walks

WALK 4 – Prees, Coton and The Bull and Dog



An anti-clockwise 3.6 mile circuit starting and finishing at either the Bull and Dog pub or Prees Station

Route notes

1. From the Bull and Dog car park walk across the road and through a kissing gate on the opposite side of the road to the pub immediately across from the car park entrance.
2. Follow the path to the right along the field edge.
3. When you see a stile in the hedgerow on your right hand side, turn to the left and walk straight across the middle of the field to a metal footpath gate on the far side.
4. Follow this footpath through a series of fields and 5 further metal gates/kissing gates until you arrive on a track next to Prees Station and level crossing.

If you choose to start from Prees Station (which has an excellent rail service for such a rural location) then simply start the route notes with no. 5. You should note that Prees Station is unusual in that it is a request stop.

There are cycle racks at Prees Station

There is room for a small amount of parking next to Prees Station. Please make sure the farm track is left clear for agricultural vehicles.

5. Cross the level crossing and walk along the road towards Prees village. Take care on this stretch of road.
6. After a quarter of a mile you will come to a right hand bend in the road and a farm driveway off to the left. There is a small triangle of grass on the left at this point. Walk to the left up the farm driveway.
7. When the driveway opens out, follow the footpath to the right on the edge of the farmyard.
8. Go through the metal farmgate and continue straight along the footpath. There are occasionally electric fence wires here. The farmer uses insulated plastic clip fastenings so walkers can easily unclip the wire, walk through and re-clip it.

9. At the end of this path there is a kissing gate straight ahead, and a metal footpath gate on your left. Go through the metal gate on your left and follow the waymark arrow – the footpath goes diagonally across the middle of this field. Head for a power pole in the middle of the field.

If you want to make a longer walk and incorporate Prees village then don't turn left and carry straight on through the kissing gate, past the white house (Lily Hall) and right onto the lane (Ligtheach Road) at the end of their drive.

10. Having crossed the field the path goes through another metal footpath gate at the junction of 2 farm tracks. Cross the track and head for a stile in the far hedge. It's to the left of a very visible large concrete cow trough.
11. Go straight ahead through a further metal footpath gate.
12. Cross a stile and small footpath bridge over a stream. This is Soulton Brook which forms the western Prees parish boundary. Cross the field to a high stile that takes you to the railway.
13. Take care at this footpath level crossing. You must look and listen for trains and cross only when you are certain that it is safe to do so.
14. Having crossed the further stile after crossing the railway head straight up the field ahead of you.
15. When the footpath meets a track turn right and walk on that track. Follow the track around to the left. You will need to open the large metal farm gate where the track meets the B road from Wem to Whitchurch.

Note – the actual Right of Way in this area is blocked (there's no stile/gate to get across the hedge where it meets the B road by a large oak tree) and so walkers use the concrete track as described above.

16. Walk across the B road (this is Woodend Hall Farm) and turn left. Walk very briefly along the road until a finger post marks the footpath off to your right.
17. Follow this footpath along the right hand field edge. You'll walk past a large duckpond and then carry on leaving the farm behind you on the right.
18. At the end of the second field you meet a bridleway. Turn left on the bridleway and walk until you see a metal bridleway gate slightly to your right. Go through that gate and into the meadow. Keep left and walk along the hedgerow to another metal bridleway gate and onto a track with old brick buildings on your left. These are outbuildings of Coton Hall.
19. Continue straight ahead until you reach the large iron entrance gates of Coton Hall, Open the gate if necessary and walk across the lane and then along the lane that leads directly opposite the gates to the Hall.
20. Follow the lane until it ends at a T junction. Turn left at that junction onto another lane and follow that past a delightful thatched cottage until it meets another road. At this junction go left which is more of a straight ahead.
21. Walk past White Lion Farm on your right and turn left through a kissing gate into a meadow. Walk straight up the middle of the meadow heading for a kissing gate in the middle of the fence at the far end of it.

22. Go through the kissing gate and follow the path around to the left and through a wooden gate into the beer garden of the Bull and Dog.
23. You have completed your walk.