

Historic Broseley : Walk S04

A walk around the town of Broseley, taking in some of the town's rich and varied architecture.

Distance : 2 miles / 3.2 km

Grade : A stroll on pavements, with a few slopes and suitable for push chairs. Take care as pavements in Broseley often narrow and then disappear, so you may have to re-cross roads several times!

History and Heritage

Broseley has strong links with the Industrial Revolution. By the beginning of the 17th century it was a thriving industrial settlement having close links with Coalbrookdale on the other side of the River Severn. In the 18th and 19th centuries it developed into a major centre for coal mining, iron manufacture, earthenware manufacture and a variety of associated activities including making clay pipes (a '*Broseley*'), roof tiles and distinctive bricks. The famous Iron Bridge was built in 1779 to link Broseley with Coalbrookdale and led to the foundation of the town of Ironbridge which is now part of a World Heritage site. This early industrial activity has resulted in a settlement of remarkable character. The architecture is a mixture of three centuries of building styles in a hilly and wooded setting, mixed together in a delightfully haphazard manner.



To see a wide range of architecture stroll along the following roads: Church St, Duke St, King St, Queen St and Cape St. In addition you will find unique buildings on Barratts Hill, Chapel Lane and the High St, but many of the back lanes will also present you with the unexpected! There is a separate walk leaflet if you want to explore the wonderfully haphazard maze of cottages in Broseley Wood that are connected by narrow path called Jitties.

As well as the buildings, Broseley also has six sculptures created by Gerry Foxall made from iron that came from the decommissioned power station close down by the Severn at Buildwas. The map below pinpoints the sites of these sculptures which are highly evocative and well worth finding.

Start

Park in any of the three car parks and walk the roads in any order. It is highly recommended that you obtain a copy of the leaflet '*Your map of Broseley*' available at the library or download a copy from www.visitbroseley.co.uk. The leaflet includes a map to allow you to explore the town in your own way and includes pictures and description of buildings of particular interest.

Important Information. This leaflet shows a route using public rights of way. Please follow the countryside code. In particular keep to paths, leave gates as found, take litter home and keep dogs under control. If you are new to exercise or have any existing medical conditions or concerns check with your GP before undertaking any new physical activity. Check that the route is suitable for your level of fitness and that you have adequate resources for your planned activity. Wear clothing and footwear appropriate to the conditions and time of year.

