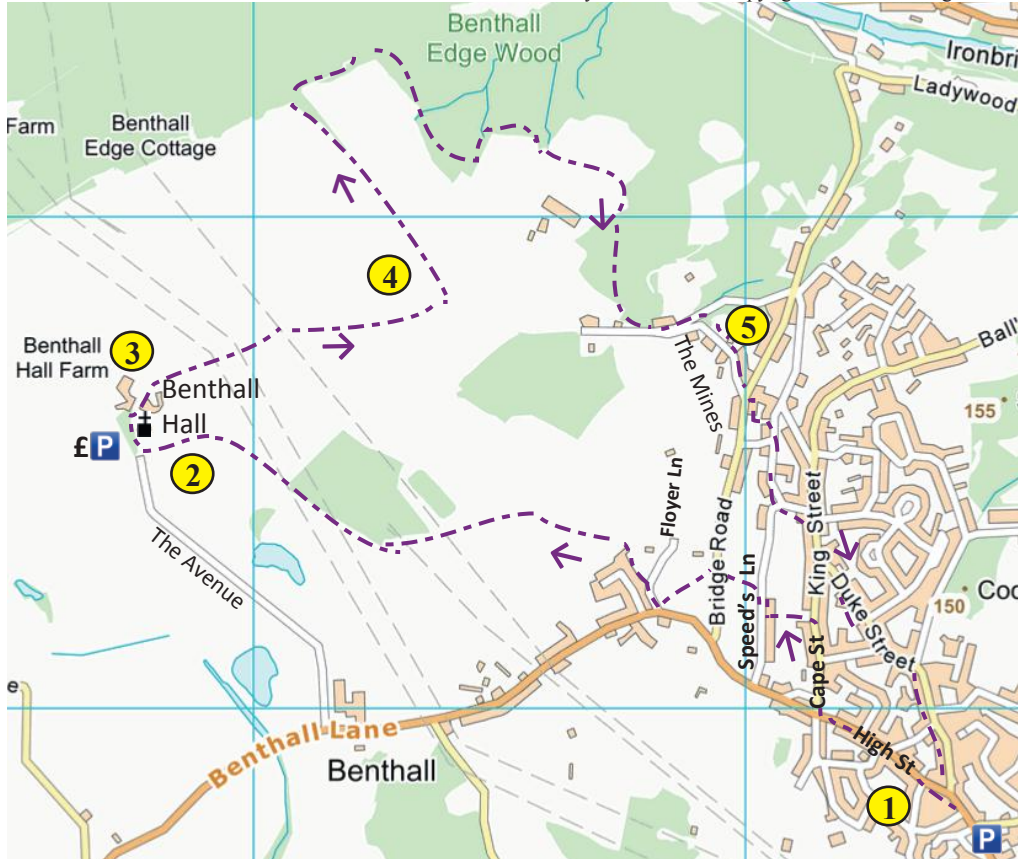


MAP Around Benthall Hall 3* mile or 4* mile circular walk

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*To shorten the walk by 1 mile start at Benthall Hall car park and use Bridge Rd to return from The Mines.

Orchids and bluebells near the stepping logs, right.
View of Broseley Wood from The Mines lane, below.



Benthall Hall to Benthall Edge Woods

A 4 miles 6.3 km walk, varied surfaces from roads to woodland paths, two stiles plus fields with livestock, dogs must be on leads. Vertical gain 223 ft / 68m

There are many walks to and around Benthall Hall, this is a particular favourite, as not only do you get to see Benthall Hall from the back as well as the front, the walk has so much variety. You will enjoy pretty semi rural lanes and wonderful open views across fields, as well as exploring beautiful meadows, woods, dingles and old quarries, with their associated flowers, ferns, butterflies and of course birds. You may even spot a fossil or two on the path beneath your feet!

1 High St to Benthall Hall via Penns Meadow and Floyer Lane 1.3 miles 2.1km

Walk up Broseley High Street, straight on past Barber St, Fox Lane and Jackson Ave and turn right into Cape St. After 200m, just past Court Cottage, turn left into a small car park with a green signpost at the far wall to Botswell Lane, and walk steeply down the jitty path to Speed's Lane and turn right. In about 50m go left through a small wooden gate into 'Penn's Meadow' and walk straight across the field. Cross Bridge Road to take the footpath almost opposite, just before Hilltop House, the fingerpost points your way uphill to the top corner of the field. Go through a metal kissing gate and turn right past the Barrow Parish Notice Board, you are now in Floyer Lane. After about 100m there is a narrow footpath between a fence and hedge on your left, this is the start of the direct route to the Hall. The narrow path enters a field at a kissing gate. Follow the hedge on your right to the gap in the hedge at a gate and then turn left along a track. The views across fields to the right are beautiful. Continue straight on through another gate, past a pond, then more gates and then straight on down a broad path lined by horse chestnut trees.



2 Around Benthall Hall to Farm and Fields at the Rear 0.25 miles 400m

At the end of the 'horse chestnut path' you will see Benthall Hall in front of you to your left, turn left and walk to the gate at the end of the field where you turn right past the entrance to the churchyard, the Hall and its beautiful gardens. Go left on a path through a gap in the trees and immediately right. In about 50m you will see a tall wooden finger signpost, turn right here go over a stile and follow the waymarked path around the back of the farm, a house and a garden. You will see the rear of Benthall Hall to your right including an old timber framed section of the building. Eventually you climb a ladder stile and turn right, into a field where there are often sheep grazing.



3 To Benthall Edge Woods 0.7 miles 1.1km

Go straight on keeping close to the hedge on the right, and then carry straight on past a series of pylons, (you may hear them singing to you). At the far end of the field is a gate where you climb a stile to enter a large field to the right. The public right of way is diagonally across the middle of the field to a gap in the hedge just before the bottom right corner but it is not always clear and may not have been put back in place after ploughing and cropping. If the crop is very high and impassable you may have to zig zag a bit following tracks made by tractors through the crop or go round the edge, the views are superb though, (this is the field pictured at title to this walk). Go through the gap in the hedge and turn left and then through the gate at the end of the field. Turn left onto a broad path between two hedges and continue for 500m till you come to a gate at the entrance to Benthall Edge Woods. You take the path on the left, signed to Ironbridge and Broseley.

Small rocks on path below this hole are from part of a fossil coral reef formed in tropical seas 425 million years ago!

4 Benthall Edge Woods to The Mines 0.8 miles 1.3km

The path goes past a quarry to your right. Take a look at the fallen rocks on the path beneath your feet, you might be lucky enough to spot a fossil. The rocks are Silurian limestone with remains of corals, crinoids and brachiopods. Sometimes pieces of trilobites, dug out by foxes appear on Benthall Edge paths too. At the next signpost go right signed Pattens Rock and at the path junction in about 20m turn right. In about another 50m you will come to another junction and you take the path furthest right. This beautiful path follows the woodland edge, there will be glimpses of fields to your right.



Delights include woodland flowers, stepping stone logs, pretty little dips and dingles and after heavy rains mini streams and waterfalls. Bird song is constant in spring and early summer with drumming woodpeckers too. After about 500m you come to path junction, there's a short signpost in front of you with a yellow direction waymark arrow pointing right, turn right up the slope, leave the woods by a metal gate and walk around the edge of farm fields through a series of small gates. Resist the temptation to feed or pet the horses. You eventually re-enter the woodland. Go right, almost immediately is a tall wooden finger sign post in front of you, go right here signed to Broseley. Walk through the woods and at the end bear right down to a gate and exit on to a lane, turn left and then take the right fork The Mines.

5 The Mines to High St via Jitties and Simpson's Lane 0.9 miles 1.4km

Walk along The Mines downhill past some old cottages, at the bottom cross straight over Bridge Road and take Coopers Jitty opposite slight left (at the top called Jews Jitty.) Turn right into Simpson's Lane and then bear left up the steep Legge's Hill. Turn right onto King St. At the next fork in the road go left into Duke St passing the Pipe Museum on your right. Continue straight on and eventually you will come back to Broseley High St where you turn left to return to the car park where you started.