



FOOD, DRINK & ACCOMMODATION

Imagine patrolling the border without a decent pub. How would Offa's Dyke have been built without them? Over a thousand years later, keep up the tradition and stop for a drink and a bite to eat at **Warwicks** at Tal-y-coed, Llantillio Crossenny on the B4233.

Telephone **01600 780227**

www.warwickspub.blogspot.co.uk

Alternatively not far away is the **Hunter's Moon** in Llangattock Lingoed

Telephone **01873 821499**

www.hunters-moon-inn.co.uk

Accommodation listings can be found at

www.visitwyevalley.com



PARK AND START AT: Warwicks (No. 1 on the map) at Tal-y-coed, Llantillio Crossenny.

To get the best from your walk we recommend comfortable walking boots, waterproof jacket and overtrousers, warm clothing, gloves and warm hat or sun cream and sun hat (depending on the season!), a mobile phone and something to eat and drink. Sheep and cattle are often in the fields on these routes – dogs must be kept under close control or on leads at all times. May not be suitable for dogs due to the number of stiles - some of which you will have to lift your dog over!

We call it *Irresistible Offa*.

Throughout these lush and undulating borderlands there are stunning views, hidden villages and historic market towns where you can eat, rest and sleep. The area is studded with ancient hill forts, tiny churches and medieval fortresses.

Borders between countries have an aura of intrigue, myth and mystery, and the one between England and Wales is no exception.

Find out more at: www.irresistibleoffa.org.uk or on Facebook: Irresistible Offa and twitter: @TheOffaOffer

Images: Crown copyright (2014) Visit Wales.

Design: www.thinkgraphic.co.uk

Illustration: www.asduncanillustration.co.uk

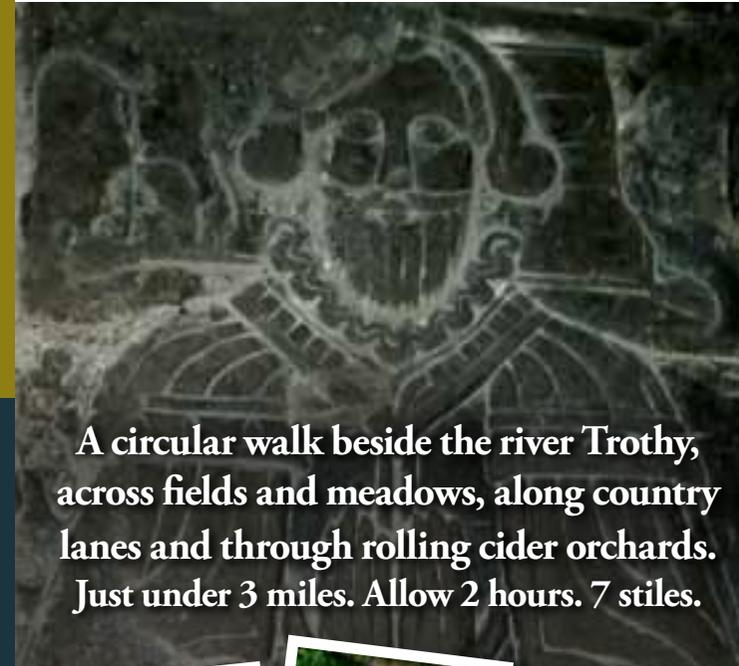
Copy: Wye Knot Tourism



irresistible OFFA



IN THE SHADOW OF ST. TEILO'S SPIRE



A circular walk beside the river Trothy, across fields and meadows, along country lanes and through rolling cider orchards. Just under 3 miles. Allow 2 hours. 7 stiles.



One of two circular 'walks with Offa' along the Monmouthshire section of the Offa's Dyke Path.

**The Welsh English Border
- where King Offa met his match!**

IN MONMOUTHSHIRE

Park and Start at Warwicks (1) at Tal-y-coed, near Llantillio Crossenny, on the B4233. *This pub was originally called the Halfway, being half way between Monmouth and Abergavenny on the old drovers' road.*

Walk past Warwicks with it on your right. After a short distance turn left through a gate at the footpath sign. Look out for dippers and dragon flies as you walk over the footbridge (2). Turn right and continue beside the Trothy. Go over a stile and keep close to the river until you see the next stile. Go over this stile and walk across the field slightly to the left, but staying on

the level. Just before reaching a metal gate look out on the right for a stile and footway over the stream. (If you reach the gate you have gone too far.) Cross the stream and continue in the same direction across the field slightly to the left of a telegraph pole. You should be able to see the church spire soon and another stile. Head for the stile, go over it and across the next field diagonally to your left. Go through a pedestrian gate (3) and walk to the right of an ash tree and around the bottom of the property to join up with the riverside footpath. Keep beside the river bank until reaching a gateway on the right, leading across a stream. Cross the stream and head for the far end of the field, passing some magnificent lime trees on your right. Leave the field through the pedestrian gate on the left and walk onto the road (4).

Detour to St Teilo's Church (5). If you would like to visit the church turn right along the road, passing the old corn mill on your left, and over the stone bridge. Very soon take the 2nd footpath on the right s/p Offa's Dyke. When you reach the road turn right. Keep straight on where the road bears left and follow the road around to the church. (Retrace your route back to (4) to continue on the main route.)

St Teilo's Church, Llantillio Crossenny

This area has long been frontier land. The church stands on the site of a 6th century battlefield where the Welsh defeated the Saxons. Legend has it that a local ruler, King Iddon, asked St Teilo for help to crush the Saxons. When his prayers were answered he gave Teilo land here on which the church was built. Two centuries later the Saxon King Offa constructed a great dyke from north to south Wales, which passed through this area. It marked the western boundary of his kingdom of Mercia (covering most of central and southern England) with the wild and untamed lands of Wales. Part of the Offa's Dyke National Path now runs through the village.



You can't really miss the parish chest as you enter the church. It is 11ft long and dates from 1538! Because it was

used to store the parish registers and other valuable items it had three locks; the vicars and two church wardens held the keys to open it. Look out for the carving of the Green Man (a pagan symbol of fertility), probably dating from the 13th century, and the 17th century carved stone memorials to the Walderne Family.

Turn left along the road. At Penrhos Farm (6) and the T junction take the left hand fork s/p Pen-rhos. Continue for a short distance until reaching the Offa's Dyke sign on the left (7).

This extensive orchard grows fruit for Bulmers, the Hereford cider producer. In the past Monmouthshire was one of the leading producers of cider and perry and orchards covered much of the county. Cider was an important local commodity and many farmers supplemented their income making cider and perry. (There is a Perry Orchard Cottage near the start of the walk.)



The apples and pears traditionally grown in Monmouthshire had lovely names including Monmouthshire Beauty, St Cecelia and Sheep's Snout! This is the Monmouthshire Foxwelp.

Go through the gate into the orchards and follow the footpath sign through the orchard until reaching gates on the Offa's Dyke trail. Turn left here before gates and walk downhill with hedge on your right. Turn right over bridge at the bottom (8) and immediately left over another bridge. Just to your right follow the sign directing you to the left between the fruit trees. Look out for the arrow signs telling you to go right. Continue until reaching the end of the orchard where you will find a double stile into a field. Head slightly to the right towards a stile. Go over this stile (with a bench to the left) and walk downhill beside the fence, heading for the footbridge. Cross the bridge and turn right onto the road to return to Warwicks.

