

Church2Church Walks in Warwickshire – Page 9

No 19. St. George's Church - Lower Brailes to St. Thomas a Becket - Sutton under Brailes

www.shipstondeanery.co.uk

Distance 2.5 miles

Map: Landranger 151; Start SP 315 393

St. George's is a wonderful medieval village church of cathedral dimensions. The 120 feet tower is a local landmark and visitors remark at the beauty and tranquillity of the interior.

Exit the churchyard of St. George's Church and cross the B4035 to The George Hotel. Walk to the R as far as Sutton Lane. TL into Sutton Lane and proceed along as far as Jeff's Close on the L. Cross Sutton Lane to take the PG on the R and follow the FP to a ST/PG. Walk SA, keeping the fence to the R to a PG. Cross a small plantation of trees to a ST and then forward to another ST by a FG and out on to the lane at Grove End.

Walk to the L on the lane a short distance and then take the BW on the R. Follow the enclosed BW, through a gate and on with a fence on the R to another gate and the start of a track. Stay on the track up to New House Farm and pass through the farmyard and on to keep the HTL as far as a FG and a meeting of paths. Through the FG, TL and walk downhill to pass through two more field-gates and on to reach a concrete track. Keep on the track down to a ST on the L to enter a field and cross diagonally to the R to a second ST into an orchard. Head straight across the orchard to a ST in the fence and then walk forward to another ST in the second fence and out in front of the church. Walk around to the L to enter the churchyard of St. Thomas a Becket Church. Your favourite spot in this churchyard;

No 20. St. Thomas a Becket - Sutton under Brailes to St. John the Baptist - Cherington/Stourton

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Distance 1.0 mile

Map: Landranger 151; Start SP 299 374

Exit the churchyard of St. Thomas a Becket Church and walk SA and follow the lane around to the L to reach the village green. At the village green, take the FP going to the R that cuts across the grassed area towards Green Farm. Before entering the farmyard, look for a way-marker post on the L – if the gates are open; it is behind. Follow the pathway to the end of the garden fence and then walk to the R to cross over the farmyard to a PG and into a small spinney. Out of the spinney, keep the same diagonal line across the field to a PG/bridge/PG. Continue the same line heading to the R in the next field, through a PG and around to a wooden PG/FG exit into a pathway. Continue on, to walk alongside the row of four cherry trees and into Cherington village. Where the road turns into Featherbed Lane, keep SA to pass The Cherington Arms on the R and further on to the road junction with Cherington Mill on the corner. Turn L and walk uphill towards St John Baptist Church and enter the churchyard. Your favourite spot in this churchyard;

No 21. St. John the Baptist Church - Cherington/Stourton to St. Michael's Church - Whichford

www.shipstondeanery.co.uk

Distance 2.5 miles

Map: Landranger 151; Start SP 292 366

This church sits prettily in a churchyard that is home to over 100 species of wild flowers

Exit the churchyard of St. John the Baptist Church on to the lane and walk to the L along to the road junction. Go to the L and continue on this road to pass the old school and the playing field with the Village Hall almost opposite. Follow the road along to an off-set crossroads in Stourton.

Turn R (sign-posted for Whichford) and take the FP up the first driveway on the L between properties to a PG entry into a small field. Take the FP73 going diagonally to the R, to pass through small paddocks to reach a larger field. Now walk SA with the HTL and ignore the first PG on the L, but walk on a little further and take the next PG on the L – to enter into a small strip of land. From here the route is quite easy to follow – walk to the R and keep the HTR until the hedge runs out. On the way, you cross over the driveway to Sutton Mill. At the point where the hedge runs out - keep SA and to cross over the next two fields. Now the FP turns diagonally to the R and over to a ST and into a sloping grass field. Keep the same diagonal line in this field and aim towards the single tree in the middle. From here, the PG/Bridge/PG can be seen in the field boundary, directly ahead. On the other side of the bridge, go to the R and over to the PG and to enter the next field. Now walk with the HTL and where the hedge changes direction, keep the same line to walk down the slope and to cross the stream at the bottom. Walk forward towards the PG and to follow the FP through Long Cliff Coppice. Exit the coppice by going to the L and cross to the hedge corner, now with the stream on the R. From here, walk ahead and follow the FP over to a single way-marker post and then to cross the concrete strip and out through the gates on to the lane, opposite The Old Rectory.

On the lane, walk to the L and take the first driveway on the R to enter a wide green track. Follow it as it turns to the L and up to the wooden gate entrance into the churchyard of St. Michael's Church. The FP passes through the churchyard to the L of the church and then a metal hand-gate, to the front of the church. Your favourite spot in this churchyard;

