

4

There are a number of routes to the canal for the return walk: The quickest route to the canal via a footpath is to turn right along main road and, directly after passing St Michaels Church/Poor Clare's Convent sited across the road on the left, cross road and take the signed footpath to the canal.



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Turn left along towpath and soon walk through tunnel (torch is handy here!)

The canal engineered by Telford was opened 1801.

The tunnel is 80 metres/87 yards long and there is a handrail for the full extent. On emerging from tunnel the next point of interest is Blakemere which is very picturesque. Continue along towpath. At Bridge 55 there is a thatched cottage, Little Mill and further on views of Colemere and some "interesting" summer houses. At Bridge 53 is Lyneal Trust, a charity that provides canal-based holidays for persons with disabilities.

Leaving the canal at Bridge 51 pass under the bridge, left up steps and turn right along Lyneal lane returning to village by retracing your steps via the second footpath on the right, or if there is time, walk along lane to view St Michael and All Angels Church.

Carefully cross A495 turning right to start of walk.

Church of St. John the Evangelist on rise to the east of the mere. The ancient yew tree by the gate marks mooring point on the ancient shore of the mere. Follow the path to the left just inside the gate into St John's Wood where you will find interpretation boards giving information about the wildlife it contains. The Church, designed by G. E. Street (see Bettisfield on WALK 1) was built in 1870 and inside (if open) it has a very fine terracotta reredos (relief carving behind the altar) by Tinworth.

The Nature Improvement Area and Landscape Partnership Scheme

The Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership Scheme is working to preserve, enhance and raise awareness of this precious landscape. The Partnership is mainly funded by a combination of money from Heritage Lottery Fund and a Government funded Nature Improvement Area; this project area covers the heartland of the wider Meres and Mosses region.

This work is being delivered by a wide partnership comprising:

Butterfly Conservation
Canal and River Trust
Cheshire Wildlife Trust
Environment Agency
Harper Adams University
Natural England
RSPB

Shropshire Rural Community Council
Shropshire Council
Shropshire Wildlife Trust



Please note that while the publishers take every care to be accurate, no liability or responsibility will be accepted in any circumstances whatsoever, should anyone experience any inaccuracies, loss, damage or injury. This leaflet/map should be used solely on this understanding.

WALK 2

Circular route from Welshampton via Blakemere
Parking available at Parish Hall, adjacent side road on A495 and at Sun Inn with proprietors' consent

Fields, meres and canal using paths and lanes with 4 stiles
(bring a torch)

5½ - 7¼ miles (depending on route)

2½ - 3½ hours



Welshampton W
and Lyneal L
Parish Council C

