Wellington is a 'Walkers are Welcome' Town.
wellingtonwalkersarewelcome.org.uk

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"We hope you enjoy visiting our historic market town and beautiful surrounding area"

Wellington

Welcome to

Wellington

Gateway to Shropshire

This map and guide is designed to help you find your way around the town and towards various walking routes. We hope you enjoy visiting our historic market town and beautiful surrounding area.

Transport and parking - Wellington is brilliantly connected just off the M54 motorway, junctions 6 and 7. There are frequent buses serving the town and train services from Wales and Shrewsbury, Birmingham and London. The website **telfordpublictransport.co.uk** has timetables and route maps of all rail and bus services.

Wellington has long and short stay car parks, all are **FREE** and well signposted. The distance from Wellington town centre to the foot of The Wrekin is only 1.7 miles, mostly on woodland paths.

Wellington Walkers are Welcome - Walking Festival takes place during the second week of September each year. Please visit **wellingtonwalkersarewelcome.org.uk** for up to date information.

Wellington Festivals - These take place each year in Spring and October. Find out more details by visiting **LoveWellington.co.uk**

The Wrekin - Seek the spiritual heart of Shropshire and you will find the Wrekin. The Wrekin plays an important role in Shropshire folklore and is our most known local attraction, part of the Shropshire Hills AONB and within walking distance of the town centre.

Visitors, pilgrims and honoured guests – we give you the Shropshire toast: 'All friends round the Wrekin'.

Useful Resource Websites

- LoveWellington.co.uk
- wellingtonla21.org.uk
- wellingtonhistorygroup.wordpress.com
- madeinwellington.co.uk
- wellington-shropshire@telford.gov.uk
- wellingtonwalkersarewelcome.org.uk
- shropshiretourism.co.uk
- discovertelford.co.uk

Contact Us

Wellington Town Council
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Telephone: 01952 567697
Email: wellingtontowncouncil@telford.gov.uk

lovewellington.co.uk

Welcome to Wellington and The Wrekin Forest

This map and guide is designed to help you find your way around the town, giving an idea of some of the town's historic features and modern facilities. The walk routes lead you onto The Wrekin, part of the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and also features some walks to the north of the town.

In mediaeval times Wellington was known as 'Wellington Under the Wrekin' and can trace its Market Charter to 1244. Today it is a traditional market town centred in its Conservation Area around the Market Square and historic quarter. It enjoys a good selection of specialist independent shops including a large indoor market (open Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat) and a variety of places of worship. Wellington boasts a range of cafes, restaurants, and pubs – including micro breweries – as well as a town centre leisure facility with large swimming pool and well stocked library.

For arts enthusiasts, there is the newly opened 'Wellington Orbit' - a state of the art cinema, café and community arts hub and the Belfry Theatre has a good range of live performances. If you look up to some of the windows in the Market Square you can see some historic Wellingtonians looking down and the charming 'Makers Dozen Trail' – murals throughout the town which illustrate Wellington's heritage, its craftsmen, artisans and manufacturers (murals locations marked on the map) – has recently been unveiled.

To anyone interested in geography, geology, biology, ecology, archaeology, wildlife or just walking and enjoying the scenery then Wellington, with the Dothill Nature Reserve and The Wrekin Forest, is ideal. There is plenty to do with bike trails, footpaths and nature walks aplenty. The wooded ridge of the Wrekin rises south of Wellington, offering fantastic views, a challenging but manageable climb and beautiful natural surroundings close to town. It is understandably much loved.

Nearby attractions include Ironbridge – the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, the Roman city of Viroconium (Wroxeter) and the 'new town' of Telford. Half hidden away are many more interesting places well worth exploring, especially on the Weald Moors, including a Bronze Age lake village (Wall), the world's first cast iron aqueduct and several high-tech factories.

The Makers' Dozen Mural Trail

1. The horner on the corner
2. Frances Houlston, printer & publisher
3. Nathaniel and Andrew Plimer, clock makers and artists
4. Richard Groom, basket weaver and timber merchant
5. John Clyberie, bell-maker
6. Samuel Corbett Senior, iron founder and Samuel Corbett Junior, music-maker
7. Hesba Stretton, storyteller
8. The Wellington Cobbler & The Wrekin Giant, mountain-makers
9. Thomas Taylor the brewer and John Barber the market-builder
10. Norah Wellings, toymaker
11. Philip Larkin, poet
12. Thomas Wright, dyer

See the Maker's Dozen Mural Trail booklet or website, www.wellingtonhistorygroup.wordpress.com for details

Points of interest

The Wrekin Hillfort

The Wrekin fort first appeared in the Bronze Age around 3500 years ago and was rebuilt by Celts about 500 BC. It is believed to have been the 'capital' of the tribe the Romans called Cornovii, who lived in Shropshire and Cheshire. Although the hillfort has not been used for 2,000 years it is still visible. It is a Scheduled Monument and the home of our ancestors, so please treat it well. See 'Archaeology of the Welsh Marches' by Stan Stanford and 'The Wrekin Hill' by Allan Frost.

The Wrekin Hills - Geology

The rocks which form the Wrekin are millions of years old – they predate the Himalayas, Alps and Andes and contain a huge variety of rock types. Many are ancient 'Uriconian' volcanic rock and are some of the earliest example of shelly fossils formed thousands of miles south of the Equator arriving here propelled by plate tectonics. See 'Geology in Shropshire' by Peter Toghill.

The Woodlands - Ownership

Much of the woodlands are privately owned. Telford and Wrekin Council and Shropshire Wildlife Trust own the remaining land in the Ercall and Lawrence Hill area. All the paths marked are either public or permissive; if you don't stray you're quite legal but remember that owners, farmers, foresters and golfers have rights as well as we do.

The Legend of the Wrekin Giant

Legend has it that the Wrekin was created by a giant. He had been planning to drop a spadefull of earth on the River Severn in order to flood Shrewsbury but was dissuaded by a canny cobbler who told him it was still far, far away. Tired and despondent the giant dropped the earth, forming the Wrekin, and turned back.

Sunnycroft

A jewel in Wellington's crown is this rare suburban villa and mini estate which is maintained by the National Trust. An Edwardian time capsule, with original contents and features, transports you back to the pre-First World War 'country-house' lifestyle. Sunnycroft tells the story of a brewer, a widow, and three generations of a Wellington industrialist family. Open throughout the year. **nationaltrust.org.uk/sunnycroft** or call **01952 242884**.

Acknowledgements: George Evans, Allan Frost and the Wellington History Group. Printed by **Plus Two Media Ltd**.

WELLINGTON TOWN CENTRE

This map of the centre of Wellington with key points of interest will help you find your way around.

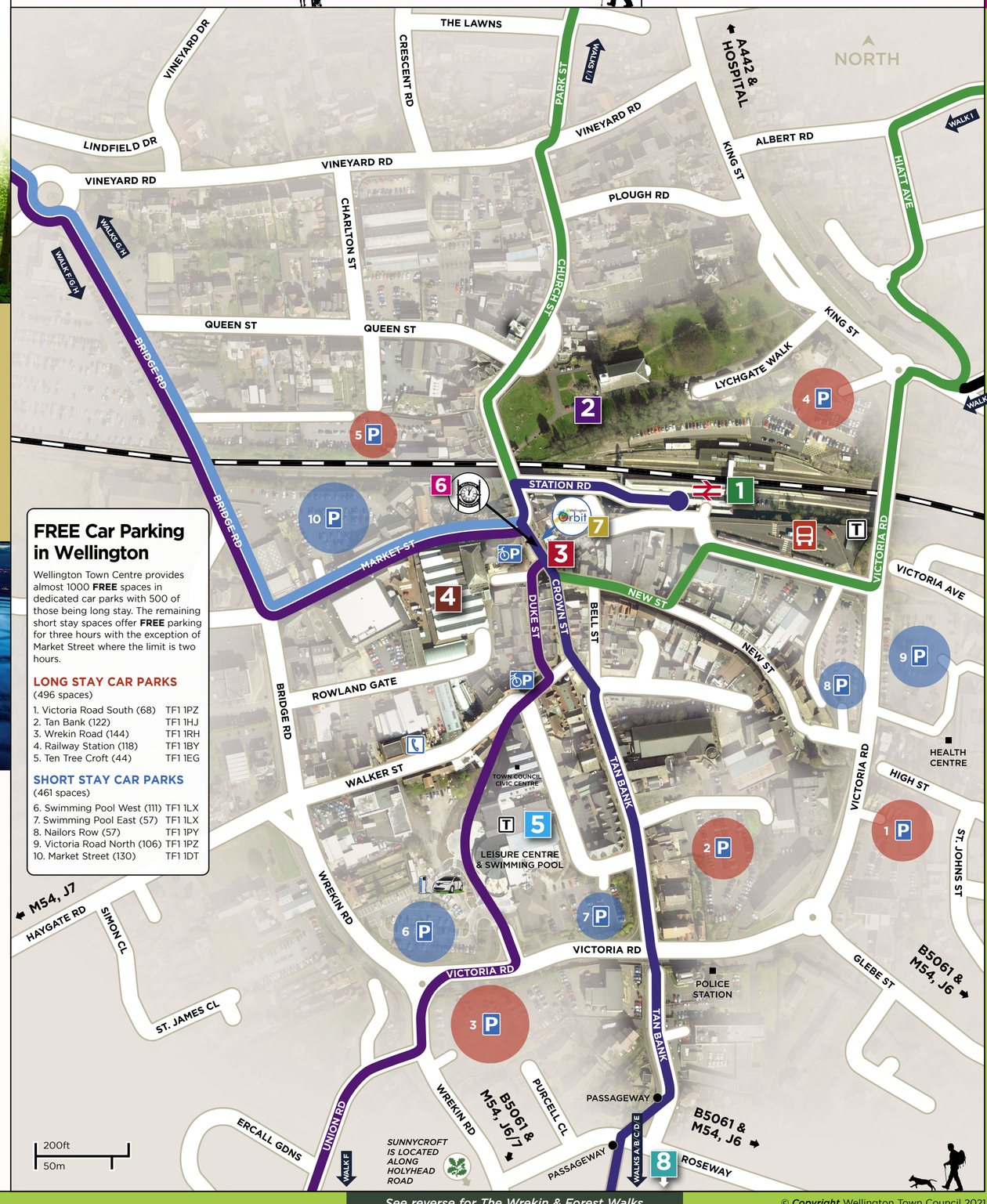
The **BLUE** walk route will lead you towards The Wrekin, part of the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Various routes around the town and up The Wrekin can be found on the reverse of this leaflet.

1. Wellington Railway Station
2. All Saints Church
3. Market Square
4. Wellington Market
5. Wellington Library and Leisure Centre
6. Wellington Community Clock
7. Wellington Orbit Cinema
8. Sunnycroft

Map Key

- Train Station
- Bus Station
- Car Parks
- Cycle Parks
- Rail Route
- Public Toilets
- Public Telephones
- Roads and Streets
- Electric Car charging points



FREE Car Parking in Wellington

Wellington Town Centre provides almost 1000 **FREE** spaces in dedicated car parks with 500 of those being long stay. The remaining short stay spaces offer **FREE** parking for three hours with the exception of Market Street where the limit is two hours.

LONG STAY CAR PARKS
(496 spaces)

1. Victoria Road South (68)	TF1 1PZ
2. Tan Bank (122)	TF1 1HJ
3. Wrekin Road (144)	TF1 1RH
4. Railway Station (118)	TF1 1BY
5. Ten Tree Croft (44)	TF1 1EG

SHORT STAY CAR PARKS
(461 spaces)

6. Swimming Pool West (111)	TF1 1LX
7. Swimming Pool East (57)	TF1 1LX
8. Nailors Row (57)	TF1 1PY
9. Victoria Road North (106)	TF1 1PZ
10. Market Street (130)	TF1 1DT

See reverse for The Wrekin & Forest Walks

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See reverse for the Wellington town map

Long Distance Walks

Shropshire Way Main Route

Shropshire Way is a 190 mile (306 km) route through Shropshire waymarked with an orange buzzard symbol. It passes through Dothill Local Nature Reserve, Wellington Town Centre and the Ercall. **shropshireway.org.uk**

Telford T50 50 Mile Trail

This new 50 mile (80 km) circular route was created to celebrate Telford's 50th Anniversary as a New Town. It links many green spaces and heritage sites in the borough and is waymarked by pink and white discs.
telfordt5050miletrail.org.uk

Hutchison Way

Hutchison Way is a 19 mile (30 km) route from Wellington Civic Centre to Newport. It visits the foot of The Wrekin before heading east towards Telford Town Centre and is waymarked by maroon arrows on a white disc.

Silkin Way

Silkin Way is a 14 mile (22 km) walking and cycling route through Telford from north to south. It starts at Bratton and visits Dothill Local Nature Reserve and passes Apley Woods LNR on its way, via Telford Town Centre, to Coalport in the Ironbridge Gorge.

Other Routes

The routes shown in this guide are only a few of the footpaths within the Wellington area. A walk to Ironbridge and back via The Ercall and The Wrekin is possible within a day. See also 'Wellington 360 – Wrockwardine Walks' available from:
wellingtonwalkersarewelcome.org.uk

WELLINGTON FOR WALKING

lovewellington.co.uk

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Suggested Walks from Wellington Railway Station

Note: All walks can be downloaded from the Wellington Walkers Are Welcome Website - **wellingtonwalkersarewelcome.org.uk**

Wrekin Forest Walks

A To the Top of The Wrekin

(7 miles/11 km climbing over 1300 feet/396 metres – Roads, paths, No stiles)

1. From the station ticket office walk up towards the Market Square.
2. Turn left and go through the Square, keeping to the L of the b&w building. At the end of the pedestrian area bear slight L into Tan Bank. At the top, cross the main road and use the pedestrian access to rejoin Tan Bank. After about 30 metres take the brick footpath on the R. Cross the next road (Roseway) and continue passing allotments on R and Sunnycroft (National Trust) on the L. Cross the road via the pelican crossing then continue up Golf Links Lane until just before the motorway bridge.
3. Turn R, bear L uphill after crossing the metal footbridge and continue until you reach the next road. Turn L and cross over the M54 to where Ercall Wood begins (There is a small car park on the L). Take the path on the L of the road until it rejoins Ercall Lane near to the Buckatree Hall Hotel. Walk carefully along the road until the next road junction (Forest Glen).
4. Cross the road and go through a large gate into the wood. Follow the main track uphill until it bends sharp R.
5. Turn R and continue upwards towards the Halfway House (At busy times light refreshments are on sale here). Continue on the path uphill which turns to the L and rises steeply up the ridge. At Hell Gate you enter the hill fort. The track climbs to Heaven Gate, from where it is almost level to the top. Here you'll find a trig point and a toposcope.
6. Return to Forest Glen & Wellington the same way or take any of the other routes on the map.

B Around The Wrekin

(7.5 miles/12 km – Roads, paths, 1 stile)

Follow the first four paragraphs of the description of Walk A.

1. At the sharp bend leave the main track and go straight on. After about a mile, take the right fork onto the signed permissive path. Cross the path that goes very steeply up to the summit. (Alternatively, turn R here to ascend to the very steep path to the summit and then follow the main route down to the Forest Glen).
2. Continue straight ahead, descending to the next junction then turn R onto the public footpath. Bear L when the path forks and continue, passing the old rifle range, to eventually join the road. Turn R. At the T-junction, cross the road and take the stile straight ahead. Continue past the reservoir then turn R onto a wide track towards the road.
3. Turn left to the Buckatree Hall Hotel and onwards to Wellington.

C Ercall Wood Nature Reserve

(4 miles/6.5 km – Roads, paths, no stiles)

Follow the first two paragraphs of Walk A.

1. Continue under the bridge and turn R over the footbridge. Bear L into the wood following the orange Shropshire Way markers up the hill. At the T-junction near the top bear L onto the descending path leading to the quarries. (For the alternative shorter walk avoiding the very steep climb: turn R here leading uphill to the ridge and turn right. Continue following the instructions from "C1" below.).
2. Shortly before the gate onto the road, take the path on the R down steps to a footbridge. Cross the footbridge and turn R (For another alternative for a return that avoids the very steep climb: Turn L to the Buckatree Hall Hotel and Ercall Lane. At the road turn R and follow the route of Walk A as it gradually descends to Wellington).
3. After a short distance bear L up the hill. Where the path levels turn R and follow the very steep path uphill. Bear left at the blue waymarks and continue uphill to the summit following the ridge (option? – picking up the pink T50 waymarks). (C1) continue straight on down the ridge and bearing R to eventually rejoin your outward path and retrace your steps to Wellington

D Limekiln Wood

(5 miles/8 km – Roads, lanes, paths, no stiles)

Follow the first two paragraphs of Walk A.

1. Continue under the bridge and take the steps on the L to the path alongside the M54. Bear R, to the edge of the golf course and continue uphill keeping tight to the boundary on your L. Bear L beneath the mound of the 17th Tee to enter Limekiln Wood and continue past reservoirs on the L until you reach the 2nd turning on the R. (The alternative shorter walk below leaves here).
2. Continue straight on to Steeraway Farm then turn R. (The New Works "Walk E" leaves the main path after approx. 1/4 mile).
3. Continue uphill on for approx. 3/4 mile. At the T-junction, take the downhill track on the R. Pass the former quarry entrance on your R then turn R between two rocks (marked the Hutchison Way). Eventually bear L over the golf course then R on the descending bridleway. Carry on straight past the golf club house (the shorter route rejoins here from the R) to the road down to the bridge. Retrace your steps to Wellington.

Shorter Alternative: At the end of paragraph 1 above, turn R uphill and follow the Hutchison Way until it leaves the central path. Turn R still following the Hutchison Way markers until you reach the T-junction. Turn R to rejoin the route above back to Wellington. The total length of this alternative walk is approximately 3 miles (5 km).

E New Works

(6.5 miles/10.5 km – Roads, lanes, paths, 4 stiles)

Follow the first 2 paragraphs of Walk A and the first 2 of Walk D.

1. At the staggered junction turn L, cross a stile, then pass a reservoir on R. Continue across a field and climb a stile into woodlands. Continue past the Iron Spring, cross a track then climb a stile into more woodland up a steep path to another stile to leave the woodland. (Note: See the WWAW guide "Exploring New Works" for details of the network of paths at New Works).
2. Bear R and follow the short winding path to a stoned track. Turn L then keep straight on towards the car park entrance. Turn hard R through a gate and follow the bridleway to the end of the fencing. Keep straight on then bear L then R and follow the footpath to a T-junction. Turn L and use the kissing gate ahead to reach the road.
3. Turn R onto the road then R again at the T-Junction. Follow the road to reach the entrance to Smalley Hill Local Nature Reserve set back on the L.
4. Continue along the road until you reach a layby on R. Go through the gate and follow the stoned path as it bends round to the L Ignore the R turn and continue to a gate into Limekiln Wood. Turn L to rejoin Walk D at the end of paragraph 2.

Northern Walks

F Wrockwardine Village

(5 miles/8 km - Roads, lanes and short stretch of field. No stiles)

1. From the station ticket office walk up towards the Market Square.
2. Turn L and go through the Square, keeping to the R of the b&w building and, at the T-junction turn R. Cross the road and bear L uphill keeping the Civic Offices & Leisure Centre on your L, to the ring road (Victoria Rd).
3. Cross at the pedestrian refuge then turn R. At the roundabout, turn L then immediately R up Union Rd. At the top turn R into the cemetery and follow the path past the church and out into Bowring Park. Cross the lawn to a tarmac path, turn L towards the exit gate.
4. Turn R along Holyhead Rd continuing out of the town before turning R (just before the motorway) onto B5061.
5. Continue until you reach the 2nd turning on the R opposite the old Toll House on L. Turn R up the hill and follow the narrow lane uphill (Take care – no pavement) eventually passing a row of cottages (Burcot Row). Continue past a lane on the L and the cemetery (also on the L) into Wrockwardine Village. (Note: See the WWAW guide to 7 different "Wrockwardine Walks" which start outside the church ahead of you).
8. At the triangular junction turn R towards Wellington. Take care again as there is no pavement outside the village.
9. Continue for about 1 mile (1.6 km) before passing under the railway as you get near to Wellington continue straight on until the junction with North Road (F1).
10. Continue straight on passing the supermarket & bearing R at the roundabout. Turn L at the pelican crossing into Market St. to return to Market Square.

G Admaston

(3.75 Miles/6 km - Roads, lanes, paths & fields. 3 stiles.)

1. From the station ticket office walk up towards the Market Sq.
2. Turn L then R into Market St. At the lights cross the road & turn R bearing L into Spring Hill at the roundabout. At the junction with North Road (F1) continue straight on and straight again at the next crossroads. Immediately after the last property on L, opposite a black & white house (G1), ignore the path off to the L where the route returns to the town.
3. Continue straight on passing under a railway bridge. At the next cottage turn R onto the Wrekin Link. Cross the stile then keep to the L crossing 2 further stiles, then continue straight alongside the railway line. Continue until the end where you bend R over a footbridge.
4. Turn L at the junction on a narrow rough lane. At the end turn R, then cross Wellington Rd. Go ahead into the car park of Admaston House and straight on to cross the playing field. Take the steps down to the Wellington Link. (NB. Directly ahead are steps to Dothill Local Nature Reserve).
5. Turn R and continue to the end of the path to return to Wrockwardine Rd. Turn R and retrace your steps to Market Square.

H Dothill Local Nature Reserve

(3.5 miles/5.5 km - Roads, lanes. Paths and lawn. No stiles)

Follow the first 2 paragraphs of Walk G

1. At point G1, turn L onto a path which soon turns R to go through an underpass and continue straight for over 1/2 mile (0.8 km). After passing through the next underpass turn R after 110 yds (100m) up steps to join the Silkin Way and to enter Dothill Local Nature Reserve. (NB. A little further on from the steps is a ramp providing alternative access.)
3. Keep ahead, bearing L after crossing the footbridge and follow the Silkin Way around Tee Lake on the R.
4. Continue across the quiet road by Dothill School then turn L past a playing area. Turn R at next junction to follow a winding rising path passing Dothill Pool on the R before leaving the LNR at its end.
5. Cross Severn Drive into Cound Close then L into Barnett Close. Bear R at the end to cross into Deer Park Rd by a play area and continue ahead to the junction with North Rd (F1). Turn R follow Walk F to Market Square.

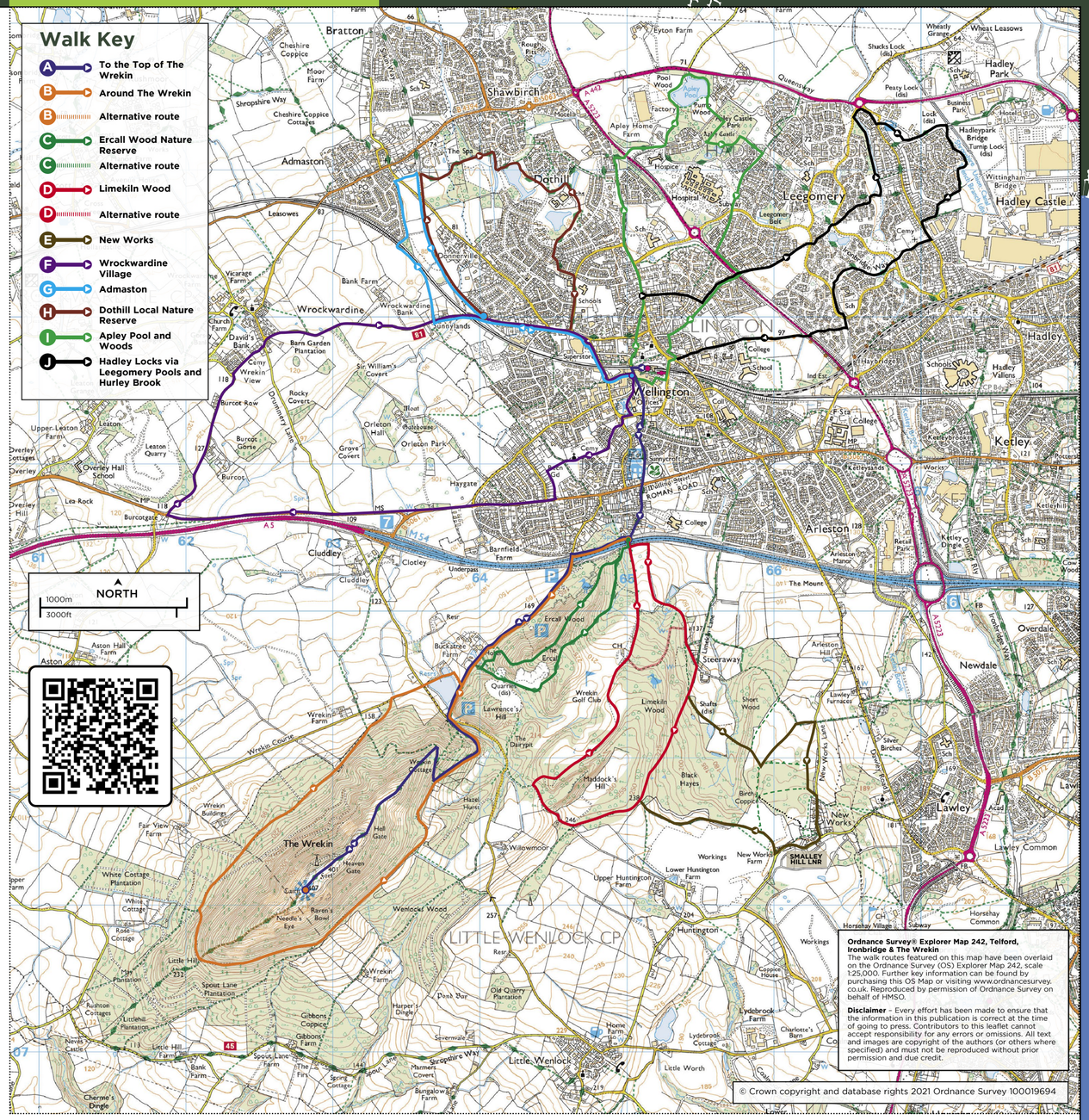
I Apley Pool and Woods

(3.75 miles/6 km - Roads, lanes, paths & fields. No stiles)

1. From the station ticket office walk up towards the Market Square. Turn R following Church Street to reach Vineyard Road. Cross at the lights continuing straight ahead to the main road (I1).
2. Bear L. Just after the roundabout, cross at the lights, turn L and continue with the Charlton School on the R. As the road bends, bear R and immediately cross the road at the lights. Continue until the road bends sharply L. Just before the bend, turn up the path on the R. Turn L over the footbridge, keeping straight on as the path meets the road.
3. After 55 yards (50m), take the Public Footpath signposted L through a gate in a driveway (please close the gate!), then bear slight R through a kissing gate. Follow the well walked path for approx. 280 yards (250m) towards the bottom of the slope and then turn R through a gap in the trees towards Apley Pool. Turn L following the path clockwise around the pool until you reach an open field. Follow the path into the field, then straight across to steps into Apley Woods.
4. Go up 4 sets of steps, then turn R down another set and straight on. Take the L turn down the 'Yew Tree Avenue'. At the T, turn L, then at the bend turn R through a kissing gate out of the woods. Continue straight on along the path and take the 1st R turn. Follow this path crossing a road until you reach the main road. Cross at the lights (slightly to the L) then continue as if straight on the previous path. Cross another road, then at the next main road turn L and follow the path to the footbridge. Turn R and cross the bridge.
5. Follow the lane to the end, then turn L up to the crossroads and straight on into Roslyn Rd & then Albert Road. Turn L into Hiatt Ave bearing left at the end down a path to King St (J2).
6. Cross the road, turn R then immediately L into Victoria Rd. Cross over the railway, then R at the lights into the bus station. At the zebra crossing take the passage on the L through to New St, then turn R and follow the road back to Wellington Centre.

J Hadley Locks via Leegomery Pools and Hurley Brook

(5 miles/8 km - Roads, lanes, paths. No stiles.)

Follow the first paragraph of Walk I to point I1

1. Bear R and immediately cross the road at the pedestrian lights. Turn L and then take the first turning on the R (Leegomery Road).
2. Continue straight on passing Ladycroft and Merridale Crescent to the next crossroads. Turn L into College Lane, pass Exeter Drive then immediately take the footpath to the R at 45°. Follow this path until you cross a footbridge over the main road.
3. Continue straight on. Just before the path meets the main road, bear left down and through an underpass then up into a small parking area. Take the path L between no.s 16 and 21, then turn L at Leegomery Pool before the steps. Bear R down a slope then R through another underpass. Up a short slope, then L between the houses to a road. Turn R and follow the road to the end, then L leading downhill passing the former water mill on your R.
4. Shortly after, turn L along a woodland path (Hurley Brook) with the brook on your R. Keep straight on until you meet the road again. Turn R towards Leegomery Roundabout. At the roundabout, bear first R on a path, into a road to the Malt Shovel PH. Cross the main road to a path opening into a grassed park.
5. Follow the path through the park then turn L at the T junction at the far end. Cross the main road and continue straight on along the footpath to the first Guillotine Lock on a disused section of the Shropshire Union Canal. Looking to your R through the lock you will see the second lock in the distance.
6. Take the path to the R with the lock on your L and follow this gravel footpath along the back of the housing estate. You will pass the second lock on your L. When you reach a small playground, bear L. This leads onto a short lane and onto Hadley Park Road.
7. Cross the road and turn L. Follow the road past the cemetery, then take the next path R following the edge of the cemetery. Pass some allotments on the R, then through the underpass ahead. Keep following this wider path. After passing a small playground, pass between some trees then take the next path L. Keep L up a short bank, then turn L keeping the school on your L to the main road. Cross straight over and continue ahead. Turn L slightly downhill, then R and R again. At the steps, turn R and follow this path over one road then through an underpass. Turn R, then bear L up the path between the sports fields.
8. Follow this path to the end, then continue straight on past the grounds of Wrekin College into Sutherland Road onwards down the hill. At the bottom, turn R to I2 and follow Walk I back to Wellington Centre.