



Wye Valley Walk

15-day Self-Guided Walking Holiday

Follow the River Wye from sea to source on this 136-mile journey from Chepstow to Pumlumon. The route is ideal for nature lovers - who can look forward to kingfishers and otters at river level, and red kites overhead. Wales' cultural heritage, from the Palaeolithic to the Industrial Age, is in evidence too. The landscapes of the Wye Valley Walk are both stunning and varied, so you needn't worry about getting bored with the scenery!

Day 1

Chepstow to Tintern - 5 ½ miles (9 km)

A short first day, beginning with a wander around 11th century Chepstow Castle, will help you limber up for the trail. Lovely mixed woodland on the way to Tintern, site of the famous abbey.



Day 2

Tintern to Monmouth - 11 miles (18 km)

Leaving Tintern's monastic ruins behind, the path climbs up into the wooded valley sides, giving wonderful views of the river. Overnight in the town of Monmouth, originally founded by the Romans.

Day 3

Monmouth to Symonds Yat - 6 miles (10 km)

Day 3 takes you into the heart of the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Spectacular craggy limestone cliffs and dense woodland as you approach Symonds Yat.

Day 4

Symonds Yat to Ross on Wye - 12 miles (19 km)

Great views of Goodrich Castle today and probably some company on the river – this is a stretch favoured by canoeists. Ross-on-Wye is the only town within the boundaries of the AONB. Finish in historic Ross on Wye, a thriving market town situated on a bend above the river.

Day 5

Ross on Wye to Fownhope - 11 miles (18 km)

A more open, agricultural landscape on Day 5 as the valley broadens out. Easy walking and a chance to spot the elusive otter!



Day 6

Fownhope to Hereford - 6 miles (10 km)

A short day to the market town of Hereford, astride the river and founded by the Saxons around 700AD. There's plenty of time this afternoon to explore the town - don't miss the Cathedral, home to the Mappa Mundi, the largest surviving medieval world map.



Day 7

Hereford to Bredwardine - 14 ½ miles (23 km)

The character of the landscape changes today as the path heads east through the apple orchards of Herefordshire. Easy walking, with views of the Black Mountains to the South.

Day 8

Bredwardine to Hay on Wye - 8 ½ miles (14 km)

An easy day along a salmon-rich stretch of the river brings you to the famous book town of Hay on Wye.



Day 9*

Rest day in Hay on Wye



A chance to let your feet recover and enjoy the delights of Hay on Wye. Book-browsing, cosy pub meals, shopping or a visit to the Llanthony Priory are on offer.

Day 10

Hay on Wye to Erwood - 14 miles (22 km)

Time to put your boots back on! A woodland route for much of the day as you follow the valley northwards into Mid Wales.



Day 11

Erwood to Builth Wells – 7 miles (11 km)

A shorter day and some wonderful views as you head for Builth Wells, a Victorian Spa Town and home to one of the most popular agricultural shows in Britain.

Day 12

Builth Wells to Newbridge on Wye - 7 miles (11 km)

By now you will be easily outnumbered by the sheep. This is hill-farming country, and away from the towns there is only a thin scattering of habitation on the landscape.



Day 13

Newbridge on Wye to Rhayader- 9 ½ miles (15 km)

The route crosses the confluence with the River Elan, today, before following a rockier, faster-flowing Wye to the small town of Rhayader.



Day 14

Rhayader to Llangurig - 12 miles (19 km)

More uninterrupted natural beauty on this section of the walk and an excellent chance to see red kites, the once-endangered bird of prey which now flourishes in the open spaces of Wales. Sightings are guaranteed at Gigrin Farm, a red kite feeding centre just south of Rhayader.

Day 15

Llangurig to Rhyd-y-Benwch - 12 miles (19 km)

The final day is one of the more challenging on the walk, as you climb the slopes of Pumlumon, the birthplace of your watery companion, the River Wye. On a clear day there are fabulous uninterrupted views – as far as Cardigan Bay off the west coast of Wales. Then it's down to finish in the Hafren Forest.



Tour summary

Duration	15 days
Distance	136 miles (220 km)
Grading	Moderate/Strenuous
Price	£985 per person based on 2 people sharing a twin/double room. Contact us for sole traveller/single occupancy rates.
Meals	Cooked breakfast included. Packed lunches & evening meals can be arranged on your behalf if required.
Options	Add an extra night at any stage of the tour, prices from £40pp per night. *The rest day in Hay on Wye (Day 9) is recommended but can be omitted.

Remember, this itinerary is just the starting point.

Please contact us if you have any special requirements and we will be happy to tailor the tour to suit you.

