Walk to Devil’s Pulpit

Time: Approximately 3 hours.

Terrain: Very muddy, quite steep and rocky in parts

Although it is possible to walk the back lanes for the first mile of this walk I suggest taking the road left from the drive back down to the village (keep walking down hill from here and then turn right when you meet the main Mill Hill road and walk towards the river.

Take the road between the Brockweir Inn and the Malt House, past some old stables (This used to be HAPPA Horse and Pony Sanctuary) and straight on up the wide bridleway. After about 15 minutes walking along this bridleway (with the Wye river down to your right) you will come to a junction with a sign post showing Offa’s Dyke, Devil’s Pulpit to the left. Take this path. In a few yards the path forks, take the right fork. A bit further on there is a steep path up to the left. There is a yellow Offa’s Dyke arrow marking the way. Take this rocky path, the woods are now on your right and you should be able to see down through the trees on your left to fields and the river. Continue on up along this path until you come to another junction with a sign to Devil’s Pulpit to the right, follow this to the right and then in about 30 metres there will be a sign for Devil’s Pulpit to the left, take this left turn. Follow the wide path up through the trees. At the top of this path you will come to a junction signed Devils Pulpit to the right 1/2mile, follow this to the right. Eventually the path becomes gravel and there are 11 stone steps leading up to another sign showing Devil’s Pulpit to the right. Follow this level path to the right and soon you will be at the Pulpit which is a large stone to your right with stunning views down to Tintern Abbey. Views that are said to have inspired Wordsworth . There is an old tree to your left with steps down to it.

After enjoying the view retrace your steps back to the junction that is signed Brockweir 1.5miles straight on and left Tintern 1mile. Go straight on here towards Brockweir. As you continue on this path part of it will become gravel. Continue downhill until you come to a junction with a gate over to the right and a path down to the left – continue straight on here where 3 upright posts mark the way. Follow this path down turning right to keep a barbed wire fence directly to your right. Continue over a stile and an Offa’s Dyke information sign. Carry on along this path until there is a stile on your right but take the small path down through the trees to your left. The path soon opens out onto the fields. Stop here and admire the view.

Option 1) Back to Brockweir Inn Now just follow the path down to the left towards Brockweir Bridge. The path will take you to a gate. Go over the stile and follow the path down along the left hand side of the field to another gate at the bottom of the field. Go through this gate then turn left to take you past the old HAPPA stables and back to the Brockweir Inn. From here it is best to take retrace your steps up the road and home.

Alternatively you can attempt an alternative route along Underhill and up through the woods (approx. 40mins) Head straight ahead from the pub and walk along Underhill for about 1 mile. At the end of this single track road you will see Spring Cottage on the right and a small footpath leading up the hill just to the right of the cottage. Take this path up through the woods and you will come to Sylvan House (Once home to Flora Klickman, English journalist, editor and author of The Flower Patch Dolls ) head diagonally across this field and then right along the track. When you get to a big wheelie bin take the path back left up the hill. This path will lead you past Downfield, the back of Barn House and then you will see UP^ on your right.

Option 2) Back via the village shop. Now take the path diagonally to your right. This will take you down to a gate, down a short bit of the path (with a big barn over to your right) and then take the path down steeply to your right. This will take you down to a small bridge over the river. Once over the bridge the path will go up again and after a few hundred meters join the road at Mackenzie Hall. At the road turn right to go up past the village shop, Pinewood Studios and then take the left turn down Merricks Lane. At the end of this lane turn right and you are now back on the road to UP^. (Don’t forget at the junction that goes round to the left but you can go straight on to go round to the left)

Happy Walking.