

The Millennium Green has for many years been a favourite spot to boat, fish, swim and play in the river, and still a good picnic site. Many fondly remember the open air swimming pool here in the 1960s. Mills have been capturing the natural and renewable energy of river here for nearly 700 years, originally grinding corn into flour and during the Industrial Revolution powering a foundry and saw mill. The restored mill now houses a cafe, educational facilities and a workshop. Behind the mill you can clearly see how the weirs work to control the flow of water, used these days to generate electricity.



Ludlow's geology - Fossils of sea creatures have been found in these rocks dating back 415 million years from a time when Shropshire lay under a shallow tropical sea. See the Geology Gallery in Ludlow Museum.



Ludlow Museum is free and well worth a visit - there are a number of hands-on activities and a large print guide.

The **Information Centre** has a wide range of leaflets and books, including numerous sources on the history and architecture of Ludlow.



The **Buttercross** with its clock tower is an 18th Century covered market, the upper storey of which was used as a Blue Coat Charity School. These schools were maintained by voluntary contributions, to teach poor children to read and write, freely or at little charge.

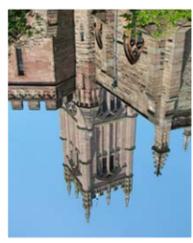
The Tolsey was a medieval toll-booth. Here was held a court (Piepowder from the French pids poudres meaning dusty feet - the dusty feet of travelers and vagabonds who would visit the market). Courts of Piepowder existed to achieve speedy justice over people who were not permanent residents. Trials at these courts were short, quick and informal - punishments typically included fines, being held in a pillory (a form of stocks) or being drawn in a Tumbrel (a two-wheeled cart) to humiliate the offender.



The Feather Hotel was built around 1619 and is one of Ludlow's best-known gems. With its famous timber facade, incorporating an ostrich feather design, it is internationally recognised for its beautiful Jacobean architecture and medieval heritage.



The exceptionally fine 15th Century **Church of St Laurence** is sometimes described as the Cathedral of the Marches. In the chancel you will find wonderfully carved misericords or 'mercy' seats have ledges on which those standing for long periods may lean. The impressive stained glass windows reflect the town's prosperity as a centre of the wool trade in the Middle Ages. The town centre is dominated by the 41m/135ft elegant church tower and for a charge you can climb the 200 narrow spiral steps for bird's eye views. In the wall of the church is a memorial to the poet A. E. Housman (1859-1936), the author of 'A Shropshire Lad' whose remains were laid to rest in the churchyard.



Ludlow Castle is one of the finest medieval castles and dates from the 11th Century. The castle, originally a Norman fortress to hold back the Welsh, was extended over the centuries to become a fortified Royal Palace. It passed through generations of the de Lacy and Mortimer families to Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York - remaining a royal castle for the next 350 years. During this time the castle was the headquarters for the Council of the Marches, with responsibility for the Government of Wales and the border counties. Since 1811 the castle has been owned by the Earls of Powys. Charges are applicable.



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Ludlow Medieval Christmas Fayre Held at the end of November. All the ingredients of a traditional Christmas in a medieval market with costumed entertainers, musicians and traders. www.ludlowmedievalchristmas.co.uk

Ludlow Food Festival A feast of mouth watering events in September. Including over 140 food & drink producers, cooking demonstrations, sausage, bread & ale trails, inside Ludlow Castle and around the town. www.foodfestival.co.uk or 01584 873957

Magnalonga A seven mile leisurely walk held in mid August through the countryside, with four stops at each of which you receive locally-sourced food served with local ale, perry or cider. A great day out. www.magnalonga.org.uk

Ludlow Spring Festivals Ludlow Food Festival's Spring Festival will take place in May, in and around Ludlow Castle. A weekend of celebrating great food and drink from the Marches, including 140 real ales on draught, great bangers, real bread, music - as well as the Marches Transport Festival. www.ludlowspringfestival.co.uk

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3 DAYS OUT Ludlow



A DAY OUT IN AND AROUND LUDLOW

Ludlow is an architecturally beautiful and thriving market town, particularly known for the quality of its food and drink. Described by Poet Laureate John Betjeman as "the most perfect town in England", the street layout remains essentially that of a medieval town with over 450 listed buildings. As you wander through the town you will see alleys and squares with fascinating shops and eateries, which unlike those in many towns remain largely independent. The beautiful countryside to the north and east of Ludlow is part of the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) one of Britain's finest landscapes.

There is so much to do in this lovely town Shopping

There are many small, independent shops in Ludlow, which are well worth a browse. At the corner of Market Square pop into Quality Square - just one of the hidden treasures of the town. Markets have been held in Ludlow Market Square for 900 years - presently there is a general market on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, with specialist markets on other days. The town has focused on the 'Local to Ludlow' campaign and is renowned for its local produce.

Eating and Drinking

Ludlow is full of wonderful cafes, pubs and restaurant, some with Michelin stars. Take your time to enjoy some of these fabulous hosteleries or grab a take out from the delicatessens or bakeries.

Historic Buildings

Ludlow is famous the quality of its buildings - the walk described overleaf will introduce you to some of the best examples.

GETTING THERE

You can find public transport options throughout Shropshire - www.travelshropshire.co.uk or contact Traveline on 08712 002233.



BY TRAIN: Ludlow is on the Manchester to Cardiff mainline railway.

BY BUS: Buses to Ludlow travel from Shrewsbury (435), Hereford (492), Kidderminster (292), Bridgnorth (141), Knighton (738, 740) and weekend Castle Connect Shuttle service, May to September.

BY CAR: Via the main trunk road, A49.

PARK & RIDE: Eco Business Park (signed from A49; SY8 1ES) Monday to Saturday - buses every 15 mins - first bus into town 07.35 - last bus out 17.35.

TOILETS: Castle Street Public Toilets. Ludlow Library & Resource Centre (during opening hours).

Useful links and telephone numbers

- Visitor Information Centre** www.ludlow.org.uk 01584 875053
- Ludlow Castle** www.ludlowcastle.com 01584 873355
- Ludlow Historical Society** www.ludlowhistory.co.uk
- Ludlow Museum** 01584 873857/875384.
- St Laurence's Church** Conducted tours of the church can be arranged via the Rector at 4 College Street. 01584 872073.
- Mill on the Green** www.ludlowmillonthegreen.co.uk
- Ludlow Food Centre** www.ludlowfoodcentre.co.uk 01584 856000



Walking with Offa Promoting the Welsh English border as a great place to get your boots on, enjoy the beautiful countryside and indulge in some fabulous food and drink.

For more details contact the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership on **01588 674080** or see www.shropshirehillsaonb.co.uk



A series of twelve Walking with Offa waymarked pub walks guides and the four Days Out in the Shropshire Hills are downloadable from www.shropshirewalking.co.uk/walking-with-offa



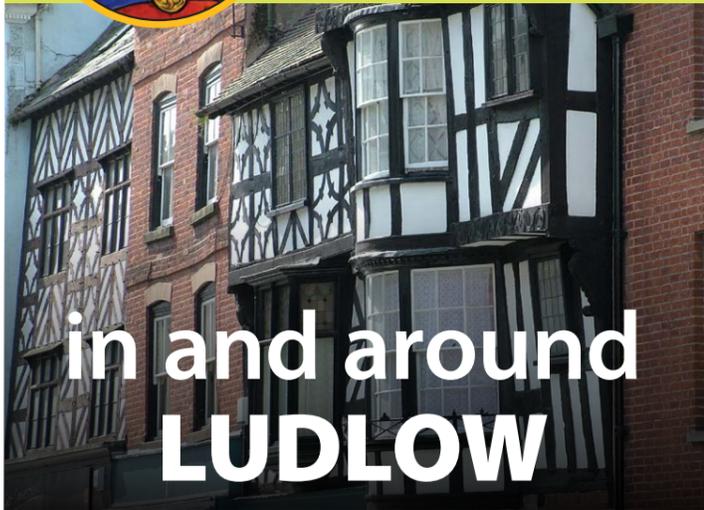
This project has been supported by Advantage West Midlands' Natural Assets Programme in partnership with Natural England.

3 DAYS OUT Ludlow

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Walking with Offa DAYS OUT



in and around LUDLOW

Ludlow offers a fine day out for all the family with a wide range of things to keep you busy. This leaflet includes some of the highlights of the town including a leisurely stroll along the river Teme with historical, architectural and geological interest, and the option of a longer walk to Bromfield.

The Welsh English Border - where King Offa met his match!

in the Shropshire Hills



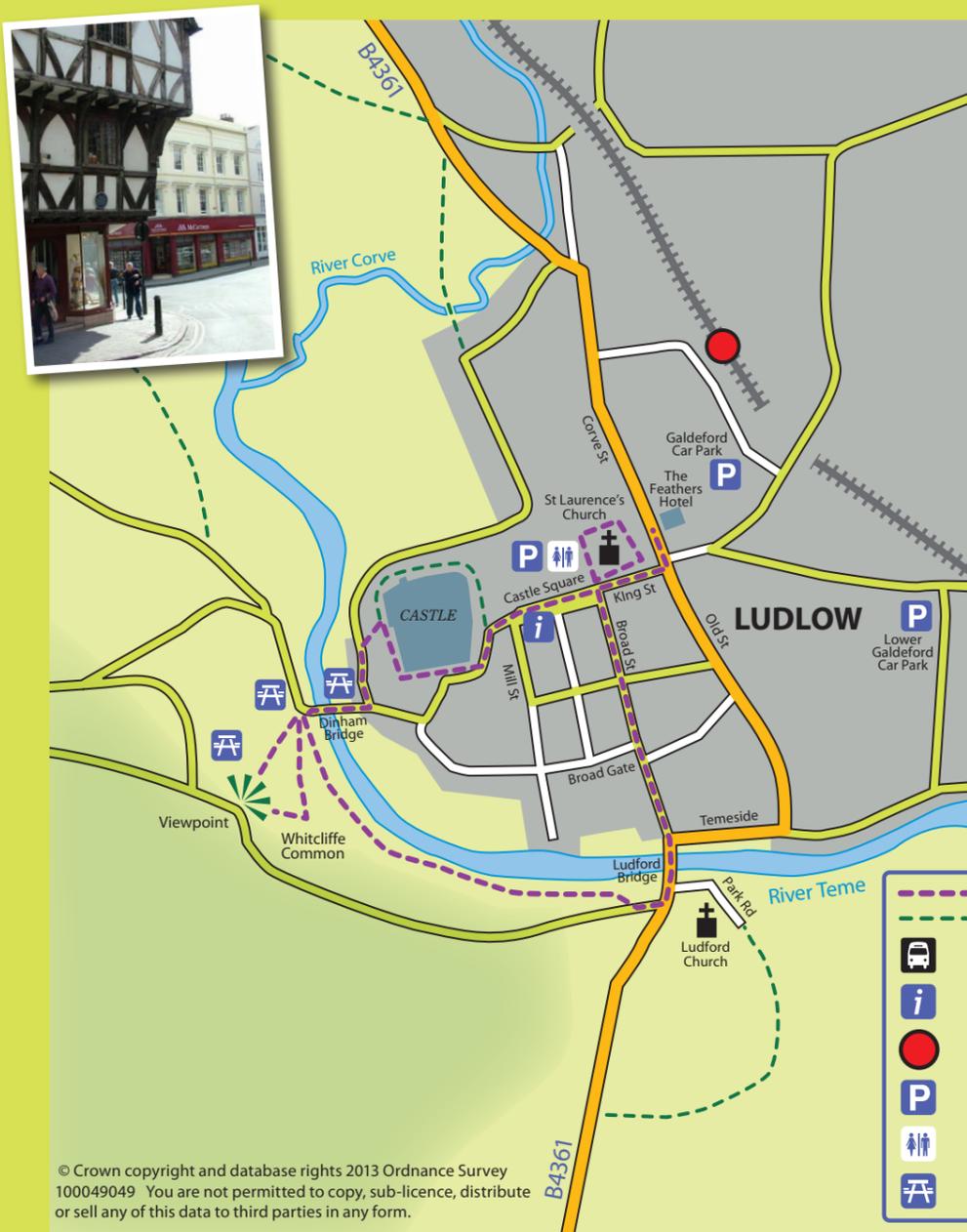
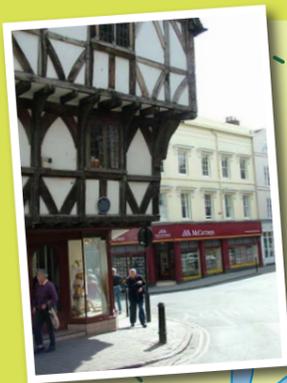
Town and river meander - a relaxing introduction to Ludlow and the River Teme.

Getting to the Feathers, Bull Ring and start of the walk.
From Galdeford car park – take the pedestrian alley past the library into the Bull Ring.
From Lower Galdeford car park – At the top of Lower Galdeford head straight on and turn right at the Bull Ring.
From the train station – turn right down Station Drive and then left past Tesco up Corve Street to the Bull Ring.
From Castle Square Park & Ride drop off or the short stay car park – through the market, along Castle, High and King Streets, then left at the Bull Ring.

Start on the pavement opposite and facing the Feathers Hotel and Inn, Bull Ring, Ludlow SY8 1AA.

- Walk right, up to the brow of the hill passing a pedestrian crossing - across the road is a black and white half-timbered building, the **Tolsey**. Turn right past Ye Olde Bull Ring Tavern, dating from the 14th century, into King Street and soon ahead is the **Buttercross** with its clock tower. Before the Buttercross turn right down a narrow passage to find the **church of St Laurence**.
- Turn right and continue around the church to reach the Reader's House then cross the green, noting the splendid views of the Shropshire Hills. Turn left (College Street) passing the fine almshouses on the right, then on reaching Church Street (a narrow pedestrian alley) turn right and on through into Castle Square. **Ludlow Castle** is on the other side of the square.
- Make your way around or through the Castle Square to the Castle Street/Mill Street junction, the opposite corner from where you entered, and you will find the **Visitor Information Centre** and a **museum**. Head back now towards the Buttercross - you can take the High Street or the narrower Market Street.
- In front of the Buttercross turn right down Broad Street, with some fine Georgian houses, and continue down through the Broad Gate at the bottom, one of the original and the only surviving medieval gate into the walled town.
- Carry on to Ludford Bridge now with more modest but very attractive residences on either side, cross the bridge and pass the Charlton Arms. A short diversion left in to Park Road will bring you to St Giles church and more impressive architecture.

- Turn right at Ludford corner and take the footpath to the right and up stone steps to Whitcliffe Common. Continue along the path keeping to the lower route route you can see some excellent examples of **Ludlow's Geology**. With the Teme to your right continue on this path, known as the Bread Walk because payment to those who laid it in the 1850s was in bread, to ensure that their families and not the local hostellers benefited. After 5-10 minutes or so you will reach Dinham Bridge.
- **FOR WONDERFUL VIEWS, HERE IS AN OPTIONAL SHORT EXTENSION TO YOUR ROUTE. PLEASE NOTE THE ROUTE IS STEEP AND CAN BE CHALLENGING IN PLACES**
- From the bridge turn left up the steps and then a track. Bear left and at the top of the track turn left and then almost immediately right on a smaller track and across the field to the toposcope (map of the surrounding landscape).
- Your return is via the Donkey Steps – a path built to take iron ore from the Clee Hills to Burrington. To find the steps, walk across the field to right bottom corner and take the path. Shortly you will see a track with stone 'steps' (possibly more suited to donkeys than humans) descending to your left into the woods – follow this track back to Dinham Bridge.
- Crossing Dinham Bridge you will reach **Millennium Green**, on your left. Turn left by Millennium Green and shortly after take the marked footpath to your right climbing uphill through the woods. At the top join a path and turn sharp right. Follow the path through arches of the castle walls and turn left to follow the footpath back to Castle Square. Now retrace your steps back to your starting point - time to browse and explore this lovely town.



	Walk Route
	Public Footpath
	Bus/Coach Stop
	Tourist Information
	Railway Station
	Parking
	Toilets
	Picnic Area

Bromfield and the Ludlow Food Centre

An extension to your day, or an option for another, can take you to the small hamlet of Bromfield. Here you will find a wonderful church with an impressive painted ceiling, the Clive Bar and Restaurant and the Ludlow Food Centre. The Food Centre is a unique food shopping experience where farming, food production and retailing come together to create a very special environment. Passionate about local food, 80% of the food sold here comes from Shropshire and the surrounding counties and 50% of the products are made on the premises in viewable kitchens that surround the food hall. In 2012 there will be a new nature trail and picnic area beside the River Onny.

Getting there:

- By car** - Bromfield is just off the main A49, 2.5 miles north of Ludlow. Free parking at the Ludlow Food Centre.
- By bus** - Regular bus services Monday to Saturday only.
- By Coach** - Coaches are welcome at the Ludlow Food Centre.

On foot - A leisurely walk of 2 ½ miles (each way) over fields and through the Oakly Park Estate. The route can be muddy in places and expect livestock, so dog owners take extra care and exert control.

- From Dinham Bridge follow the lane and signs for the Cliff Hotel and just before the hotel take the marked path on the right. Keep to the right boundary and follow the path over fields, stiles and footbridges for ¾ mile. Near the end of the fourth field, the path turns left and crosses to a stile and down to another. Bear right in the direction of the arrow across the open field to a gate in the corner near a large oak tree. Continue straight to the next corner and bear left on a track to a tarmac lane. Turn right and follow this lane (a bridleway), passing the Lodge, and on for a mile to Bromfield.
- Cross the Bridge noting the hydrogeneration project, which by 2012 will be generating enough renewable clean energy to supply the average needs of over 400 homes. Pass the church and to cross the A49, as this is a very busy trunk road, we recommend using the underpass. The Clive and the Ludlow Food Centre are a short distance to the right.



- To return to Ludlow on foot, retrace your steps, passing the church, over the bridge and bear right where the road forks at the gatehouse and on for a mile. On passing The Lodge join the hedged lane and just after the first gate on the left re-join the track and the marked paths across fields. Alternatively you can stay on the road through the farm and continue on the lane all the way back to Dinham.

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