

Buttercross - Ludlow

But my main intention was to ride on the Severn Valley Railway - devastated during the summer floods of 2007. The track was damaged in fifty locations and has cost millions to rectify. Bridgnorth is the railway's northern terminus, journeys end is across the border in the carpet town of Kidderminster

All that remains of Bridgnorth Castle is the Norman Tower, at a dramatic fifteen-degree angle, steeper than Pisa we're told. This was blown up during the Civil War by Parliamentarians - well nearly!

Next to this is the magnificent church of St Mary Magdalene with Thomas Telford architecture. If time allows, nearby Dudmaston Hall, now in the care of the National Trust, combines fine art with an impressive lakeside garden.

Within the area is picturesque Much Wenlock, not only does it have a 15th century Guildhall and Cluniac Priory, but is also

the site of the Wenlock Olympian Games, held since 1852. You can walk here along Wenlock Edge if pitched at the Caravan Club's Presthope site with views towards the distant Wrekin. At 407m of mainly volcanic rock, it's said to be the oldest hill in England.

Further to the south of the county those legs could further get an airing, this is serious walking territory with the Stiperstones National Reserve or along The Long Mynd, where you'll be greeted by beautiful rushing streams and unforgettable scenery.

There's also a visitor centre with tearooms in the Carding Mill Valley run by the National Trust. Too tiring? Turn back time by visiting Acton Scott historic working farm, here time appears frozen and heavy horses still pull the plough and butter is churned by hand.

One thing then is for sure when you visit Shropshire for a weekend - you'll certainly not be bored of things to do.

WE STAYED AT... BEACONSFIELD TOURING & HOLIDAY HOME PARK

Situated just north of historic Shrewsbury on the A49, this outstanding adults-only site is entered by a long private road (with passing places) from the village of Hadnall; no road noise will disturb your stay.

Beaconsfield Farm is a multi-award winning 5-star all year site; therefore you would expect it to offer the highest in standards and facilities. You will not be disappointed! Over eleven years the Poole family have transformed the farm into a delightful touring and holiday for the discerning motorhomer. They also have luxury holiday lodges on the park.

Within log cabin style wooden buildings, in keeping with the rural setting, facilities include a fully equipped laundry, disabled room with shower, washing up room with ironing board and iron, heated toilets and showers accessed by key. To the rear of reception is an indoor swimming pool, steam room and a cosy coffee bar for a chat after a swim. The site also offers free WiFi broadband facility, well-stocked fly and coarse fishing pools and a licensed a la carte

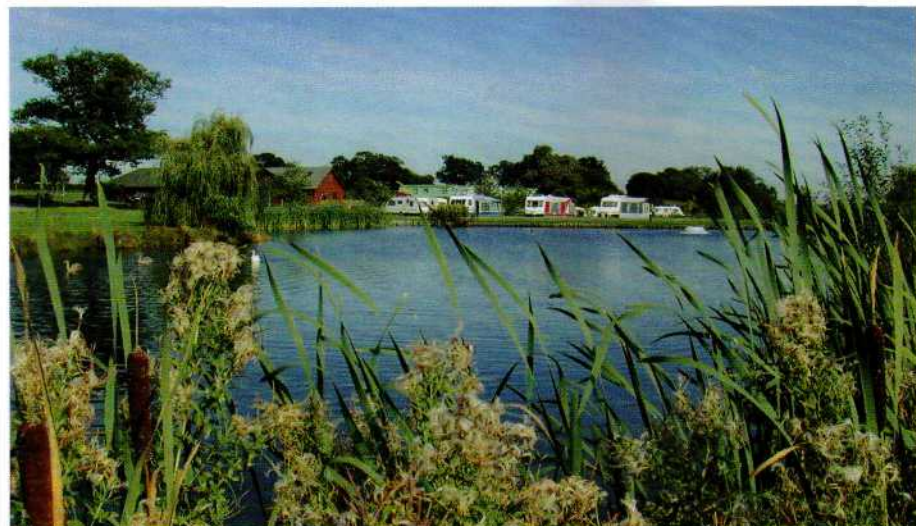
restaurant with resident chef.

Here even your chef gets a day off! The Bothy restaurant is open on Thursday to Saturday evenings and Sunday lunchtime. All dishes are freshly cooked to order and an extensive wine list is available. You could even leave the motorhome on site as they offer car hire for exploring picturesque Shropshire - failing that the Harlescott Park & Ride service for Shrewsbury town centre is only a few miles drive away.

Spacious grass pitches and sixty fully serviced all weather gravel hardstandings are set along one side of the large lake or within an immaculately maintained and attractive landscaped garden setting, complemented by extensive planting of mature flowering shrubs and trees. Public transport, village pub, post office and store can be found in Hadnall as you turn off the A49.

BEACONSFIELD TOURING & HOLIDAY HOME PARK

Upper Battlefield, Shrewsbury SY4 4AA
Tel: 01939 210370
www.beaconsfield-farm.co.uk



OTHER SHROPSHIRE CAMPSITES TO TRY

STANMORE HALL TOURING PARK

Stourbridge Road, Bridgnorth WV15 6DT
Tel: 01746 761761
www.morris-leisure.co.uk

Set in outstanding parkland in the grounds of Stanmore Hall, with central lake and abundant wildlife on edge of market town of Bridgnorth. Amenities are of the highest standards.

EBURY HILL CAMPING & CARAVANNING CLUB SITE

Ebury Hill, Ring Bank, Houghton, Shrewsbury SY4 4GB
Tel: 01743 709334
www.campingandcaravanningclub.co.uk

Situated in an old quarry, Ebury Hill is a minimal site with no toilet block but has electric hook ups, hardstandings and dedicated service point provided.

OXON HALL TOURING PARK

Welshpool Road, Bicton Heath, Shrewsbury SY3 5FB
Tel: 01743 340868
www.morris-leisure.co.uk

Open all year, conveniently right next to the Park & Ride service. Shops and pubs are also within a short walk. Immaculate and extensive facilities.

PRESTHOPE CARAVAN CLUB SITE

Stretton Road, Much Wenlock TF13 6DD
Tel: 01746 785234
www.caravanclub.co.uk

A long narrow site located on a former railway station. No toilet block but hardstandings, hook ups and service point provided. Walks over road from entrance.



SEVERN GORGE PARK

Bridgnorth Road, Tweedale, Telford TF7 4JB
Tel: 01952 684789
www.severngorgepark.co.uk

Small adult-only site, adjacent to residential park home site. Immaculate unisex facilities, in peaceful setting near to main road. Family pub within five-minute walk, ideal location for Blists Hill Victorian Town or Telford.



HAMPTON BANK FARM CARAVAN PARK

Welshampton, Ellesmere SY12 0PX
Tel: 01948 710329

Situated near to canal for pleasant walks, this small adults-only site has some hardstandings, no awnings allowed. Showers charged extra.

WAYSIDE CARAVAN PARK

Welshampton, Aston on Clun, Craven Arms SY7 8EF
Tel: 01558 660218
www.waysidecamping.com

Slightly sloping sites with superb views. Modern shower / toilet block where showers cost 50p. Pub approx half a mile away in village.