

Monmouthshire Health Walk - Mathern & St. Pierre Walk

THE ROUTE

DISTANCE

2.7 miles/ 4.3 kilometres

TIME

1 hour 30 mins

GRADE

Moderate; 5 stiles, one steady ascent

STARTING POINT

Mathern Village, near the Miller's Arms

- 1 Head southwards out of the village along the road, passing under the motorway
- 2 Have a look at St Tewdric's Well, then re-trace your steps for about 25 metres and turn left on a road just before the motorway tunnel. Follow this for about 200 metres
- 3 Turn left through a kissing gate and follow a path across three fields to a bridge
- 4 Cross the bridge onto the golf course. Keep to the edge of the course. After about 150m metres, cross a second bridge, go through a kissing gate and turn right across a wide concrete bridge
- 5 Head for the left of Pill Cottage
- 6 Walk round the garden of Pill Cottage and go through a kissing gate onto a tarmac drive. Follow this across the golf course to the St Pierre Hotel
- 7 Bear left across the car park and turn right at a corner of the building
- 8 Go past the entrance to the hotel and leisure club then turn right into the St Pierre churchyard
- 9 Walk through the churchyard and into a courtyard with the hotel entrance on your right. Turn left here and go through an archway then along the tarmac drive to a T-junction, with a car park ahead. Turn right here
- 10 Soon turn right at a signpost '1st Tee' so that you have the golf course on your left and a small wood on your right
- 11 Where the tarmac path turns right, leave it turning half left and heading across the golf course towards the driving range, a large, wooden building
- 12 Turn right at the driving range and follow a tarmac path. Where it turns left, carry straight on keeping a line of posts on your left
- 13 At the wood, turn left for about 100 metres, then turn right through a gate to cross a bridge over the motorway
- 14 Climb over a stile and pass through three fields, climbing 4 stiles to reach a road at Mathern Mill
- 15 Turn right here
- 16 Where the road turns sharp left, carry straight on through a gate into a field and follow the path keeping close to the hedge on your left
- 17 Turn left through a gate into the Village Hall car park. Go through this and turn right on the main street back to your starting point

POINTS OF INTEREST

- A Mathern was originally known as Merthyr Tewdrig – or the burial place of Tewdrig. It was located where the head of an inlet of the Severn, St Pierre Pill, met an important trade route between Monmouth and the east
- B Pill Cottage used to be a customs house at the time that the inlet from the Severn was navigable
- C St Pierre Church dates from Saxon times and had Saxon and Norman features. Inside there is a stone coffin lid from the grave of the first Norman lord, Urien, who died in 1295

