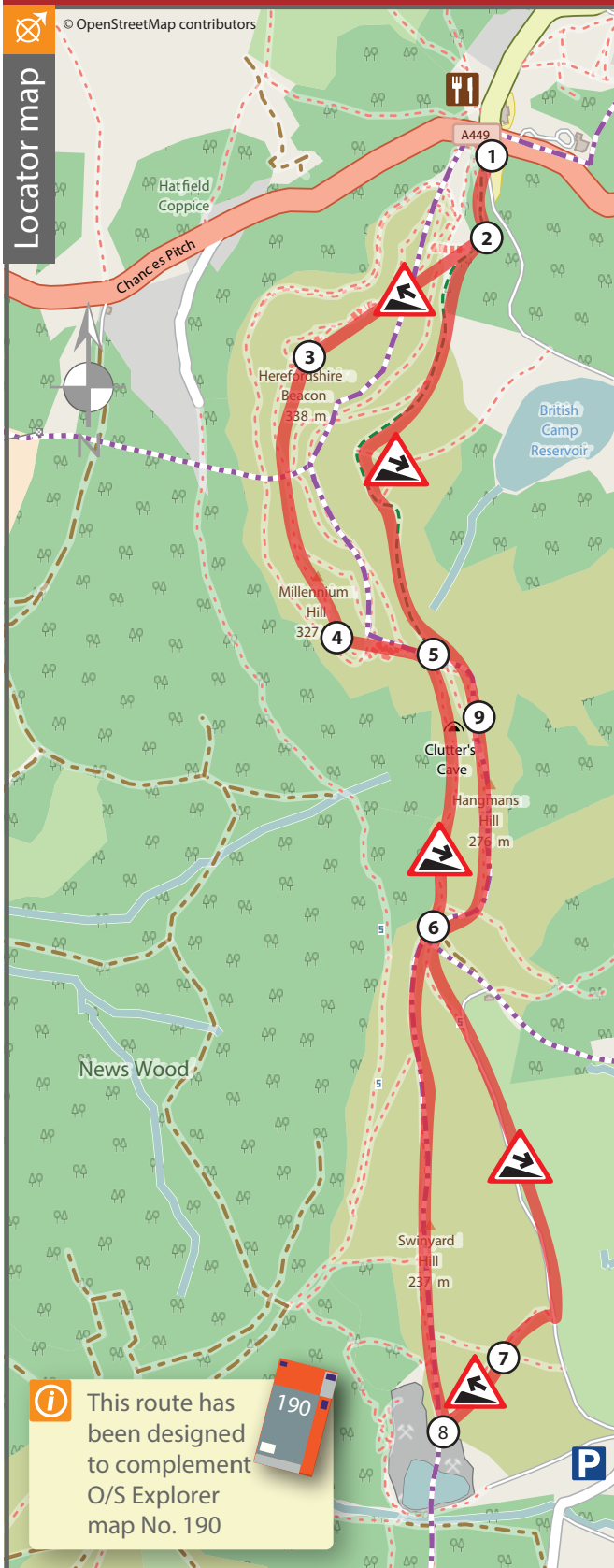




A CIRCULAR WALK TAKING IN HEREFORDSHIRE BEACON AND SWINYARD HILL



Directions

- 1 The walk starts at the large Car Park at British Camp opposite the Malvern Hills Hotel. Take the uphill path that goes from the middle of the car park through the trees.
- 2 Continue up through the trees (ignore the path on the right hand side) and turn right as soon as you see the concrete steps heading up towards the Herefordshire Beacon-otherwise known as British Camp.
- 3 Continue southwards along the ridge top path, you will soon reach two small stones, back to back, the one dark-grey and inscribed 'MHC 159' the other the older and lighter in colour.
- 4 Continue on ridgeline-as you start to descend further, you will finally reach the top of some steep twisty steps which take you down to an indicator stone. Several routes are waymarked on this circular stone.
- 5 Follow the trail marked 'Shady Bank Common' further downhill westwards which follows Shire Ditch, until you reach a 5 way meeting of paths in a gap, called the 'Silurian Pass'.
- 6 As soon as you reach the 5 way meeting of paths, continue straight ahead and the path gently descends along the eastern side of the ridge towards Castlemorton Common. You will pass a track to your left hand side and you will see a steep bracken covered slope rising high to your right which is Swinyard Hill. Walk past an overgrown quarry (on your right) and the sheep pastures and orchard of a small holding on the left. Then turn sharp right uphill along a broad curving grass track until it widens into a flat open space.
- 7 Once you reach the large flat open area, you will notice that you are at the foot of an overgrown quarry face. After leaving this area, the path becomes very narrow and very steep and will continue until you reach a high wire fence and a sign that says 'DANGER - CLIFF'. Turn right alongside the fence which will take you back onto the ridgetop of Swinyard Hill.
- 8 Continue to follow the narrow path to the top of the summit of Swinyard Hill. Looking north, you may see how Herefordshire Beacon stands to one side of the north-south axis of the main ridge. Continue descending off the ridge top until you get to the Silurian Pass and follow the path signed 'Giant's Cave'.
- 9 The Giant's (or Clutters) Cave is hard to miss just down off the path. The much eroded path now leads you back to the indicator stone and then follow the broad gravelled lower path along the eastern flank of the Herefordshire Beacon. You will be able to see the reservoir to your right as you walk along the wide gravel path, back towards the start of your walk at British Camp Car Park.



See www.visitthemaalverns.org for more walking trails and information on the area.



Please respect the Countryside Code.

Map Key

- Main route
- - - Bridleway
- · - · - Footpath

- 1 Route keypoints
- Public house
- Ascent/descent

- Museum/gallery
- Information
- Landscape feature

- Cafe
- Parking
- Church

- Picnic site
- Mansion
- Take care!

PLEASE LEAVE NO LITTER BECAUSE OF GRAZING LIVESTOCK, DOGS SHOULD BE KEPT UNDER PROPER CONTROL

With thanks to Dudley Brook. Adapted from a Trail Guide produced by Malvern Hills Trails Group