



THIS WALK TAKES IN A NUMBER OF THE FINE BUILDINGS, NOTABLE PLACES OF INTEREST AND HIGHLIGHTS SOME OF THE HISTORY OF THE MARKET TOWN OF TENBURY WELLS.



Locator map



## Directions

### 1 Start of Walk

The walk begins at the Teme Street car park close to the Pump Rooms and Burgage Recreation ground. The name Tenbury derives from Temebury meaning the fort on the Teme. In 1615 it was said to be the main thoroughfare for trade between Wales and London. Walk towards the Pump Rooms.

### 2 Pump Rooms

Pump Rooms were built in 1862 to promote Tenbury Wells as a spa for the working classes. This followed the discovery of a saline spring in the grounds of the Crow Inn by the landowner Mr S. H. Godson in 1839. The building has had various uses and periods of falling into neglect. In 1998 the building

was restored and is now the home of Tenbury Town Council. The architect was James Cranston and the building is in the oriental Chinese Gothic style and is one of the earliest examples of a prefabricated building. Walk beside The Crow inn.

### 3 The Crow

The Crow Hotel was a seventeenth century hostellerie with extensive stabling, over the bridge on the Kyre Brook and view the waterway. The Kyre Brook passing by buildings in Market Street. This was a scene of devastation in July 2007 when the Teme and this brook was fifteen times above its normal summer level. Walk down Market Street.

### 4 Floods 2007

The summer of 2007 had several days of exceptional rainfall throughout the catchment area of the Teme. At this location the Kyre Brook swept away the ground from beneath the original toilet block, which partly fell into the brook. Architects were invited to produce a design for the new public toilets. The chosen design reflected hop kilns, with a reference to apple orchards in the wind vane. When Queen Victoria visited Tenbury she was said to refer to the town as her "town in the orchard". Cross to The Royal Oak.

### 5 The Royal Oak

The Royal Oak was the main coaching house on the route from London to the North. The name commemorates the escape of Charles II when he hid in an oak tree after the battle of Worcester in 1651. Continue along market Street.

### 6 Round Market

The Round Market (it is actually oval) or Buttercross. The original Buttercross was erected so that local people could sell their produce. The present Round Market was erected in 1858, with the design by James Cranston, the same architect behind the Pump Rooms. Walk along Cross Street.

### 7 Cornwall House

Originally built in 1709 by Francis Cornwall, 16th Baron of Burford and son of Thomas Cornwall in 1850 it was bought by Septimus Holmes Godson, a major Tenbury landowner, who named it Cornwall House and carried out major repairs. Cross over the street.

### 8 43-49 Cross Street

43-49 Cross Street was built for the Tenbury National School. National Schools provided elementary education, especially religious education, for the children of the poor. The school was founded in 1816 to provide alternative education to the Goff's Free School founded by the Baptists. In 1855 the National School moved to a new site in Bromyard Road.

### 9 Tenbury Museum

Goff's Free School was founded in 1816. In 1865 the present building was completed. The School closed in 1915 but the building was renovated in 1977 for use by the Tenbury Museum. Continue out of town along Cross St.

Continued overleaf.

Map Key

Main route

Bridleway

Footpath

Route keypoints

Public house

Ascent/descent

Museum/gallery

Information

Landscape feature

Cafe

Parking

Church

Picnic site

Mansion

Finish flag

 Directions

**10** Pembroke House

Pembroke College Oxford originally owned this property before it was sold in 1889. It then became a cider house selling especially potent local rough cider but in the 1930's it changed to a more conventional public house. Cross the road and take the pedestrian access that leads into Berrington Gardens. Continue to the junction with Bog Lane where you should turn right onto Berrington Road.

**11** Oak House

Originally a farmhouse and home of the Yapp family it later became the site of a cider making business. In the 18th and 19th century the building was known as the Barn and Barrel. The inn ceased to operate in 1906 when it could no longer obtain a licence. Continue along road then turn left into Cross Street and then left onto Church Street.

**12** Holland House

Built in the early 18th century and when purchased by the Holland family in 1790 it became known as Holland House. Continue down Church Street.

**13** Old Fire Station

This building was used for a time as a mortuary, then the town fire station, then a meeting room. Early fire engines were operated manually being pulled by horses. In 1913 the Tenbury Fire Brigade acquired a steam engine. The Fire Brigade used the building until 1936. Walk into churchyard.

**14** St Mary's Church

Built in the 12th century, the original Norman church was largely destroyed by a flood in 1770 (the Teme runs along the western edge of the churchyard. Only the lower part of the Norman tower remains and much of the present building is Victorian. Take Church Lane.

**15** Church Lane

Leave the churchyard via Church Lane which exits adjacent to the Regal Cinema onto Teme Street.

**16** Regal Cinema

The Regal Cinema is a very rare surviving example of an Art Deco style cinema in a small market town. This grade II listed building was completely refurbished in 2012, including the wonderful Italianate murals on the walls of the auditorium. The Regal is open to visitors most weekday mornings and includes a small museum of film related memorabilia. Turn right down Teme Street.

**17** Bedford Dials

This building was originally the Corn Exchange and another design of the architect James Cranston (Pump Rooms and Round Market). In recent times the building has been owned by long established local company Bedford Dials that manufacture instrument dials. As a Corn Exchange it did not last long as farmers preferred to trade in the pubs. The building also provided a magistrates' court with a dwelling for a policeman and lock-up cells. Cross road and retrace steps North up Teme Street.

**18** Tenbury House

Tenbury House was built in 1815 and occupied by a number of doctors. The most famous was John Blundell Williams in 1930. Another famous medical practitioner lived for a time at 8 Teme Street. This person was Henry Hickman who is now recognised as a pioneer in anaesthesia. Continue up Teme Street.

**19** Ship Inn

Built in the 17th century but by 1804 it had been split into two properties, one known as the Ship Inn, while the other was a blacksmith's shop and iron warehouse. In 1879 it was re-fronted to give the present exterior. This was part of a drive at the time to smarten Tenbury and encourage people to come the Spa and nearby Oldwood Common Racecourse. Continue towards bridge.

**20** Temeside House

Erected in 1837 as the workhouse for Tenbury. The workhouse had accommodation for 70 inmates with the sexes separated so that families were broken up. The men's work included breaking up Cleve Hill rock for road maintenance and cutting up railway sleepers for firewood. Walk onto bridge.

**21** Teme Bridge

The town is here because this was a crossing point of the Teme from at least the 13th century. The original bridge consisted of three arches at the northern end. Following a flood around 1580 the river changed course which required three southern arches to be added to align with Teme Street -note the bend in the bridge direction. During 1814 the bridge was repaired and widened on the advice of Thomas Telford. It was further widened in 1868 and 1908. The boundary between Worcestershire and Shropshire runs along the line of the river. Walk a short distance into Shropshire.

**22** View of Castle Tump

From around the point where Teme Street junctions with the A456 (Worcester Road) you have a clear view of the Castle Tump. This small conical mound has been considered to be a Bronze Age burial mound or the base of a Norman wooden keep. Return over Teme Bridge - take river side path.

**23** Access to riverside walk

From the side of the bridge take the path that runs along the river bank. From here you will have a good view of the bridge arches. Continue along the path along the bank of the Teme to the Burgage Recreation Ground.

**24** Burgage Recreation Ground

In Medieval towns in England and Scotland a Burgage was a strip of land rented from a king or lord. The area now occupied by the recreation ground would also have been divided into burgage plots. Follow path around the Burgage Recreation Ground.

**25** River Teme

River Teme flows eastwards towards its junction with the Severn just outside Worcester. At this point the Kyre Brook joins the Teme. A distinctive shelter, with view back towards the town marks the end of the walk.

**Return to car park and end of walk.**



ZOOMABLE MAP

<http://my.viewranger.com/route/details/MTE5NzU2>