

# TELFORD TINSEL TRAIL

You could have gone to see the Taj Mahal, the Grand Canyon or the Great Barrier Reef but instead you made the wise choice to visit our local World Heritage site in the Ironbridge Gorge.

In this first leg, you will follow the route through the cradle of the Industrial Revolution along some spectacular paths that will give you fine views of the Severn Gorge and its side tributaries.

1. The walk starts at Coalport Village Hall (**SJ 696 024**) From Hall turn Rt along Rd to cross bridge (inclined plane) and immediately turn Lt down path to cross foot bridge over River Severn. At its end turn Rt along short Rd soon to keep forward onto path with tile works wall on Lt.
2. At end of wall keep ahead to descend passage soon crossing over parking lot to Rd. Take riverside path and ascend steps to Rd.
3. Follow Rd to junction at Jackfield school. Turn Rt. Where Rd bends sharply to Rt keep AH through crossing gates onto disused railway track to reach car park. Cross to turn Rt over the Ironbridge and turn Lt along the wharfage with river on Lt.
4. After PH (the Malthouse) cross Rd to go up tiled drive (lime kiln on Lt) passing engineering works (Buftons). At top Rt hand corner of yard take path up to Rd. Cross Rd into dirt track directly opposite.
5. Pass house on Lt and turn Rt up stepped path (sign The Rotunda). Where path levels turn Rt for 10m to turn Lt up further stepped path. Reach the Rotunda with view of Ironbridge.
6. Keep AH on level path across forested hillside to 4 way path junction. Turn Lt (sign Paradise). At next junction keep AH (sign Church Rd). At Rd cross to path (sign Woodside) and keep AH 500m to path junction (sign Church Rd). Turn Lt down steep steps to reach Rd opposite Church.
7. Turn Rt down Rd to cross main Rd into minor Rd opposite and follow through museum complex to pass under railway arch (sign Derby Rd, Quaker burial ground). Turn Rt to Rd junction by garage and turn Lt.
8. After 20m descend steps by footbridge and turn Lt to second footbridge. Cross and Turn Lt along path up dingle with stream on Lt. At path junction turn Lt down steps to cross stream and climb to gate onto Trk (*the Ropewalk*).
9. Turn Rt on Trk which becomes an obvious path and ascends through beech wood. Turn Lt to follow Shropshire Way and ascend to St. Cross into field. Cross to Gt (with large white posts) and thru turning Lt on drive overlooking road cutting on Rt.
10. At Rd turn Rt over bridge and in 300m turn Lt up Trk (SW) passing house on Lt. Turn Rt through Gt into field (SW). Across field to Lt hand fence. Turn Rt to telephone masts.
11. Follow field edge (fence on Rt hand side) to tarmac Trk.TR

**You will find this next leg to be quite arduous and although there are no mountains to climb the hills will give you some good exercise. There is also some interesting navigation to exercise your brain as your body has been.**

12. AH into village. At Rd junction bear Lt passing church on Rt to road junction (at the Huntsman PH). Turn Lt keeping along Rd for 1Km. Road descends steeply. Before chevrons turn Lt up bank through gate onto path descending thru wood. Cross Trk to St and then AH along fence on Lt to St into wood under the *Wrekin*.
13. Turn Lt to contour West under the *Wrekin* to Trk Junction. Turn Rt (permissive path) for 600m. Descend from path summit to cross path and turn Rt (SWP marker post) to ascend steeply (tree roots)

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to gain summit of the *Wrekin*. Keep AH on main path dropping Rt to café and down to Rd. Turn Rt to cross Rds (*Forest Glen*). You will find a checkpoint with refreshments in the corner of the car park opposite.

14. leaving checkpoint, Turn Rt for 1km to pass hotel (*Buckatree*) on Lt. 20m past upper hotel entrance, at SP Turn Rt ascending waymarked path (*Ercall Woods Walk*) to summit of the *Ercall*.

Follow ridge NE descending gently to foot of hill, footbridge and M54.

15. Cross drive to steps and follow M-Way fence on Lt. After approx.. 100m, Turn Rt to follow path gently uphill with hedge on Lt and golf course on Rt. Follow path into wood to kissing Gt. AH (pool on Lt) to follow path round edge of wood. Thru gate onto Trk at *Steeraway Farm*.

16. Turn Rt (*Wrekin Forest trails*). In 200m, just after vehicle deterrent, turn Lt on path thru forest to St into field (*Short Woods Way*). AH passing pool on Rt to St into wood. Follow waymarks over stile in new fence and then uphill to St into field.

17. Turn Rt following waymarks to broad Trk. Turn Rt to Rd by *New Works Farm*. Turn Lt 100m on road to gate onto *Bridleway* on Rt. Through gate and turn Rt along enclosed path, 75m then through Gt to left. In 100m turn Lt through gate. Ahead 300m to gap in fence on Rt just before green building. Turn Rt on narrow path to raptor nest box on post. Continue on path through gorse to top of golf course.

18. Walk round green to green litterbin by pylon. Turn Lt on gravel path and Rt down side of golf course. Keep ahead past green buildings to go through underpass. Turn Rt along perimeter path of golf course. Turn sharp Lt corner and in 300m cross St on Rt onto enclosed path taking dog-leg to Rd. Turn Rt to reach pleasant lake on Lt and continue to T junction (chip shop on Rt)

**The final leg takes you through old industrial villages now fused into the New Town of Telford.**

**Captain Webb, the Dawley man, lived hereabouts. Though semi urban there are some fine sections of almost rural countryside.**

19. Turn Lt, 200m then turn Lt. Continue 200m with *Steam Centre* on Lt. Cross Rd to turn Rt down *Pool Hill Road*. Pass WM post (*Ironbridge Way*). Continue for 800m. Cross Rd junction to short section of footpath before joining street named *Pool Hill* (IBW).

20. Slight uphill, 150m. Before school sign turn Rt on Trk (IBW) (wide ranging views on Rt). AH to track T-Junct. Turn Lt and in 100m Rt at barrier with wood on Lt. Cross 2 sport fields and AH through hedge. Path continues through wood and bears Lt to Trk by houses. Turn Rt through bike barriers crossing minor Rd to reach PH (*The Unicorn*).

21. Turn Rt and in 100m turn Lt (*South View Road*). Continue AH on Trk to pass lake on Rt and turn Rt on Trk (IBW). Pass house on Lt and at fork of Trks keep Lt (IBW) to go through underpass.

22. Cross railway and at Trk junction turn Lt. Follow Trk for 1.5km to pass Lake on RHS to reach Trk junction and turn Lt under bridge. Immediately by old windmill turn Rt on tarmac path.

23. Follow path for 1 km to cross bridge over *Madeley High St* to Rd. AH to go through subway (*Silkin Way*). Turn Rt along edge of small green to join pavement.

24. Keep AH alongside Rd to cross entrance to museum. Follow path bearing Lt away from road through tunnel and over bridge. Turn Rt on zig zag path (sign *Coalport*). Turn Lt to return to event centre.

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