



# RAIL Trails



## Royal Leamington Spa to Offchurch

A fashionable spa town with a history built on its saline springs, Leamington Spa's beautiful town centre is known for its Regency architecture, wide boulevards and award-winning gardens.

First following the **Grand Union Canal** and then the River Leam, this trail takes you into the surrounding countryside to the village of **Offchurch**. On your route you can explore the **Leam Valley Local Nature Reserve** and **Newbold Comyn**, as well as the renowned **Jephson Gardens**.

But there's plenty to do on your return. With an unrivalled selection of specialist boutiques and high street brands, Leamington Spa is also known as a great place to shop! And as a place where visitors used to come to 'take the waters', Leamington Spa still has a passion for health and beauty treatments.

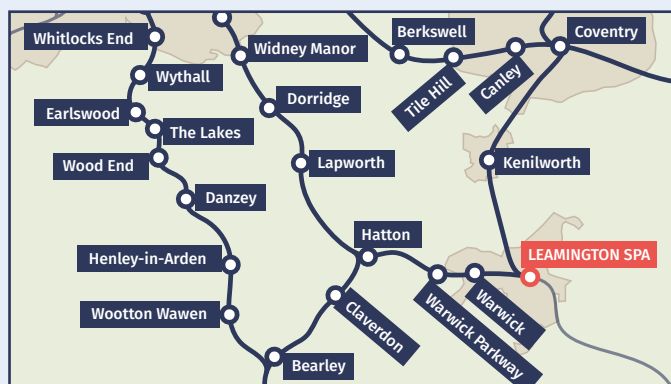
If you need to refuel you'll also find more than 60 independent eateries from all corners of the world!

### Further Information:



Visit [www.royal-leamington-spa.co.uk](http://www.royal-leamington-spa.co.uk) for more information on where to visit and what to see in town.

[www.shakespeares-england.co.uk](http://www.shakespeares-england.co.uk) provides everything you need to know for a visit to the wider area.



**Royal Leamington Spa** is on the mainline between London Marylebone and Birmingham, as well as the line to Coventry and Nuneaton. You can also connect to the West Coast mainline and other major routes.

Trains run hourly to all stations on the Stratford branch and Coventry via Kenilworth, as well as more frequently to Birmingham via Warwick Parkway

Toilets, refreshments and ATMs are available.

### Want More?

This is just one of a range of 36 self-guided walks from railway stations in Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull.



Discover the Heart of England by rail at: [www.heartcommunityrail.org.uk/railtrails](http://www.heartcommunityrail.org.uk/railtrails)



Design by: [www.blackspiraldesign.co.uk](http://www.blackspiraldesign.co.uk)



# RAIL Trails



Discover The Heart of England by Rail



## Royal Leamington Spa

Image by Ian Halsey MMX



4 Hours



7.2 Miles



Moderate

Start: Leamington Spa Finish: Leamington Spa

Branch out from this fashionable spa town to follow the Grand Union Canal to the village of Offchurch and back via Newbold Comyn.

[www.heartcommunityrail.org.uk/railtrails](http://www.heartcommunityrail.org.uk/railtrails)



## Trail Highlights...



Image by David Edwards

### A. Leam Valley Nature Reserve

A Local Nature Reserve on the eastern edge of Leamington. Try one of the interactive trails and spot roach, perch and common bream in the River Leam as well as dragonflies, damselflies and kingfishers.

[www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/LeamValley](http://www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/LeamValley)



Image by The Stag Offchurch

### B. The Stag at Offchurch

A wonderful halfway stop! Take a break and enjoy this thatched country gastropub with stylish contemporary interior and quiet garden surrounded by trees.

[www.thestagatoffchurch.com](http://www.thestagatoffchurch.com)



### C. Newbold Comyn

A 300 acre country park on the outskirts of Leamington. Make a beeline for observation hill for fantastic views but you'll also find a swimming pool, skate park and even a multi-award-winning pub set in a former Manor House!

[www.royal-leamington-spa.co.uk/visiting/parks-gardens/newbold-comyn/](http://www.royal-leamington-spa.co.uk/visiting/parks-gardens/newbold-comyn/)



Image by Warwick District Council

### D. Jephson Gardens

Monumental gardens laid out along the River Leam right in the heart of town. A great relaxing stroll to finish your walk. Make sure to visit the Czechoslovak Memorial Fountain.

[www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20312/jephson\\_gardens](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20312/jephson_gardens)

### Did you know?



**Leamington Spa Station** is reputedly one of Britain's most haunted buildings! Keep your eyes peeled for ghostly goings on as you alight!

## Also recommended...



Image by Tony Hisgett

### E. The Royal Pump Rooms

The heart of what made Leamington great! The historic Royal Pump Rooms host the award winning Art Gallery & Museum, the Visitor Information Centre, and the Hammam – restored Turkish bath.

[www.warwickdc.gov.uk/royalpumprooms](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/royalpumprooms)



Image by Cenu Cacao

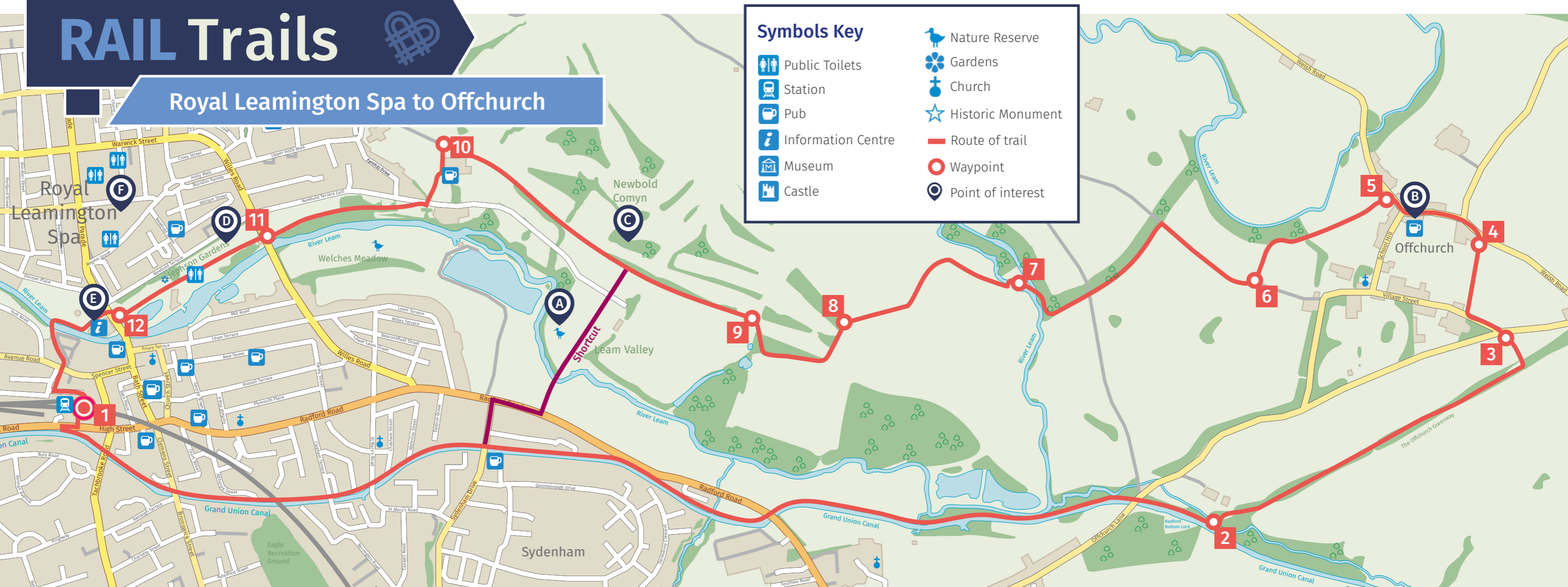
### F. Cenu Cacao

Fancy something a little different? How about a "bean to bar" artisanal chocolate shop? Welcomed by a fresh aroma of chocolate you can also watch it being prepared - using organic raw cacao beans and Aztec methods.

[www.cenucacao.co.uk](http://www.cenucacao.co.uk)

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### Trail Directions

1. Exit station through car park. Turn left up ramp & zigzag up to main road. Cross road and turn right on opposite pavement. Just after bus shelter, turn left down steps to Grand Union Canal. Turn left on towpath, canal on right. Ahead on towpath for 4 km, passing under 10 bridges & by Radford Bottom Lock.
2. Ahead under railway bridge 33A. Immediately turn left up tarmac path (The Offchurch Greenway). Ahead on cycleway for 1 km. Before bridge, fork left up narrow path. Through kissing gate. Turn left into field to gates at top.
3. Through gate. Cross road & bear left into Village Street, signposted Offchurch. In 20m, turn right by side of kissing gate onto path through trees. Cross footbridge into field. Bear slightly left to garden fence at bottom. Ahead on enclosed path between bushes. Through kissing gate to join road.
4. Keep ahead on left verge, passing road junction on right. Passing post box, then The Stag on left, bend right with road. Opposite The Haven on right, turn left cross road to stile (Millennium Way) into field.
5. Ahead on field edge, with fence on left. Where conifers bend left, continue ahead, then slightly left contouring around bank. Cross stile. Bear right up to field edge and ahead to corner. Turn left to next

corner. Through gap to tarmac drive (Offchurch Bury Park).

6. Turn right down drive. Turn left before gate, distinctive cedar tree on left. Bear right onto track with trees on right. Follow track for 500m, then turn left downhill to stile. Cross bridge over weir. Keep left on path close to River Leam.
7. In 70m, turn left on footbridge over river. Turn right passing ford. Ahead across field to large solitary tree. Turn left to stile. Ahead on field edge for 180m to hedge gap, bear right, passing wooden fence on right. Ahead across field to waymark post at opposite corner. Cross footbridge, through hedge gap, to track corner (Newbold Comyn Park).
8. Turn left on track for 120m through gap in trees. Turn right, still on track, trees on right. Ahead to metal seat on right. In 20m, turn right onto path, passing green litter bin on right. Follow path round left & right bends to track junction (white waymark post on left).
9. Turn left on track. Keep ahead ignoring all side paths. In 600m, pass car park on left. In 300m, at open area, ahead uphill, hedge on left. Through gap by side of field gate to join lane. Ahead on lane. At end of brick wall, pass metal barrier, then turn left through gap in wooden fence.
10. Ahead downhill. At corner of building, bear right down bank, then bear left ahead on grass, passing large laurel bushes on left. Ahead through trees to

cross road at speed bump. Turn right on tarmac cycleway. In 15m, at end of trees on left, bear left across grass. Turn right on path between trees, parallel to cycleway/road on right. Keep ahead on path.

11. In 500m, at path junction, bear left down through wooden barriers to road. Cross road, through gates into Jephson Gardens. Ahead on wide tarmac path, passing café/toilets on left.
12. Through gates at end of Gardens opposite The Royal Pump Rooms and Baths. Cross road. Ahead on surfaced path to railings. Turn right, river on left. In 100m, turn left cross footbridge over river. At end of bridge, turn left on wide tarmac path. Follow path (York Walk) to road. Cross road (zebra crossing). Ahead on path, signpost Railway Station. At next road (Sayer Close), turn left. At end of road, turn right through tunnel under station.

### Did you know?

**Priority Terrace** (other side of River Leam opposite Jephson Gardens) features the "Elephant Walk", a 19th century slipway down to the river near the suspension bridge, constructed so that circus elephants in winter quarters in Leamington could be watered!

Want an online map?

Scan the QR code here or visit [explore.osmaps.com](http://explore.osmaps.com)



Ready for another Trail?

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