



RAIL Trails



Image by Chris Higgins

Bearley to Claverdon

On this trail you'll discover some of Warwickshire's most glorious countryside as you meander from the ancient village of Bearley. Recorded in the Domesday Book, Bearley has links with the Shakespeare family through Mary Arden, Shakespeare's mother. Bearley is also home to the Bearley Vineyard whose wines can be purchased at village stores, local wine merchants and local National Trust properties.

A short diversion takes you to Snitterfield Bushes Nature Reserve, or head west to see the Edstone Aqueduct - England's longest cast iron aqueduct.

You'll pass through Langley, noted for its listed buildings, before reaching Claverdon, with its historic buildings including the old forge, St Michael's Church and plenty of picturesque 16th and 17th century half-timbered houses.

You'll find post-hike essentials at the volunteer run Claverdon Community Shop, or a well-earned pint or meal at Claverdon's Red Lion.

Further Information:



www.shakespeares-england.co.uk provides everything you need to know for a visit to Bearley or the wider area.



Bearley is on the Stratford-upon-Avon to Leamington Spa line. Trains run two hourly to Stratford and Leamington via Warwick and Hatton. There is also a limited request service to Birmingham Snow Hill via Solihull or Wilmcote. At the time of writing there are no Sunday services from Bearley.

Bearley is an unstaffed rural halt and tickets must be purchased on the train.

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



Design by: www.blackspiraldesign.co.uk



RAIL Trails



Discover The Heart of England by Rail



Bearley

Image by Amanda Slater

🕒 2.5 Hours 🚶 4.75 Miles 🚶 Easy

Start: Bearley Finish: Claverdon

Discover ancient villages, churches and leafy woodland amid some truly glorious Warwickshire countryside.

www.heartcommunityrail.org.uk/railtrails



Trail Highlights...



Image from Our Warwickshire courtesy of Warwickshire Museums

A. St Mary's Church

A properly historic site! There has been a Church on this site for over 800 years. The nave dates back to the 12th century, the chancel to the 13th, the font the 15th century and even one of the bells is medieval!

www.bearley.org/st-marys-church/



Image by Tony Armstrong-Sly

B. Edstone Aqueduct

15 mins walk west of Bearley lies the Stratford-upon-Avon canal and this rather impressive cast iron aqueduct, which takes the canal over the railway. At 475 feet long its also the longest of its kind in England!

www.canalrivertrust.org.uk



Image by David P Howard

C. St Michael's Church

This much loved and well-used community church is an oasis of peace for villagers and visitors alike. Don't miss the 15th century tower or the notable alabaster tomb of Thomas Spencer of Althorpe (died 1630) in the Chancel.

www.churchesofarden.org.uk/claverdon



Image by The Red Lion

D. The Red Lion Claverdon

A perfect pit-stop, this rejuvenated old pub is perched on the edge of Claverdon with a large patio and secluded garden serving an eclectic mix of pub gastro classics with modern twists.

www.redlionclaverdon.co.uk

Did you know?



The list of important families associated with the manor of Claverdon include the Spencers of Althorp from whom **Diana Princess of Wales** was descended.

Also Recommended..



Image by John Cliff

E. Snitterfield Bushes

A tranquil nature reserve (and SSSI) of woodland glades and ponds, managed by the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. See bluebells, primroses and early-purple orchids in spring whilst autumn brings an impressive selection of fungi.

www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk



Image by AirWolfHound

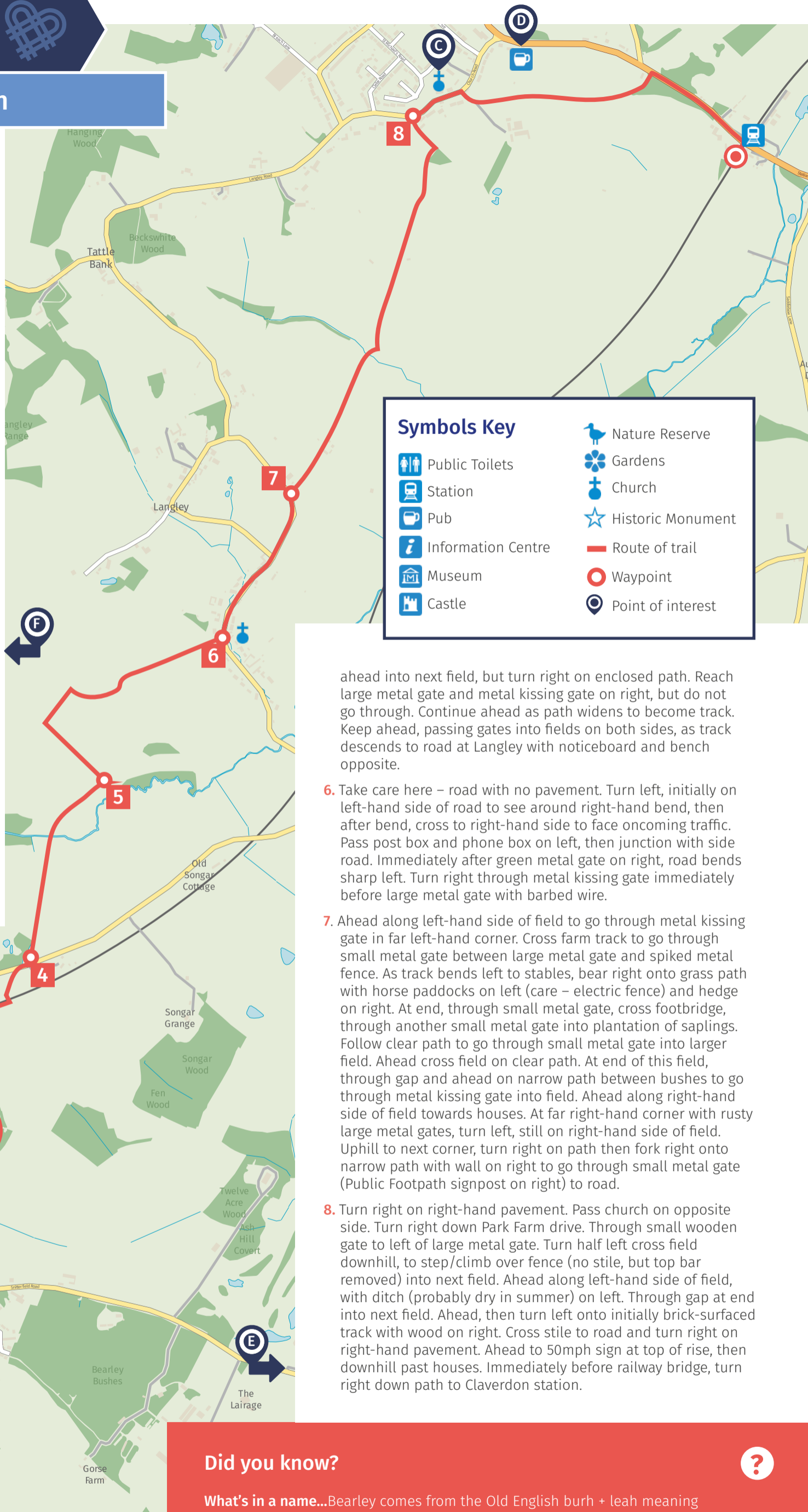
F. Warwickshire Flight Experience

Fancy something different? How about a truly immersive experience where you can be a WWII fighter pilot, or handle the controls of a Boeing 737? If so its less than 2 miles from Bearley Station!

www.warwickshireflightexperience.co.uk

Trail Directions

1. From platform, fork left down path to road. Cross road (care – busy) and turn right on left-hand pavement, under railway bridge. At junction, turn left, still on left-hand pavement.
2. Pass village hall and playing fields on left. Turn left into Oaktree Close. At staggered crossroads, cross road to post box ahead, turn right then turn left on left-hand pavement of Grange Road. Continue on left-hand pavement as road bends right. At end, where road turns sharp right onto School Lane, turn left onto track (Public Bridleway sign).
3. After gates on left, ahead on narrow path between bushes. When path emerges into field, ahead along right-hand side. In far corner, thru gap and ahead along left-hand side of next field (or use cross-field path if not covered by crops). At corner, do not use first railway crossing, but turn right for 150 yards, cross stile on left, ahead between fences, cross railway line (care), on opposite side cross stile into field and turn half right cross field, aiming for corner where hedge meets tree line. Cross stile, turn half right to cross road and climb over fence where stile should be.
4. Ahead, initially along left-hand side of field, then at fence corner with large fallen tree, ahead cross field aiming for two large trees. Pass redundant stile on right, ahead with line of trees on left, then after last tree, ahead to cross stile and footbridge. Bear right on path cross field, initially aiming to right of large tree, then after passing this tree, towards redundant metal kissing gate on far side of field. Round kissing gate and turn left on path along right-hand side of field.
5. Through gap into next field and ahead uphill. At end of hedge on right, turn right through gap (Public Bridleway waymark). Into next field (Monarch's Way waymark), along right-hand side, sloping down to go through gap. Do not go



Symbols Key

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|--|--------------------|--|-------------------|
| | Public Toilets | | Nature Reserve |
| | Station | | Gardens |
| | Pub | | Church |
| | Information Centre | | Historic Monument |
| | Museum | | Route of trail |
| | Castle | | Waypoint |
| | | | Point of interest |

ahead into next field, but turn right on enclosed path. Reach large metal gate and metal kissing gate on right, but do not go through. Continue ahead as path widens to become track. Keep ahead, passing gates into fields on both sides, as track descends to road at Langley with noticeboard and bench opposite.

6. Take care here – road with no pavement. Turn left, initially on left-hand side of road to see around right-hand bend, then after bend, cross to right-hand side to face oncoming traffic. Pass post box and phone box on left, then junction with side road. Immediately after green metal gate on right, road bends sharp left. Turn right through metal kissing gate immediately before large metal gate with barbed wire.
7. Ahead along left-hand side of field to go through metal kissing gate in far left-hand corner. Cross farm track to go through small metal gate between large metal gate and spiked metal fence. As track bends left to stables, bear right onto grass path with horse paddocks on left (care – electric fence) and hedge on right. At end, through small metal gate, cross footbridge, through another small metal gate into plantation of saplings. Follow clear path to go through small metal gate into larger field. Ahead cross field on clear path. At end of this field, through gap and ahead on narrow path between bushes to go through metal kissing gate into field. Ahead along right-hand side of field towards houses. At far right-hand corner with rusty large metal gates, turn left, still on right-hand side of field. Uphill to next corner, turn right on path then fork right onto narrow path with wall on right to go through small metal gate (Public Footpath signpost on right) to road.
8. Turn right on right-hand pavement. Pass church on opposite side. Turn right down Park Farm drive. Through small wooden gate to left of large metal gate. Turn half left cross field downhill, to step/climb over fence (no stile, but top bar removed) into next field. Ahead along left-hand side of field, with ditch (probably dry in summer) on left. Through gap at end into next field. Ahead, then turn left onto initially brick-surfaced track with wood on right. Cross stile to road and turn right on right-hand pavement. Ahead to 50mph sign at top of rise, then downhill past houses. Immediately before railway bridge, turn right down path to Claverdon station.

Did you know?

What's in a name... Bearley comes from the Old English burh + leah meaning 'woodland clearing near a fortified place', Claverdon means clover hill and Langley means 'long wood/clearing' - which pretty much describes the type of countryside you'll be walking through on this trail!

Want an online map?

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



Ready for another Trail?

Discover more at www.heartcommunityrail.org.uk/railtrails

