

# RAIL Trails

## The Lakes to Earlswood

This is a scenically varied walk between The Lakes and Earlswood railway stations. You'll take in all three reservoirs making up **Earlswood Lakes** - and pass through **Clowes Wood & New Fallings Coppice**.

Earlswood Lakes were built in 1820 to supply water to the **Stratford-upon-Avon Canal**, which they still do (you'll pass the historic engine house as you go). Nowadays they also provide leisure facilities and are home to a wide variety of birds and wildlife.

**Clowes Wood**, the first reserve owned by the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. As you pass through the nature reserve, look for the burnt stone pile dating back to the Bronze Age and listen out for the distinctive call of the chiff chaff.

There are some great watering holes near Earlswood Lakes and village, including the **Red Lion**, **The Reservoir** and the **Manor House Tearooms** at the Crafts Centre. You'll also find a **Nisa Local** convenience store in the heart of the village.

### Further Information:

Visit [www.visitsolihull.co.uk](http://www.visitsolihull.co.uk) for more information on what to see in and around Earlswood Lakes.



Image by Andreas Trepte



**The Lakes** is on the North Warwickshire Line running between Birmingham & Stratford-upon-Avon. There's an hourly service to both Birmingham Moor Street (via Wythall and Shirley) and to Stratford-Upon-Avon (via Wood End, Henley-in-Arden and all stations beyond).

There are limited facilities available at this station, but you can find refreshments along this trail into Earlswood.

### 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



## The Lakes

Image by Tanya Dedyukhina

2 Hours 4 Miles Easy

Start: **The Lakes** Finish: **Earlswood**

A tranquil and easy route, circumnavigating Earlswood Lakes before heading into the leafy shade of Clowes Wood en-route to Earlswood.

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





## Trail Highlights...



Image by Alex Matravers

### A. Earlswood Lakes

The inevitable stars of this walk are once again the three 22 acre reservoirs - Terry's, Windmill and Engine Pool. All three are stocked with fish whilst Terry's Pool is a wildlife reserve. Make time to linger on the beach if the sun is out!

[www.canalrivertrust.org.uk](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk)



Image by The Red Lion

### B. The Red Lion

A solid stop-off on your lakeside ramble! Swing by the Red Lion for hearty favourites and country pub classics, with a well-stocked bar including cask ales, fine wines and British gins. Prop your feet up in the beautiful gardens or by their crackling log fire.

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



Image by Earlswood Lakes Craft Centre

### C. Earlswood Lakes Craft Centre

Eclectic to say the least! Swing by for pottery painting, an exotic animal handling experience, a Bead & Button Bazaar, beauty and holistic treatments, woodturning, cabinet making, jewellery workshops, and more. Plus the Manor Tea Rooms!

[www.facebook.com/earlswoodlakescraftcentre/](https://www.facebook.com/earlswoodlakescraftcentre/)



Image by Damien Walmsley

### D. Clowes Wood

A piece of history as it was the first reserve owned by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust! Explore ancient woodland with a mix of trees, streams, meadows and a precious remnant of heathland.

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



Image by Keith Fackrell

### E. Earlswood Moathouse

A Warwickshire Wildlife Trust managed wood created on pasture land. Visit this reserve to explore oak woodland, see bluebells in spring, pick blackberries and spot fascinating fungi in autumn.

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



Image by Limes Country Lodge

### F. The Limes Country Lodge

Fancy a slap up meal after your endeavours? Look no further than the manicured gardens at Limes. Choose between restaurant dining in the Admirals Bistro or just relaxing in the large beer garden.

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

### Did you know?

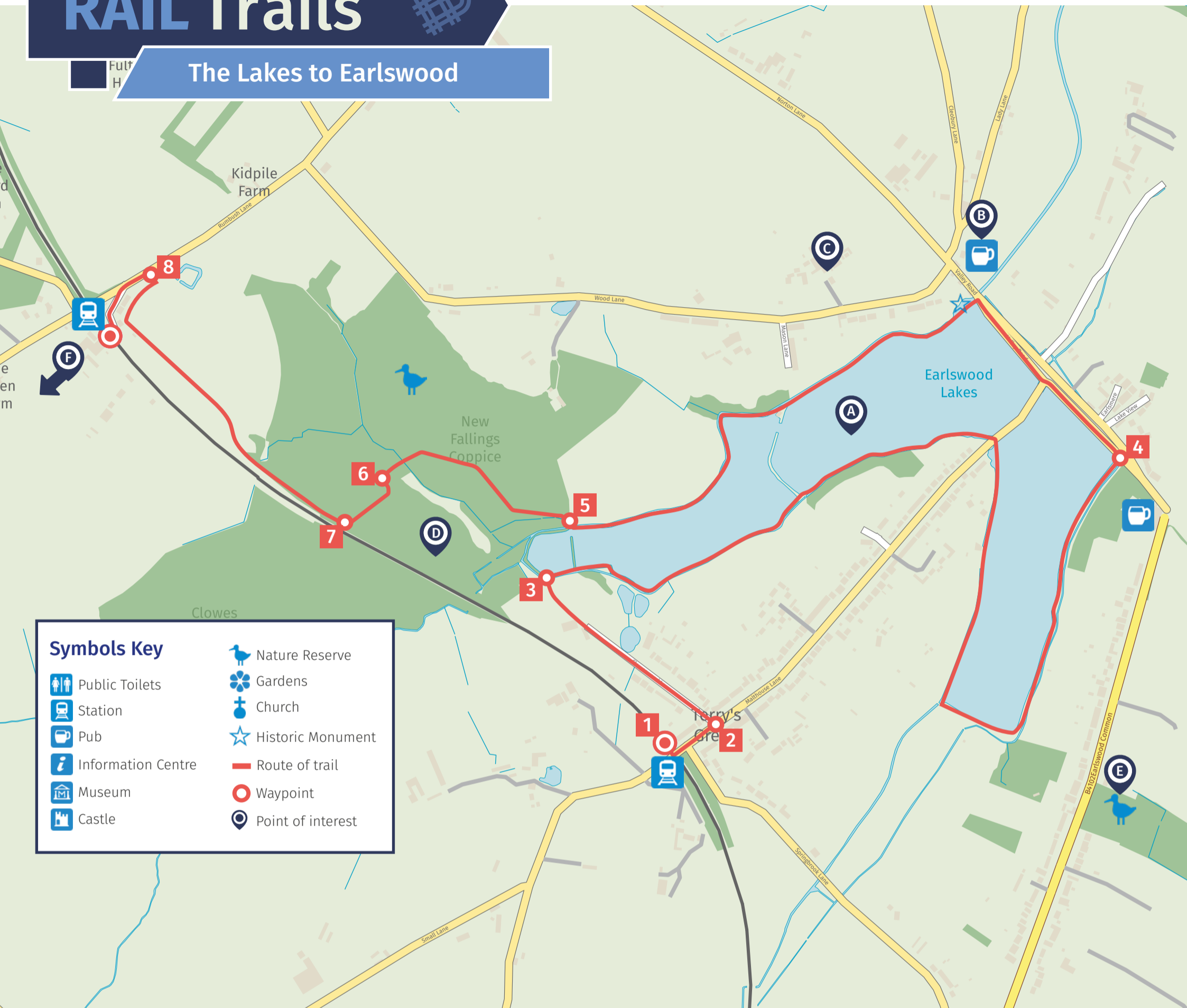


**Earlswood Lakes** were dug by Napoleonic prisoners of war in 19th century. Interestingly, many of the paths were laid by Italian POWs in WWII!

# RAIL Trails



## The Lakes to Earlswood



### Symbols Key

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

## Trail Directions

1. If arriving from Stratford, up path from platform 2 and turn left over bridge. If arriving from Birmingham, up path from platform 1 and turn left. Either way, ahead on left-hand pavement and turn left onto Cloweswood Lane (dead end sign).
2. At end of road, ahead on drive, passing pool on right and electricity substation on left. At end of drive, bear right through gate with "Danger – Men at Work" sign. Ahead on path between temporary metal fences. Turn right through metal kissing gate, cross footbridge and turn right with stream on your right.
3. Ahead to reach pool and continue with Terry's pool on your left. At junction of paths, continue ahead with Engine Pool now on your left crossing Malthouse Lane and continue around the edge of Windmill Pool until reaching Valley Road on it Northern Edge.
4. Turn left along the road, staying close to the Lakes on your left. Recross the causeway until the edge of the Lake and the path turn away to your left. Continue ahead on narrow path, ignoring junctions back along the other side of Terry's Pool. At end of Pool cross footbridge to your right to Warwickshire Wildlife Trust sign on right, and ahead on path through trees.
5. At first fork bear left and then cross two smaller junctions with side paths. At the next main path fork bear right to walk almost directly north west. Bear left on path where another path joins from your right and continue to follow this main path as it bends left and left again to reach path crossroads.
6. Continue ahead as path bends further left and then right at next path junction ahead towards the railway. Do not cross footbridge over railway, but turn right on narrow path with metal fence on left.
7. After fence ends, path emerges into field. Ahead along left-hand edge of field (do not take path to left which stays close to railway). At end of field, turn right with gardens on left. After last garden, turn left, then turn right parallel to road on left.
8. Turn left through gap by gate and turn left on narrow verge to Earlswood station. For trains towards Stratford, bear left on Station Drive to platform 1. For trains towards Birmingham, cross bridge then turn left down path to platform 2.

### Did you know?

**Earlswood Lakes** were created in the Imperial period to serve the Stratford-upon-Avon canal. The lakes have a water surface of 85 acres and capacity of 34 million cubic feet. Most of the water lay below canal level so in 1822 a steam engine was bought which pumped until 1936. The engine house is still visible.

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

