

his trail takes you on mainly tarmacked surfaces out of Hampton-in-Arden, across the River Blythe to the **Marsh Lane Nature Reserve** before returning to the village.

Mentioned in Domesday Book, Hampton is now a popular commuter village and also boasts Solihull's only Michelin-starred restaurant – **Peel's at Hampton Manor.** There are plenty of hints of its antiquity in the well preserved 17th century timbered houses of the village.

As you head out of the village you'll cross the packhorse bridge. Thought to date back to the 15th Century, this picturesque five bay bridge sits on the old route to Kenilworth. Alongside the river you'll have the opportunity to explore the pools and hides at the Marsh Lane Nature Reserve.

On your return to the village, reward yourself with a pint at the **White Lion** or replenish supplies at the **Corner Shop** or **Village Stores & Hampton Wines**.

Further Information:

Visit **www.visitsolihull.co.uk** for more information and **www.shakespeares-england.co.uk** for more on what else to do in the wider area.



Hampton-in-Arden is on the West Coast Main Line between Coventry and Birmingham. Trains depart every half-hour to Birmingham New Street and London Euston via Coventry respectively. Additionally, some peak period trains begin and terminate at Coventry or Northampton. Sunday services see a single hourly train between Birmingham New Street and Euston.

There are limited facilities available at this station.

Want More?

This is just one of a range of 36 selfguided 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





🔨 🕔 1.5 Hours 🛛 🐙 3.6 Miles 茾 Easy

Start/Finish: Hampton-in-Arden

An easy amble from the ancient village of Hamptonin-Arden across the river Blythe to Marsh Lane Nature Reserve and back.

www.heartcommunityrail.org.uk/railtrails



Places nearby...



A. Marsh Lane Nature Reserve

A former sand and gravel quarry site. Explore the three main pools together with woodland, grassland and ponds. For proper twitchers, the four hides give excellent views of all the pools and islands.

www.packingtonestate.co.uk



B. St. Mary & St. Bartholomew

This venerable church dates from about 1130 A.D, with it's door alone being 400 years old! In the south wall of the chapel is a tomb reputed to contain the heart of a Knight Templar who died on crusade with Richard the Lionheart.

www.hamptoninardenchurch.org.uk



Also recommended...

C. Hampton Corner Shop

Open six days a week offering an extensive delicatessen counter and homemade meals for the fridge and freezer, as well as fresh seasonal produce and general groceries. The Place for picnic supplies!

www.hamptoncornershop.com



D. The White Lion

This 17th-century village inn offers accommodation and fresh, home cooked, locally sourced food. Of course its also a cracking spot for a post-walk pint (real ales and lager available)!

www.thewhitelioninn.com

Did you know?

Hampton's station dates back to 1884. The track bed of the old Midland route remains and a footpath for hikers runs alongside the site of the original track.

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E. Hampton Manor

Enjoy wood-fired feasts amongst the Victorian greenhouses at Smokes, an immersive dining experience in the walled garden of Grace & Savour, and the Michelin Star tasting menu at Peel's in the manor house. There's even an artisan bakery!

www.hamptonmanor.com



F. Sandwiches @ No.6

Room for more? Then don't neglect this lovely little sandwich shop and cafe serving cakes, bread, sandwiches and savouries. All to eat in or take away.

www.facebook.com/sandwichesatnumbersix



round the lake you can go in either direction.

6. At the junction with the main road by the corner shop turn right and walk back down to the station taking time to look at the some interesting old cottages and passing the war memorial on your left.

Did you know?

Hampton's **packhorse bridge** is believed to be the only surviving example in the Midlands. These bridges were used by packhorses loaded up with sidebags or pannier baskets. The low parapets were so they did not touch the horse's

Want an online map? Scan the QR code or visit explore.osmaps.com



Ready for another Trail?

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

