



# RAIL Trails



## Widney Manor to Dorridge Walk

Image by Joe Bunting

This trail takes you through areas of Solihull's suburbia and countryside, crossing the M42. Along this trail you'll also cross the **River Blythe**, one of the richest rivers in lowland England and a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Just a short diversion from the trail you can take in the beautiful setting of **Widney Manor Cemetery** where you'll see many contemporary, ornate memorials, many in the traditional Catholic style.

The wealthy, rural village of Dorridge is surrounded by Warwickshire countryside just a short walk from the town centre. It offers designer boutiques, canal-side gastro pubs and plenty of country walks. Footpaths run from Dorridge to the **Blythe Valley nature reserve** and through to Solihull town centre's **Brueton Park** alongside the River Blythe. If setting off from Widney Manor the Fieldhouse is nearby for pre-walk refreshments otherwise you'll pass the Drum and Monkey and Dark Horse Espresso on route. Alternatively reward yourself once you reach Dorridge with a coffee at **Espresso**, a tipple at **Skogen** or a feat at **The Butchers Social**.

### Further Information:



Visit [www.visitsolihull.co.uk](http://www.visitsolihull.co.uk) for local information or [www.shakespeares-england.co.uk](http://www.shakespeares-england.co.uk) for more on what to see and do in the wider area.



Image by Colour Rail

# RAIL Trails



Discover The Heart of England by Rail

**Widney Manor** Station is served by trains on both the Leamington and Stratford lines into Birmingham. Three trains per hour travel in each direction between Birmingham Snow Hill and Widney Manor (hourly on Sundays) to stations including Stratford-Upon-Avon, Stourbridge Junction, and Leamington Spa for connections to London.

There are limited facilities at this station.

### 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)



# Widney Manor

Image by Damian Walmsley

1.5 Hours 2.75 Miles Easy

Start: **Widney Manor** Finish: **Dorridge**

An easy walk through Solihull's suburbia and countryside between two stations, crossing the M42 and the river Blythe.

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





## Trail Highlights...



Image by The Fieldhouse

### A. The Fieldhouse

Just over half a mile from Widney Manor Station, this local pub is a great spot for good quality pub food before you kick off. Vegetarian, vegan and special Sunday menus available.

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



Image by Ryan 'O' Niel

### B. Dark Horse Espresso

Great coffee direct from elite roasters, dedicated and skilled baristas and brewed to exacting standards. Its proper hand-crafted coffee and handily smack bang on the trail!

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



Image by The Drum and Monkey

### C. Drum and Monkey

Serving since 1860 and surrounded by the Warwickshire countryside, the Drum & Monkey is rightfully popular with walkers. The expansive garden is great place to kick back with a cheeky pint!

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



Image by The Butchers Social

### D. The Butchers Social

An old coach house transformed into a modern restaurant, bar and boutique rooms - a place of comfort and opulence with a warm atmosphere. If you are looking for post-trail reward, look no further!

[www.thebutchers.social](http://www.thebutchers.social)

### Did you know?



Botanically, the **Blythe** is one of the richest rivers in England, with sections containing as many species as the very richest chalk streams.

## Also recommended...



Image by Andy Zosso

### E. River Blythe

A rare example of a lowland river on clay, with incredibly rich and diverse flora and an incredibly important community of invertebrates. Despite the proximity of the M42 its a lovely spot to linger.

[www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River\\_Blythe](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_Blythe)



Image by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust

### F. Malvern & Brueton Park

A Green Flag park and local nature reserve. Explore mature woodland, ornamental gardens and lake, the Parkridge local nature reserve, sensory garden and the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Visitor Centre.

[www.solihull.gov.uk/Parks-and-open-spaces/](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/Parks-and-open-spaces/)



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## Widney Manor to Dorridge Walk

### Symbols Key

- Public Toilets
- Station
- Pub
- Information Centre
- Museum
- Castle

- Nature Reserve
- Gardens
- Church
- Historic Monument
- Route of trail
- Waypoint
- Point of interest

### Trail Directions

1. Exit Widney Manor station to road. Turn right and go down to the crossroads, where you go straight across into Lovelace Avenue. Turn right before houses onto footpath to go ahead ignoring footpaths right and left to cross M42 Motorway bridge.
2. After crossing Motorway, continue ahead on footpath with hedge on left across two fields and then ahead through small field with trees on right to reach Smiths Lane.
3. When you reach Smiths Lane, turn left and then after a few yards take the footpath on the right hand side of the road. Follow the footpath until you reach Brown's Lane where you turn Right. After 300 metres, turn left onto Widney Road and follow that for 400 metres until you turn right onto Slater Road.
4. Follow Slater Road until you meet the t-junction with Mill Lane, turn Left and walk for about 5 minutes until you reach the turning on the right for Poplar Road.
5. Follow Poplar Road all the way to the end before turning right onto Station Road. Cross the road at the zebra crossing and then turn left onto Station Approach, where the station is around 20 metres up on the right hand side.

### Did you know?

The first section of the **M42** opened in November 1976 linking Birmingham Airport with the M6 motorway. It was completed in December 1989 with the opening of the link from the M5. Along with sections of the M5 and M6, the southern sections of the M42 form the Birmingham Outer Ring Road.

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)

