

2. A GLORIOUS CLIMB UP AN ICONIC LANDMARK

AT A GLANCE

WHERE: The Wrekin,
near Telford,
Shropshire

DISTANCE: 4.5 miles

DIFFICULTY: Moderate

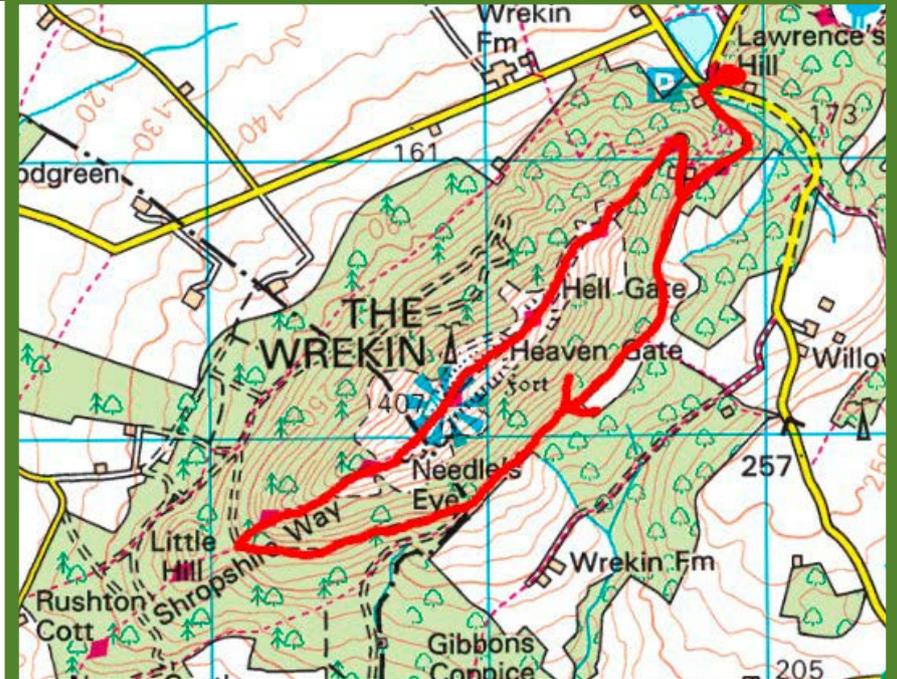
START: Car park
on minor road
between Junction
7 of the M54 and Little
Wenlock

GRID REF: SJ638092

POST CODE: TF6 5AL

MAP: OS Explorer 242
Telford, Ironbridge
& The Wrekin

1. After parking, cross the road and take the footpath that leads south-east in front of the derelict toilet block. Climbing gently, the path turns south-west to reach a junction. Bear left here and take the clear path that undulates across the south-eastern flank of The Wrekin, passing through delightful mixed woodland.



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2. Reaching a major junction, keep straight ahead, ignoring the tempting path rising to the right. A short way further on you reach another junction. Bear right here to continue through woodland. You're now reaching a section of the wood that has many paths, and care is needed.

3. Reaching an indistinct junction, stay with the main path, bearing right past a footpath sign. In about 400m this leads to a broader track where you turn right. >

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After a short distance look out for a narrow path going right and climbing between trees. Despite being the Shropshire Way, this path is hard to spot.

4. Climb steeply on the narrow path to the summit of Little Hill. Trees restrict the view and it's better to descend to the col and a crossing path. Go straight over here and continue the climb. It's again very steep at first but as the trees thin, the gradient eases and quite soon you're able to enjoy the views over the surrounding Shropshire countryside.

5. Ahead you'll see the trig point and a brass topograph. Joining the main track, continue north-east along the main ridge past the radio mast. Some way beyond, the track doubles back on itself to reach a gate. Go through the gate passing the small

café on your left and descend to a path junction. Turn left and within a few minutes you'll be back at the start.

This walk is courtesy of www.walkingbritain.co.uk

POINTS OF INTEREST

● *The Wrekin isn't a volcano, as many believe, but is made from half-a-billion-year-old rock. There's an Iron Age hill fort at the top.*

● *A local legend says The Wrekin was formed by a giant who wanted to flood Shrewsbury by dumping a spadeful of earth into the River Severn. He asked directions to the town from a cobbler, who had a sack of shoes for repair. The cobbler lied, telling him it was a long way, and that he'd worn out all these shoes just walking from the town. The giant gave up and instead dropped the earth at the spot we now call The Wrekin. †*