

1. PLEASANT RIDGE & SUMMER MEADOWS IN HEREFORDSHIRE

AT A GLANCE

Where: Much Marcle,
Herefordshire

Distance: 7 miles

Difficulty: Easy/
moderate

Start: Much Marcle
village centre

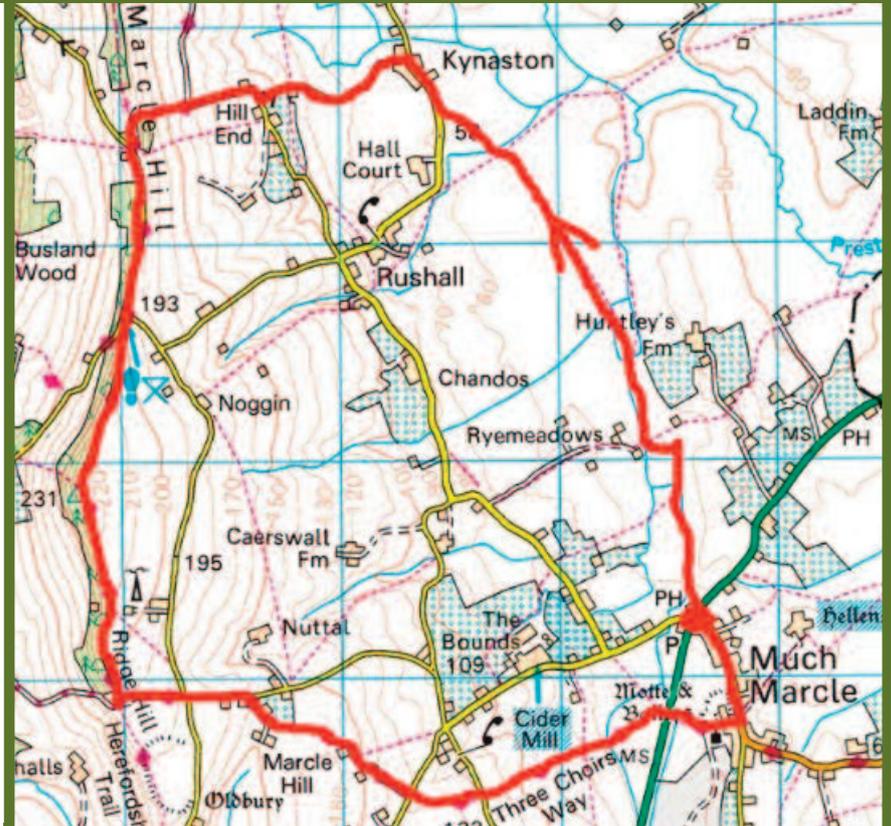
Grid Ref: SO656333

Post Code: HR8 2LX

Map: OS Explorer

189 Hereford &

Ross-on-Wye



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1. Go down the right-hand side of the village garage (housed in a former WW1 hangar), through the yard and through the gate to Hereford Model Club. Turn right and follow the hedgerow on your right passing the model club's HQ.

2. Cross the bridge at the end of this field and in the next look for a stile on your right towards the end of the field. Cross the stile then a small footbridge and a

further stile into the field. Turn left and shortly a footbridge with stiles will be found on your left.

3. Cross these and continue straight ahead with the hedge on your left into the corner of the field. Now turn right, still following the hedge on your left. Towards the end of the field a footbridge with stiles is on your left. Cross these, turn right and head for the right-hand corner of the field. >

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4. Look for a small plank bridge with a stile leading into the next field. Turn right, making for the stiles and footbridge ahead. Then follow the hedge on your left looking for a footbridge with stiles on your left.

5. Cross this then turn half-right to go across the open field to stiles and sagging footbridge. Cross this and follow the hedge on your left. Continue along the same line in the next field, then cross the stile in the fence into the left-hand field.

6. Go across the field to a footbridge and follow the same line through the next two fields to the lane, exiting via the gate. Turn right along the lane until another lane joins from the left. Turn left up this lane passing Wall House. Then at the T-junction turn right.

7. At Little Hall the track bears sharp left and then starts the increasingly steep climb up to

Marcle Hill. Follow the track uphill to the T-junction with the bridleway, turn left and descend slightly to reach the lane at Hooper's Oak. Go forward along the road for almost a kilometre to the fork in the road (where a picnic site is situated down the right-hand track).

8. Just along the left-hand fork, steps lead up to a stile, passing behind the picnic site. Follow the fence/hedgerow on your right along Marcle Ridge and part of the Herefordshire Trail. Walk on along the ridge past the TV mast until you drop down to cross a stile out on to a track.

9. Turn left along the track until you reach the junction with the lane. Continue straight ahead down the lane. After the house Upper Nuttall, turn right down the track until you come to the gate to Little Puckmore, where you cross the stile via the path to the left of the gatepost. >

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10. Follow the hedgerow on your left around two sides of the field to a stile in the far corner. Cross this and follow the hedge on your right to find a stile on your right, which leads out on to the track. Follow this down to the lane, ignoring the footpath which goes off to the left. At the lane go straight across to the gate opposite, then continue across the field at 10 o'clock aiming for an obvious stile by the large trees ahead.

11. Cross the stile out into the lane, go through the gateway opposite and follow the hedge on your right. When you enter the next field continue on the same line to a footbridge.

12. Again, continue in the same direction to reach a stile on the side of the A449. Cross this with care and go through the small gate and over the footbridge opposite. Walk through the meadow – which is ablaze with

buttercup in early summer – up to the gate leading into Much Marcle churchyard.

13. Continue on through the churchyard to join the B4024, turn left and walk through Much Marcle to the centre.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- **North-west of Kynaston is a feature known as The Wonder. This is the sight of a huge 16th-century landslip that took place over three days and brought down trees, cattle and buildings, including Old Kinnaston Chapel. A chasm that's more than 10m deep and 100m long can still be seen to this day.**

- **If the weather's not playing ball or you fancy a quirky snack spot, try the churchyard in Much Marcle. There you'll find an ancient yew with a hollow trunk, into which someone's added a small bench. 🌿**

- Walk courtesy of www.walkingbritain.co.uk