Walk 5.

Upper Sapey Circular 4.5 miles

Length: 4.5 miles Ascent: 104 metres Time: 2.5 hours

Terrain: Fields and tracks, moderate.

Stout walking boots essential

This walk is best done in conjunction with Explorer Map 203 Ludlow

This 4.5-mile walk takes you through varying countryside passing the village of Upper Sapey, St Michael's Church, then returning past Burton Court Farm.

(1) From The Baiting House turn left and walk on the B4203 for 200 metres. [Beware of the traffic.] Turn left on a minor road, signposted Upper Sapey Church. Continue for 400m, then turn left at a fingerpost, passing Church House on the left heading to the church.

The church of St Michael's dates back to pre-Norman times. It has a 13th century font and the pulpit, lectern and clergy's desk are very old.

With the church on your left go over a stile in the right-hand corner. Continue in the same direction past a telegraph pole in the distance and over a stile in the hedge on the left. Keep the hedge on your right and at the end of the hedge cross the field in the same direction towards a stile. Continue ahead going slightly left uphill to a stile at the top of the hill. Go over the stile and continue in the same direction across a field for 225metres, through a metal gate, then immediately right through a second metal gate. With the hedge on your left go through a small metal gate on your left and continue with the hedge on your left to the end of the field to go over a stile then immediately over another stile on your right. Keeping the hedge on your left by a golf course continue ahead going around a boggy area and near a fallen tree and over a stile on your left onto the golf course. Turn right keeping the hedge on your right to a stile on your right. Go over the stile and turn left keeping the hedge on your left. When you reach the first house go over a stile on your left and turn right on a track to a road.

(2) Turn left and continue for 500m to a crossroad with B4203, then continue straight across. Walk down Holly Bush Lane for another 500m, turning left just before the Exhaust, Tyre and Battery sign. Keeping to the left-hand side with the buildings on your right go over a stile. Turn right keeping the hedge on your right. Cross two fields going through two metal gates. From here you will be able to see Burton Court on your left. Go diagonally left heading downhill passing a double telegraph pole towards Sapey Brook. Go over the bridge and through a metal gate heading uphill with ponds on your left. Keeping the hedge on your right head uphill towards Burton Court.

The round building on your right is an old dovecote.

(3) Go through a gate to meet a track, turn right and follow the track around keeping the farm buildings on your right. At the end of the farm buildings turn left through a metal gate heading north, passing two big trees on your left to cross a very big field heading slightly uphill. After the trees you will see the remains of an old field boundary on your left. Here you will need to bear slightly left looking for a metal gate in the distance and go through it. Keep the hedge on your left continue ahead going over 3 stiles to meet the driveway to Tippins Farm. Turn right here to meet the road. Turn left to return to The Baiting House [beware of traffic] for a well-earned drink.

The Baiting House Walk 5 Upper Sapey Circular 4.5 miles 104 metres ascent