

Welcome to our Worcestershire Woods & Wildlife Walk, which covers almost eight miles of beautiful Worcestershire countryside on the edge of the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Below you will find directions and a map to accompany the audio trail, narrated by Worcestershire naturalist, author and radio presenter Brett Westwood. After each set of directions below, press play on your download and discover more about each stop.

We hope you enjoy your walk!

START at the Knapp and Papermill nature reserve entrance SO 75070 52157, WR6 5HR) walk up the path, past the small pond on your left and the information centre on your right. Go through the garden gate beyond the house and down a steep track to the orchard. **STOP 1**

When you're ready, follow the path with the Leigh Brook on your left, past the 200 year old weir at the end of the orchard. Go through the gate and along the edge of the field about 150m to another gate leading into Big Meadow. Just on your left, through the other gate is the old, stone Pivany Bridge. **STOP 2**

Continue along the main track along the bottom of Big Meadow and through another gate on the far side. You will now pass through a small, often muddy, coppice with the brook continuing to meander to your left. The path eventually leads upwards, through another gate into Papermill Meadow. (From here you may be able to see a little bridge, steeply below to the left). Cross the field, which slopes upwards away to your right, and walk about 100m to the old Papermill Cottage. To your right, the field is backed by woodland with a steep bank where bluebells can be seen in spring. **STOP 3**

Continue along the path through the field, with the wood up on your right, towards a gate and a break in the woods. This leads down a steep slope and on to a clearing beside the Leigh Brook (keep a lookout for animal prints in the mud). Another wooden gate marks the end of the reserve. Carry on through this and about a quarter a mile further on you will arrive at a metal gate. There is a woodland slope behind you. About 50m before the gate look up to your right where you may be able to spot a treehouse up in the oak trees. **STOP 4**

Now walk through the metal gate and across the lower side of the field, which rises on your right to a small row of houses, to a stile leading into a small wood. The path turns immediately right up a short, steep bank to a remarkable, large, pollarded lime tree. **STOP 5**

Now leave the wood and follow the edge of the field round towards some houses with conifer hedging, down a few steps and onto the road. Turn left, go down the road and over the Mousehole Bridge towards a large field on your left, with the entrance just after the track. Keep to the right of an old willow and pond in the middle of the field. Go through two metal gates on the far side to a large, modern barn, near Lower Tundridge Farm. **STOP 6**

Follow the path between the stable block and Tundridge Farm until you reach the road. Turn left, then right up a single track road over the brook and up the hill past the old houses. The oast houses indicate that hops were once grown in the vicinity. On the way up the steep slope you will pass a pair of white and red poles designating the Roadside Nature Reserve (RVNR). **STOP 7**

You are between two wooded ridges with a sheep field on your left and Blackhouse Wood on your right. Continue to follow the road steeply up, along the coppiced limes to your left, then turn onto a wide track to enter the wood (there is a 'Welcome to Blackhouse Wood' sign here). Follow the path up to a T-junction and turn left. **STOP 8**

Carry on up the hill until you reach the first junction of tracks at a forestry turning circle halfway along the ridge. **STOP 9**

Continue walking along the ridge to the next intersection, where a wide track leads off to your right. (If you're visiting in summer, look out for the bank of common spotted orchids on your right as you walk). **STOP 10**

Carry on straight ahead, along the ridge and into Crews Hill Wood. Keep going, straight over at a crossroads of paths, until you come into a large quarry in a hollow, with tree roots showing on the ridge above you to your left. **STOP 11**

Follow the path until you reach the road. Take care crossing the road but before you cross, you might like to admire the view to the right and spreading out below you. Once over the road, head straight on, up the track towards Quarry Cottage. Just before the cottage take the grassy path down through the woods, keep to your right and walk down an old holloway. Stop when you can see the remains of a brick building in a field on your left. **STOP 12**

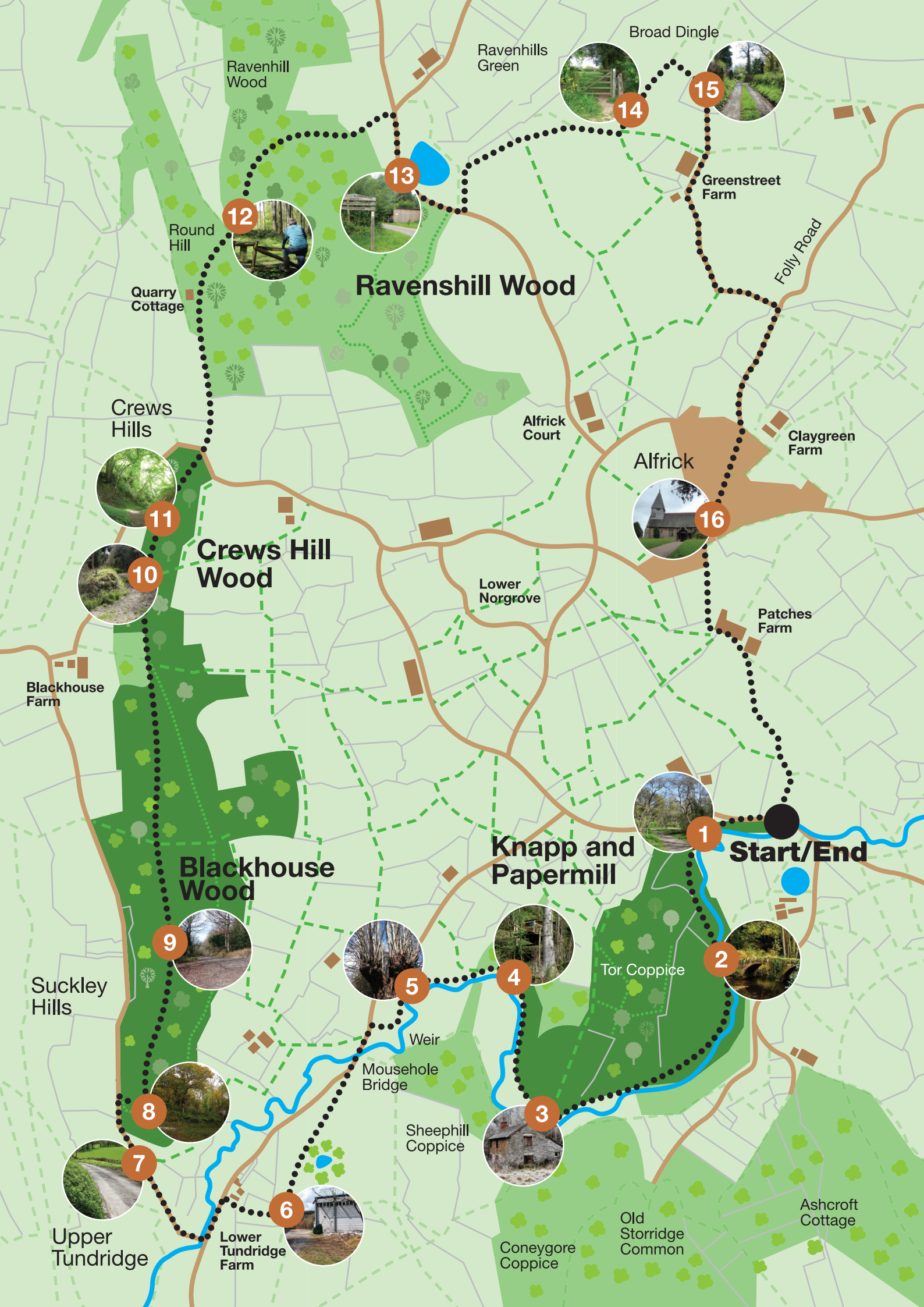
Follow the path down through the woods onto the road. Turn right past the cottage and right again into Ravenshill Visitor Centre and car park. **STOP 13**

When you're ready, turn right out of the wood and walk down the lane, keeping Lulsley Lagoon on your left. Just past the end of the pool on the left is a public footpath and bridleway sign where a gate opens into a field. Take the public footpath across this field and on towards two oak trees in the middle. At the far side you will reach a gate where two hedges meet. **STOP 14**

Go through the gate and, after a short distance, turn right through another small field. When you reach a cattle grid, turn right onto the track (Green Street). **STOP 15**

Carry on along Green Street then turn right onto Folly Road and into Alfrick village. Go over the crossroads to St Mary Magdalene church. **STOP 16**

Leave the churchyard and turn right along the road. As the road bends to the right, you'll see a no through road to your left – follow this past a farm then go down between the trees into a holloway, which will lead you back to the road where you started. Turn left here on this road and you will be back at your car. **END**



Broad Dingle

Ravenhills Green

Ravenhill Wood

15

14

Greenstreet Farm

13

12

Round Hill

Ravenshill Wood

Quarry Cottage

Folly Road

Crews Hills

Alfrick Court

Alfrick

Claygreen Farm

11

Crews Hill Wood

16

10

Lower Norgrove

Patches Farm

Blackhouse Farm

Knapp and Papermill

Start/End

Blackhouse Wood

1

9

Tor Coppice

2

Suckley Hills

5

4

Tor Coppice

Weir

Mousehole Bridge

3

6

Sheephill Coppice

Old Storridge Common

Ashcroft Cottage

Coneygore Coppice

Lower Tundridge Farm

Upper Tundridge