

Before crossing the bridge turn right following the path through the Nature Reserve and on through the Abbey Fields and allotments emerging on School Road. Turn right along Henley Street to complete your six mile walk at Alcester's ancient Town Hall. Leaving the Town Hall walk down Henley Street to cross the River Arrow over Gunning's Bridge. By the Sports Hall turn left to follow the path between Greig Hall & the Sports Hall to reach playing fields. Follow the river for half a mile to an old railway bridge, now just a foot bridge.

Cross the bridge & continue straight on towards Birmingham Road. Turn right passing the Roebuck to the traffic island. Follow the A435 northwards with Beauchamp Court on your right

Immediately before the first house after Beauchamp Court turn right along a waymarked footpath between two hedges & through a kissing gate into a ridge & furrowed grass field. Bear left across this field, under overhead wires to a kissing gate in a hedge near a large oak tree. Go through the gate, over the ditch & turn left along the field edge with the hedge on your left. Follow the waymark through a field of parked caravans to cross a driveway.

Continue northwards keeping the hedge to your left to the corner of a field. Turn right & with the hedge still on your left proceed for about 100metres to a kissing gate on your left. Go through & walk on with the hedge on your left, through a field gate ahead.

This is an excellent spot to see herons in the fields & sometimes buzzards circling overhead.

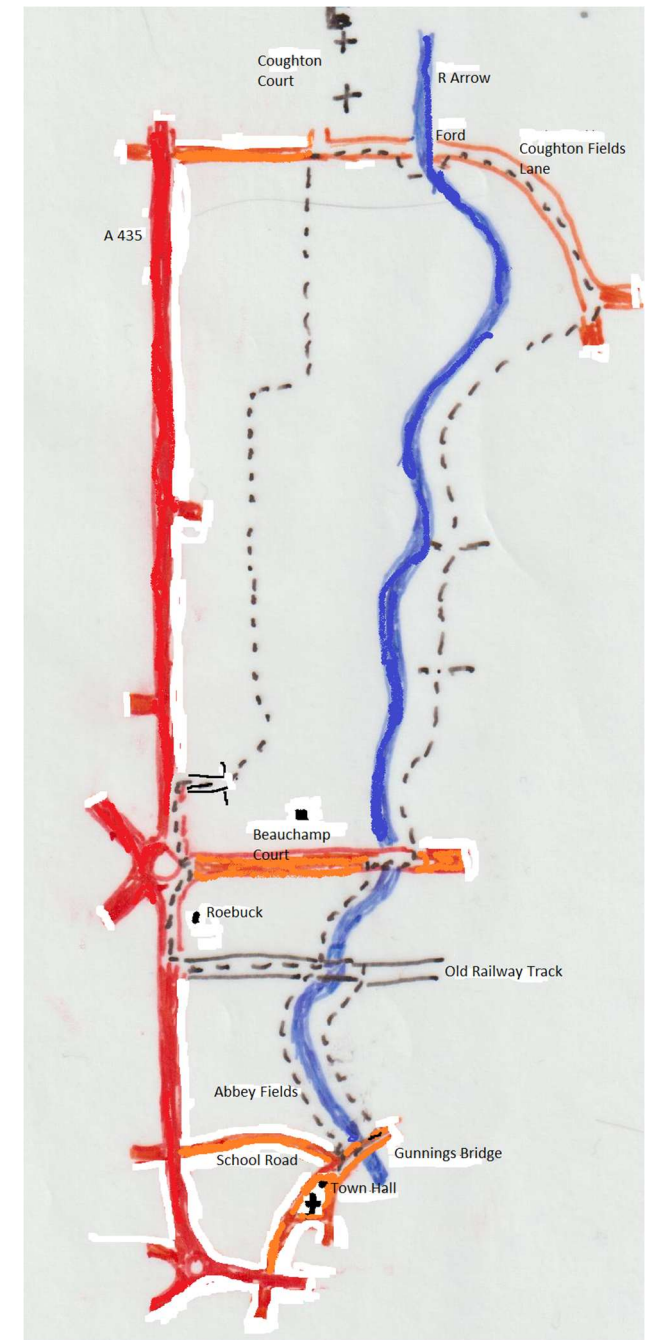
Through the gate continue through another field leaving through a kissing gate onto a lane.

Coughton Court with its two churches lies in front of you. Home to the Throckmorton family who were involved in the infamous Gunpowder Plot, the property & grounds are now owned by the National Trust & are well worth a visit.

Turn right along the quiet lane to a ford. Cross using the footbridge and continue along the lane past Mill Ford Farm & the cottage beyond. When the lane turns sharp left, turn right into Church Farm Drive. Immediately go through a kissing gate on your right & proceed across the field to another kissing gate. Go through & turn right towards the river. Follow the riverside path passing a factory estate on the other side of the river.

The fields on your left have been planted with native deciduous trees as part of the Heart of England Forest

Keep following the riverside path passing through two hedges & over a small concrete foot bridge. The path eventually goes between the river & office buildings to emerge onto a road. Cross with care then turn right over the river bridge. Turn left down steps (signed Westbury Park) & follow the riverside path back to the old Railway footbridge. Before crossing the bridge turn right following the path through the Nature Reserve and on through the Abbey Fields and allotments emerging on School Road. Turn right along Henley Street to complete your six mile walk at Alcester's ancient Town Hall.



ALCESTER CIVIC SOCIETY

Local Walks

No. 3

Coughton



Length 4.5 miles

Time 2.5 hours

Civic society publications

Local walks leaflets

1. Oversley Hill – 4.5miles
2. Alcock's Arbour- 5 miles
3. Coughton - 4.5 miles
4. Alcester Heath - 6 miles
- 5.
6. Broom - 6 miles

Wherever you go

Follow the Country Code

- Respect the life of the countryside
- Guard against all risk of fire
- Leave gates as you find them
- Keep your dogs under close control
- Keep to public paths across farmland
- Use gates & stiles to cross fences, hedges & walls
- Leave livestock, crops & machinery alone
- Take your litter home
- Help to keep all water clean
- Protect wildlife, plants & trees
- Take special care on country roads
- Make no unnecessary noise

For further details see:

OS EXPLORER MAPS 1:25000 scale

205 STRATFORD & EVESHAM

220 BIRMINGHAM