

Walks based on Cotheridge Church

Path Blue

Designated 529, 528, 506, 502 or option b 507, 516 or option c 507, 509, 508, 519

A circular walk with 3 possible variations all involving footpaths over mainly pasture-land and some arable. The soil type is clay and so stout footwear is advised especially if the weather has been wet.

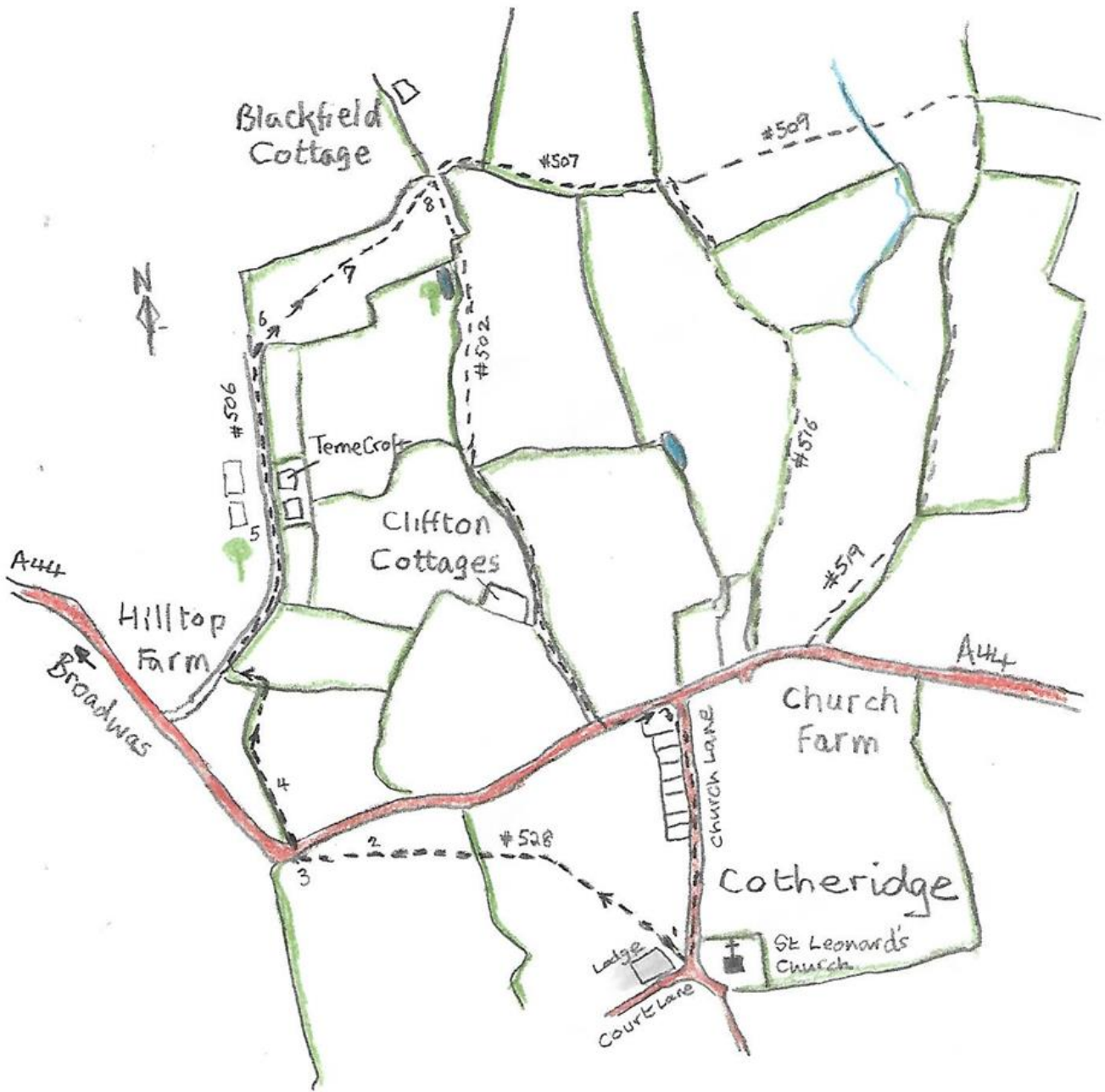
Start: St Leonard's Church, Cotheridge

Parking: Verge beside the church. Please avoid the verges opposite.

Time required: 1 hour to 1 ½ hours

1. Opposite the Church is the Lodge and the path starts to the right of it as indicated by the finger board. Go diagonally across the arable field under the power lines. There is a stile in the hedge accessed by walking the plank (a narrow wooden bridge over a ditch)!
2. In the next field, cross to the gate in the corner near the sharp bend in the A44. This would have been the start of the approach to the rear entrance of Cotheridge Court.
3. There is a stile and gate leading to the lay-by on the A44. Cross the road with care as this is a delimited stretch of trunk road.
4. As you reach the other side of the A44, there is a wooden bridge over the ditch which may be overgrown. The stile gives access to the west edge of the field. Hilltop House and Barn with tennis courts are on your left. After a short walk there is a stile into the next field and an immediate left turn, over another stile and turn right onto a tarmac-ed farm road to Six Fields Farm.
5. The farm road passes a copse and farm buildings on the left and the farmer's accommodation, and Temecroft Dog Boarding kennels on the right 3 sets of gates/stiles).
6. As you leave the farm area heading north, the track diverts slightly to the right at an oak tree. Follow yellow way arrows at a stile/gate into a field.
7. The path rises diagonally up the field to the north-east to a stile/gate.
8. **Option a.** Do not go over the style but turn south and track down the sides of field, field edge on your left to another gate/stile (rickety). In the next field the hedge is on your right and a pond can be seen in the midst of the copse. If it is a clear day you may catch site of the Malvern Hills ahead. Continue onward and Clifton Cottages will appear over the hedge on your right. After several gates the track joins a corralling area and after 2 more gates finally joins the drive from Clifton Cottages back to the A44. When safe to cross the road on to a wider verge and turn left to walk back to the top of Church Lane and so back to the Church. (3km)
8. **Option b.** Go over the stile (you might catch site of a disused cottage in the field as you clear the stile. Track eastward alongside the hedge. Through the next kissing gate stile and along to an exciting two stile tunnel of over arching branches. Emerging into another field. At this point you can turn right and track south to the A44 to arrive almost opposite Church Lane or **Option c** which is to carry on eastward to the next stile complex and at this point turn right and track southward to the A44 and turn right toward Church Lane and back to the Church.

Please note this is correct at time of writing September 2018



Please follow the country code

Be mindful of other livestock

Leave only your footprints