

Black and White Villages by bus



**A scenic bus ride
and a delightful
walk in
Herefordshire**

Black and White Villages by bus



Royal George Inn, Lyonshall



Ye Olde Steppes, Pembridge



**Herefordshire
Council**

Full timetable information is available at
www.herefordbus.info or by phoning traveline on
0871 200 22 33 or txt 84268.

This leaflet has been produced with assistance
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'Tourism on Board' project.

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www.simonholtmarketing.com

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Travel information

Travel from Hereford to Kington

Buses leave Hereford Station Approach (then the Country Bus Station and Maylord Orchards shopping centre stops) on Mondays to Saturdays. There's no Sunday bus - only bus 71 as far as Credenhill from the City bus station).

Travel to Almeley:

Bus 462 1000.

Travel to Kington: Buses 461/462 0900 and every hour until 1800, 1915.

Returning from Eardisley

(Tram Square outside Post Office): Bus 462 1300.

(Almeley Road): Bus 446 1335, 1710.

Returning from Kington:

(Mill Street Car Park):

Bus 461/462/463 1150 and hourly until 1550, 1700, 1800, 1950, (2205 Sats only).

Travel from Kington (Mill St Car Park) to Leominster (Bus Station) via Pembridge and Eardisland:

Bus 495 Mondays to Fridays: 1010, 1210, 1410, 1905. Saturdays: 1015, 1450, 1905.

Circular Scenic Bus 464 from Kington

(Mill St Car Park) Tuesdays only at 1030 or 1355.



Lyonshall Church

The Black and White Villages

On the road to the high border ridges of Wales there's a gentler countryside crowned with wooded hills leading down to farmsteads, orchards and grazing pastures. This rich Herefordshire landscape is appealing to the eye and by far the best way to take in the views is on the country bus to Kington. You can see so much more from the bus; over hedgerows and fields to the hills beyond. There's time to sit back, relax and watch the world go by.



The New Inn, Pembridge

But in this county of villages you will find some of the finest the Black and White settlements in the land; half-timbered cottages, houses and farmsteads some of which date back 600 years or more. The bus passes through several villages of distinctive character - Mansel Lacy, Weobley and Lyonshall or Almeley and Eardisley - on its journey to Kington. You can travel back via two other historic villages, Pembridge and Eardisland, to the market town of Leominster where you change again for Hereford. Alternatively, there's a short walk between Almeley and Eardisley for those who like to seek out the heritage and wildlife of an area at a pace to suit.

Catch the bus to Kington and enjoy some of the loveliest parts of Herefordshire. It is good for you and for the environment. See bus route map overleaf.



The Ride to Weobley

The bus leaves Hereford through Whitecross and the King's Acre Road to the village of Credenhill (Credenhill Tree stop). Alight here for circular walks through Credenhill Park Wood owned by the Woodland Trust. The bus then makes its way through orchards and by farms to the turn off for Mansel Lacy, a hamlet with a fine church and old timber framed court farm. Travelling on to Weobley look to the left as there are superb views to the Merbach Range, a ridge between the Wye and Golden Valleys and the brooding mass of the Black Mountains beyond.



Weobley

Weobley is one of the county's loveliest villages with half timbered dwellings throughout. Some almost lean over the roadside whilst others are tucked neatly between town houses dating from later times. The earthworks of Weobley castle are accessible and the parish church with its tall spire is a landmark for miles around. There are public houses, cafes and a small number of shops in the village.



Bell Tower, Pembridge



461 bus at Weobley

Weobley to Kington

On leaving Weobley the bus runs above the pastures of the Newbridge brook. The area is known for its organic dairy products. Look out on the right for the lovely little church of Sarnsfield dating from the 12th century. Now, the bus turns right for Woonton. In this village the number 462 bus turns left for Almeley and Eardisley. Almeley church dates back mainly to the 14th century and castle mound adjacent is from earlier times. There are several ancient homesteads such as the Manor House standing in this medieval corner. Eardisley is known for its ancient oak and fine half timbered dwellings such as the Cruck House. Visit the Norman church with a font dating from 1150 and beyond is the community orchard and castle mounds.

The number 461 bus continues ahead at Woonton over Holme Marsh to Lyonshall and Kington. At the bottom of Lyonshall village is the Royal George pub, evidently the sole survivor of eight hostleries that existed hereabouts. At the top of the village is the church and castle mound, another reminder that times have not always been so tranquil in these parts. In between is the old station by a road abutment on the old Eardisley to Kington railway line.

The small market town of Kington, situated on Offa's Dyke, has welcomed visitors throughout the ages. It has many traditional shops which sell local foods and produce as well as several cafes and inns. There is also a local museum by the Market Hall. Hergest Croft Gardens is a twenty minute walk from town. Tuesday is market day and there's a super scenic circular market day ride on bus number 464 to Gladestry and Huntingdon.



The Old Market Hall, Kington



The Eardisley Walk

3 miles (5 km) - allow 2 hours.

Easy field walking but be careful in Holywell Dingle as surfaces may be slippery after wet weather.

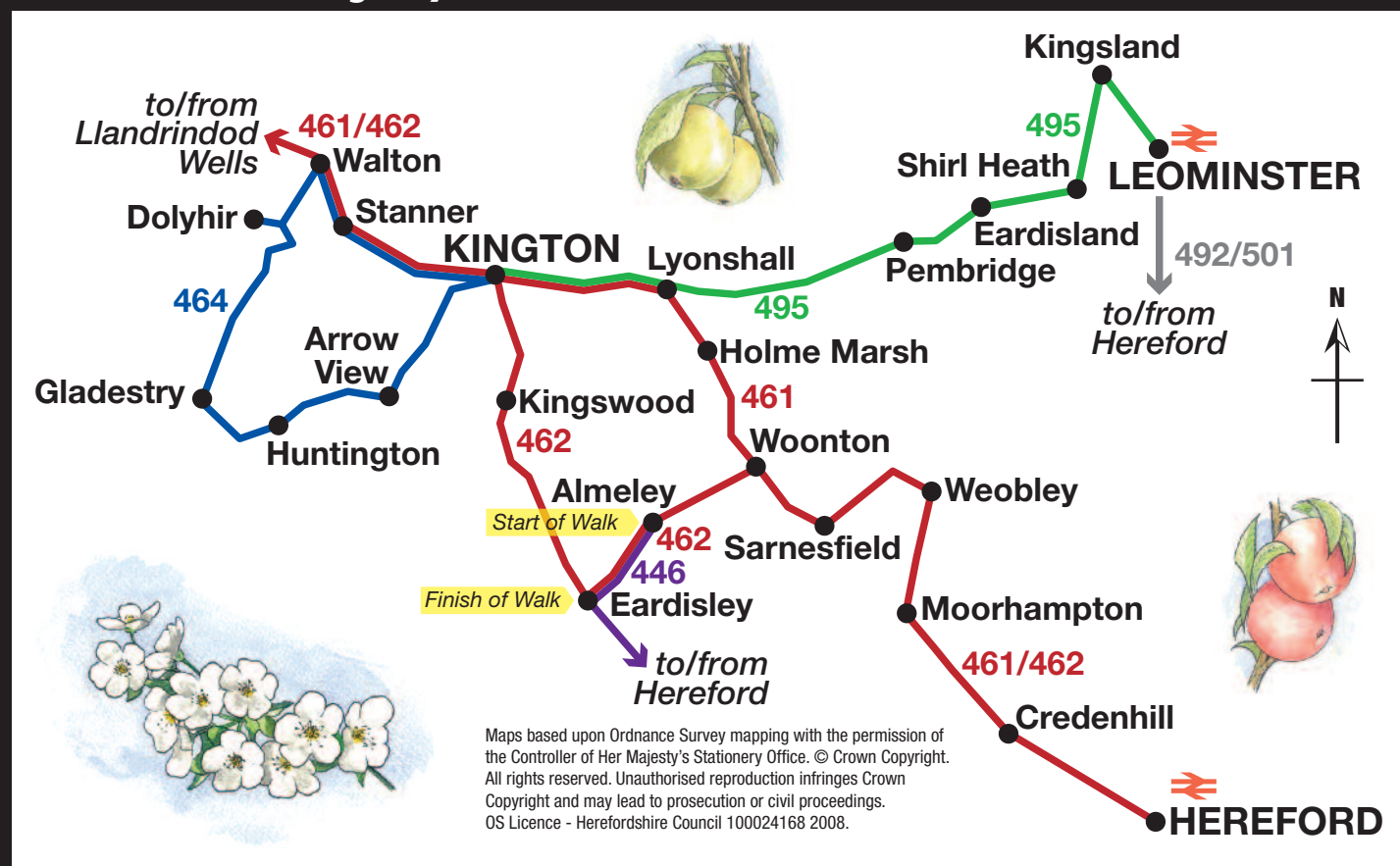
OS Map: Explorer 201 Knighton & Presteigne.

In Almeley, refreshment can be found at The Bells public house. The historic core by the church and castle mound is beautiful and you will see the old railway station house from the walk. The walk passes through New House Farm, famous for its organic produce and ice cream - there's a farm shop here! Holywell Dingle is managed by the Herefordshire Nature Trust and is rich in wildlife- please keep to the path. Eardisley has two public houses, cafes and a small number of shops.

Almeley to Eardisley

- 1 Start from the entrance to The Bells public house in Almeley. Go left along the road to a staggered junction by the church which is on the right. Just beyond, cross a stile on the right to pass to the left of the remains of the castle motte. The path dips down to a footbridge and a stile. Cross these and keep ahead in the next field to a stile in the hedge. Proceed in a similar direction to go over a stile by a gate to an orchard. Head in the same direction through the double gates to the road.
- 2 Cross the road and then go over a stile by a gate opposite into the field.

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Walk - continued

Now head slightly right to a stile by a barred gate. Go over it and keep left to a stile just to the left of two gates. Cross this and head in a similar direction to the top right field corner where you go over a stile by a gate. Now, turn left to follow the hedge to the road; there are two more stiles to cross.

- Go right by the old lodge house and immediately left into the drive. Within a few paces go left through a barred gate to enter a field. Head straight across to a stile mid field and ahead in a similar direction to a small gate at the wood's edge-this is not seen at first. Go through the gate to a track where you turn left to walk near to the lakeside where there's a super view towards Nieuport House, an ancestral home which at one time was a sanatorium and then a home for Latvian folk.
- Cross a stile to enter a field and proceed ahead with the hedge to your right. This leads to a gateway and a green lane. Follow this to a road and New House Farm. Cross the road and walk ahead between the farm buildings, passing a shop on the left and then through a bridle gate. The track continues ahead through fields for about 500 metres (ignore turns to left and right) to a point where it bends right to a dwelling across the pasture.
- However, this is not your way. Keep ahead at this point through a barred gate and then immediately

right over a footbridge into the next field. Go straight across the field in the direction of the small plantation. Cross a stile to go through the woodland here to another stile accompanied by a signpost.

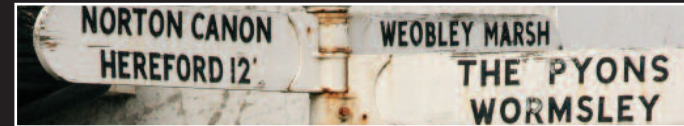
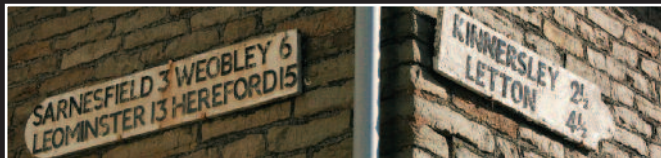
- Cross the stile and go left on the path which soon descends into Holywell Dingle. Ignore the first turn right at the junction. Instead, keep ahead as the path weaves its way toward the stream on your right. There are steps up and down and you are likely to encounter fallen trees. The path climbs up a bank and ahead for about 100 metres to a fork (not clearly identified) by holly bushes. It then descends to a plank bridge across the stream.
- Head slightly left up the bank to a corner and make your way to the line of trees mid field. Follow these down the field to a small gate in the next hedge. Go through this and head slightly right in the next field. Join the hedge and follow this towards the white dwelling at the edge of the village. Go through the gate and join the Almeley Road. Turn right for a five minute walk to Tram Square, named after the one time horse drawn tramway that arrived from Brecon in 1818!



For those who enjoy longer walks why not try the *Herefordshire Trail* between Eardisley and Kington. The trail guide is on sale at local bookshops and tourist information centres.



Old Station, Almeley



Orchards, Almeley



Weobley