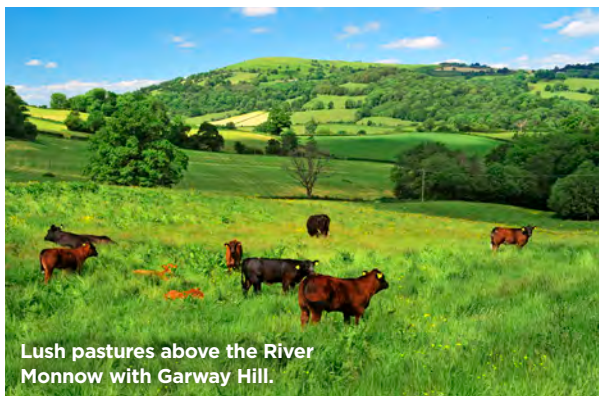




20 MONMOUTHSHIRE SKENFRITH & EDMUND'S TUMP



▶ Distance: 8½ miles/13.8km ▶ Time: 6 hours ▶ Grade: Moderate



Lush pastures above the River Monnow with Garway Hill.

PHOTO: ROGER BUTLER



CHOSEN BY...

ROGER BUTLER

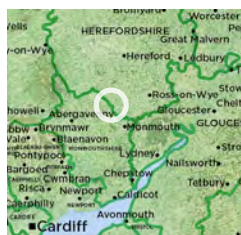
The River Monnow wriggles along the Welsh border and, travelling west from Ross-on-Wye, the impressive castle ruins at Skenfrith form a gateway into the principality. Rolling hills rise in every direction and a network of footpaths passes through a patchwork of woods and meadows. This circular walk climbs above the river, explores hidden valleys and tops out on the broad grassy summit known as Edmund's Tump. The right of way bypasses the trig point by a hundred metres or so but there is no objection to crossing the pasture – and the panoramic views over the

undulating Marches stretch all the way back to the Malvern Hills. The Bell at Skenfrith is a former 17th century coaching inn nestled by the bridge over the river, and it makes a fine base for the walk. There's a 'Dog and Boot Bar' for hikers and ramblers, and a number of mapped walking routes are available for purchase.

1 Start

Walk through Skenfrith village, with castle on R. Go L by village hall and continue to sharp L bend. Take path on R by cottage, go through small gate and walk uphill through old holloway. Keep hedge on L, go through two farm gates and walk uphill to rough track by trees. Veer L after gate to stile

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Skenfrith Castle, plenty of parking, grid ref SO457203, NP7 8UH

Is it for me? Field paths, tracks & quiet lanes. Tricky route finding in places
Stiles 30

PLANNING

Nearest towns Ross-on-Wye & Monmouth

Refreshments The Bell at Skenfrith (01600 750235; thebellatskenfrith.co.uk)

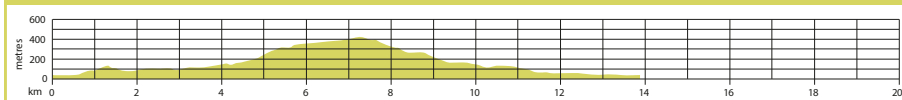
Public toilets None

Public transport None

Maps OS Explorer 189 & OL14; Landranger 161

by edge of wood and follow path down through trees to stile. Cross field to next stile (with bench and fine views to Garway Hill). Continue ahead to stile in corner, go over next field, pass through copse and continue via two stiles to grass track.

GRADIENT PROFILE



20 MONMOUTHSHIRE
SKENFRITH & EDMUND'S TUMP► OS Explorer map 189 & OL14 ► Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop

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2 **1¼ miles/2.7km**
Go L at farmyard and walk to lane. Go straight over and take gate on R. Trend R over field to stile and follow grass track to farm. Go through gate and R on stone steps to lane. Turn L and after steep dip take track on R. Continue to end of tall fence and continue into wood to stile on L. Walk uphill to cross stile on R and turn uphill to gate by farmhouse. Take tarmac track to next lane.

3 **3½ miles/5.5km**
Turn R and take stile on L, just before buildings. Cross next stile into conifers. Walk through plantation to stile, turn L and immediately R with fence on L. As fence veers L keep ahead to stile. Turn R towards trees and follow path, with stiles, on edge of wood. Climb slopes at stile to trig point, Edmund's Tump.

4 **4½ miles/7.4km**
Walk south-west to stile in fence by conifers; follow edge of trees to steeply drop to stile in corner. Turn R, then sharp L to meet path through wood. Continue gradually downhill to stile on R and walk down field to lane. Turn L, go R at junction and take stile on L after 60m.

5 **5½ miles/8.4km**
Cross another stile and go L to stile in hazel bushes. Walk down field to next stile and to bottom of slope with stile in hedge on R. Cross next field and go L to stile in hedge to metal footbridge. Go R to gate, go L on track and turn R, pass through farmyard. Follow lane 200m. Take path on L.

6 **6 miles/9.8km**
Walk ahead with hedge on L and continue down to iron

gate at end of field. Cross footbridge and cross two stiles in dense wood. Go R at field and head R to a pair of stiles in hedge. Follow edge of field to farm gate, join grass track and pass house on L. Go through next gate and continue on track to meet road.

7 **7¾ mile/11.6km**
Turn L for 700m, pass Methodist chapel on L, and take stile on L. Cross footbridge, cross stile at lane and turn R. Immediately fork L on narrow lane to return to Skenfrith. **CW**

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:
walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



DATE WALKED

TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING

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