



# 10 SHROPSHIRE THE LONG MYND

▶ Distance: 7 miles/11km ▶ Time: 5 hours ▶ Grade: Moderate

SEE FEATURE ON PAGE 14



Ashes Hollow seen from below Narnell's Rock.

PHOTO: ROGER BUTLER



### CHOSEN BY... ROGER BUTLER

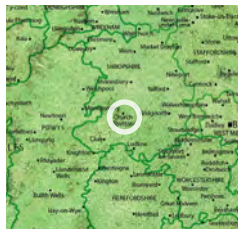
The timber framed houses at Little

Stretton form the gateway to Ashes Hollow and this deep valley is the perfect introduction to the landscape of the Long Mynd. The path climbs past tinkling streams and interlocking spurs to emerge onto the airy whaleback next to a spring known as Boiling Well. It's just a short walk now to the summit at Pole Bank, from where carpets of dense heather stretch in every direction: take in the extensive views towards Wales but also think what the Long Mynd might have looked like if conservationists hadn't once

campaigned against the ploughing and re-seeding of this valuable moorland habitat. You can wander at will up here but, after walking south from the top, this route then swings south-east over a number of gently rounded hills. The paths and tracks peer into Ashes Hollow to the north and little-visited Callow Hollow to the south, whilst Callow Hill offers a final flourish before the steep descent back into Little Stretton.

**1 Start** Walk through Little Stretton, with the stream on your L, and continue to end of lane. Cross footbridge at ford and take stile onto footpath leading north through camp site in

## PLAN YOUR WALK



### ROUTE

**Start/parking** Little Stretton, 2km south of Church Stretton, SY6 6AP, grid ref SO443917

**Is it for me?** Hills and valleys with established paths and tracks  
**Stiles** 1

### PLANNING

**Nearest town** Church Stretton

**Refreshments** Two pubs in Little Stretton and a wide range of eateries in Church Stretton

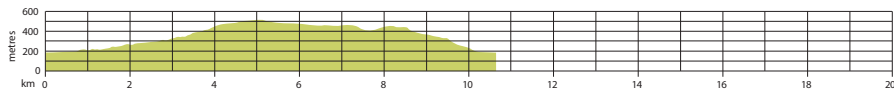
**Public toilets** Church Stretton

**Public transport** Nearest station Church Stretton and regular bus links from Shrewsbury and Ludlow

**Maps** Explorer 217; Landranger 137

Ashes Hollow. Walk up valley, with steepening slopes on either side, cross footbridge by a solitary house and

## GRADIENT PROFILE



10 SHROPSHIRE  
THE LONG MYND▶ OS Explorer map 217 ▶ Buy maps at: [ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop](http://ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop)

## DON'T MISS...



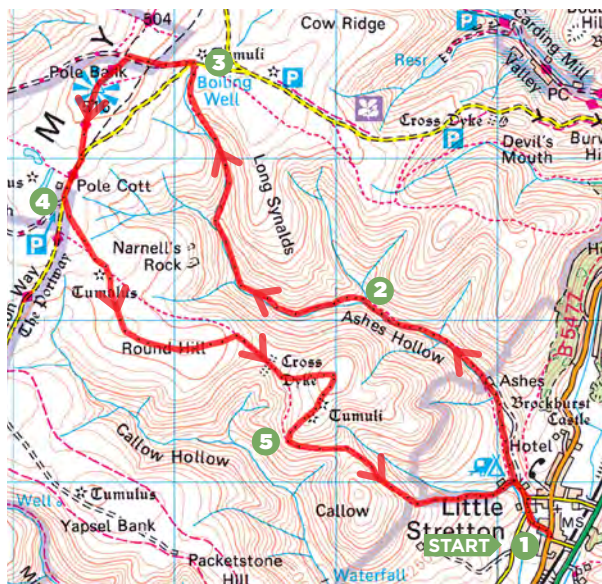
Watch gliders take off from the crest of the Long Mynd: the gliding club, with café (and rooms if you fancy staying up on the hill) is 2km south of Pole Cottage and it's an easy walk along the quiet road [www.midlandgliding.club](http://www.midlandgliding.club); 01588 650206

continue on good path next to meandering stream.

**2 1¼ miles/2km**  
After 1km, keep L at a confluence and follow the path by the side of the main stream, with Narnell's Rock on L and Long Synalds on R. The valley bends north to meet the open road at Boiling Well and you will suddenly step out onto swathes of heather moorland.

**3 2¼ miles/4.5km**  
Cross the road and take the track, west for 600m, to the trig point and viewpoint indicator on Pole Bank, with panoramic views in every direction. Leave the top by walking south on a broad path, turn R at the road and pass Pole Cottage in trees on R. Today, this is simple corrugated shed but, at one time, the site was occupied by a shepherd's lodge.

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**4 3¾ miles/6km**  
Fork L on paths over moor and cross a track running south-east. Continue to the top of Round Hill and then walk south-east across the open moor to meet another track. Walk east, merge with a broad path and descend to a col known as Barrister's Plain, marked by the Bronze Age earthworks of the Cross Dyke. Fork L, uphill, to the smooth summit of Grindle, then turn south-west over a spur to descend back to the path.

**5 5½ miles/8.75km**  
The path contours above the steep bowl of Callow Hollow with views to slopes with memorable names:

Hanging Brink, Sleekstone Bank and Streetbarn Rock. The path bends L for 400m to another dip by the head of Grindle Hollow, on R. Leave the path and turn south to walk up to the top of Callow, marked by a tiny cairn. Descend east to meet a good path which gradually slopes down to meet the lane by camp site. Continue back into Little Stretton. **CW**

VIEW THE WALK ON  
OS MAPS ONLINE:

[lfto.com/cwroutes](http://lfto.com/cwroutes)

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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DATE WALKED

TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING