

# About Colwall

The village of Colwall lies in the shadow of British Camp, an Iron Age hill fort dating from circa 200 BC. Recent research at nearby Midsummer Hill has shown that the fortress was occupied permanently by up to 4000 people for four to five hundred years. The fort covers 32 acres of the Herefordshire Beacon which stands at 338 metres high. Herefordshire Beacon is the 6<sup>th</sup> tallest of the twenty one “peaks” which make up the Malvern Hills.

Colwall is well known as a “cricketing village” as it contains the largest cricket ground in the County of Herefordshire. The Women’s Cricket Association was founded here in 1926 and every year sees the annual Women’s Cricket Week. Joseph and Henry Horton who both played first class cricket with Worcestershire both hailed from Colwall.

Drinks company Schweppes has been associated with the area since 1851, when J. Schweppe & Co supplied the Great Exhibition at the Crystal Palace. This event established the national reputation of Malvern Water. Water from the Holy Well was bottled and marketed as Malvern Soda and then in 1856 as Malvern Seltzer Water. A factory was built in 1892 and in 1929 the company commenced bottling of water from the Pewtress Spring (renamed “Primeswell” after acquiring the spring from the Burrows family). Today, over 12 million litres of water are still bottled in Colwall solely from the Primeswell Spring. Coca-Cola & Schweppes Beverages Limited currently employs 25 people.

St. James The Great Church is just over a mile south west of the present village centre, the village having grown away from the church as a result of the arrival in the area of the railway in 1860. The church has been on this site since Saxon times, the first Rector listed was Gerard de Eugines in 1275 and at that time the church would have consisted of a chancel, the nave and the south aisle. Work on the tower began in the 14th century with a 15th century top.

The poet W.H Auden taught for three years during the 1930’s at the Downs School in Colwall. Here he wrote some of his finest early poems including *Out on the Lawn* / *Lie in Bed*, *Fish in the Unruffled Lakes*, *Let Your Sleeping Head*, *This Lunar Beauty* and *The Malverns*.

# Walk Information

Herefordshire Council “Miles Without Stiles” routes have been created to enable easier access for all. Stiles are one of the biggest obstacles to walking in the countryside for the elderly, those with mobility problems or simply those who want an easy going walk.

Stiles: 0      Gates: 6

Surface Gradients:

There are two gradual slopes (between 1:20 and 1:50) between points ① & ② on the map. There are two steep slopes (greater than 1:20) over two short sections between points ② & ③ on the map.



**ALWAYS FOLLOW THE COUNTRY CODE.  
ENJOY YOUR WALK!**

This leaflet is available in large print from Tourist Information Centres and Libraries throughout the County. Also at [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/circularwalks](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/circularwalks) or [www.malvernhillsaonb.co.uk](http://www.malvernhillsaonb.co.uk)

Designed and produced by Herefordshire Council Parks, Countryside & Leisure Development Service. This route is managed by the Herefordshire Council Public Rights of Way Team who would welcome your comments, Tel 01432 260572.

This leaflet has been kindly funded by the Malvern Hills AONB Partnership.



A route provided by Herefordshire Council to enable easier access for all

# Walks around Colwall



Distance: 2 miles of easy access paths linking the village of Colwall with the Malvern Hills

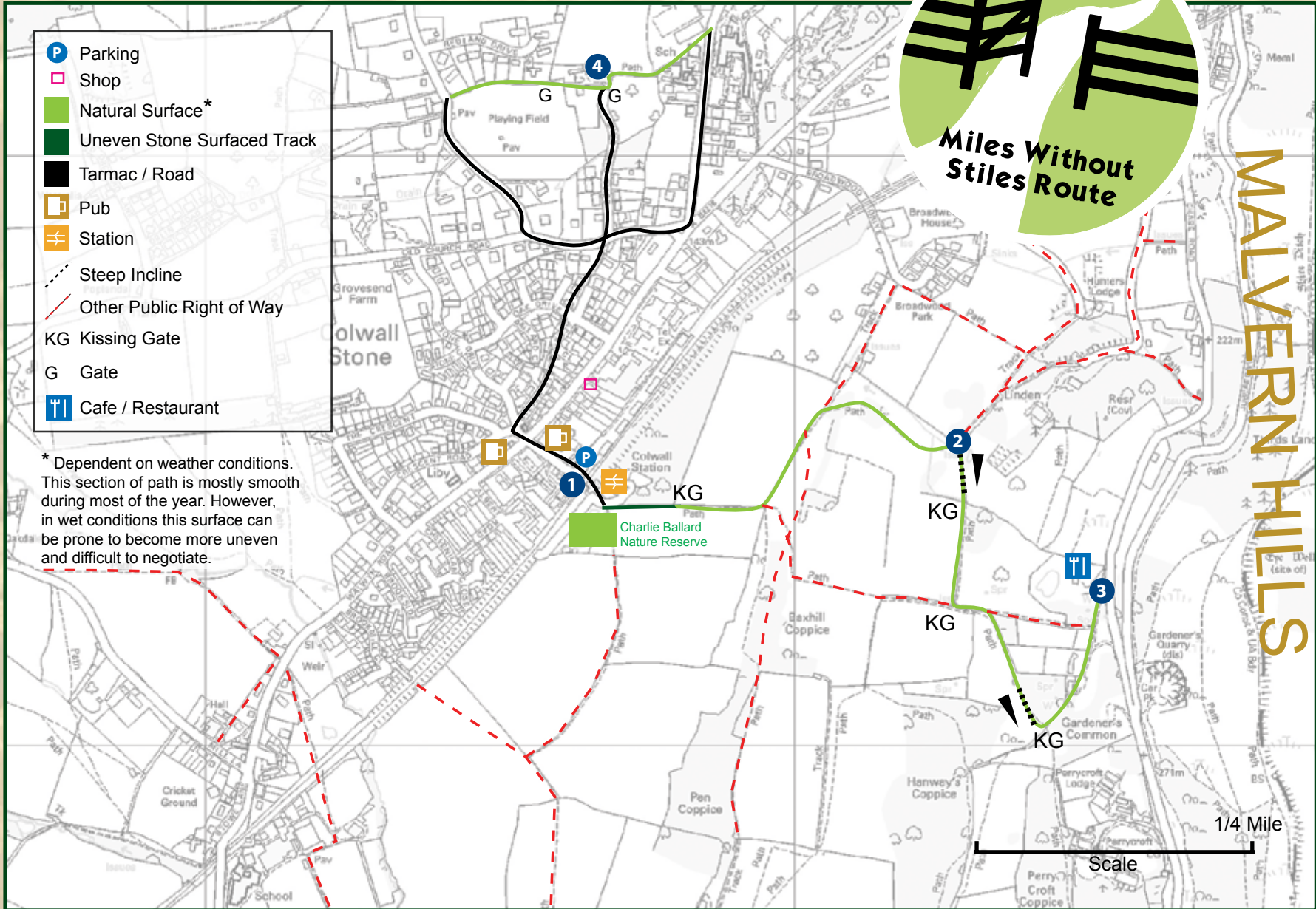


**HEREFORDSHIRE** ...it's good to walk!

# Colwall



MALVERN HILLS



To help find your way around, Location Point numbers can be found along the route. These correspond with the numbers on this map.