



Your comments are welcome

The Jack Mytton Way is maintained and promoted by Shropshire County Council. Please provide us with feedback by completing the enclosed evaluation form or by contacting us at the address below.

Further Information

This guide is one of the routes that Shropshire County Council promote for horse riding and cycling. There is also a series of 10 circular rides off the Jack Mytton off the Long Mynd and Wenlock Edge area. These interlinking routes varying between 5 and 20 miles, give you the chance to spend a few hours or days soaking up the scenery.

We also produce an information leaflet called Guide for horse riders and cyclists on bridleways and byways in Shropshire.

For further information on all these routes or to obtain a download version of these guides please visit www.shropshire.gov.uk

Shropshire County Council

Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND

Tel: (0845) 678 9000

www.shropshire.gov.uk

British Horse Society

www.bhs.org.uk

Offa's Dyke Association

www.offadyke.demon.co.uk

Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership

www.shropshirehillsaonb.co.uk

The Countryside Agency

www.countryside.gov.uk

Shropshire Tourism

Local Visitor Information Centres on route

Cleobury Mortimer, Much Wenlock,

Church Stretton, Clun

www.shropshiretourism.info

(accommodation information available)

Visitor Information Centres

Bridgnorth 01746 763257

Church Stretton 01694 723133

Ludlow 01584 875053

Much Wenlock 01952 727679

Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre 01588 676000



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The publishers have made every effort to ensure the information in this publication was correct at the time of printing. If you have any comments regarding this publication please contact Shropshire County Council. Printed using vegetable oil based inks on 50% recycled, 50%FSC approved pulp paper.

- Be safe - Plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people



Jack Mytton Way



Shropshire's long distance bridleway



Jack Mytton

The Jack Mytton Way travels through nearly 100 miles of Shropshire's most beautiful and unspoilt countryside. Rural byways, bridleways and quiet country lanes lead you through historic market towns and sleepy villages, across open moorland and past ancient earthworks. The new southern loop, over secluded parts of the Shropshire Hills, means that you can now do a circular ride. Open to horse riders, cyclists and walkers the majority of the route is off road.

How to use the guide

The Jack Mytton Way starts in Cleobury Mortimer and the guide splits the route into 8 rides, some long, some short, so you can choose how far you want to go. There is a sketch map and directions for each of the rides, though it is recommended that you also use the Ordnance Survey Explorer series of maps.

Routes 1 to 6 take you on a 75 mile (120km) linear ride from Cleobury Mortimer to Llanfair Waterdine. For a 60 mile (80km) circular ride follow routes 1 to 3 from Cleobury to Roman Bank then routes 7 and 8 from Roman Bank back to Cleobury Mortimer.

The whole of the route is also available to walkers and cyclists though some sections can be muddy. The off road sections on routes 2 to 6 are mostly stoned tracks so may be more suited to cyclists. Walkers may find some road sections tiring. On the few main road sections care is needed, particularly by horse riders. The only roads shown on the map are public roads, though you will come across other roads and tracks. Public footpaths, bridleways and byways are also shown to aid navigation.

Cyclists please be horse aware, your sudden appearance may startle horses.
When approaching from behind please give a verbal warning.

Parking and transport

Convenient parking locations are marked on the map. Where possible these are at the start or end of the routes. Cyclists and walkers are encouraged to use public transport and the Shropshire Shuttle stops at a number of places along route 1. The Shropshire Hills Shuttle covers the area of routes 4 and 5.

www.shropshirehillsshuttles.co.uk



The Ordnance Survey maps that cover the whole route are:

Ludlow 203, Bridgnorth & Kidderminster 218, Church Stretton 217, Welshpool & Montgomery 216, Knighton 201, Telford & Ironbridge 242

Key

	Jack Mytton Way		Public House
	Footpath		Toilets
	Bridleway		Car Park
	Byway		Layby
	Road		Main Road
	Direction number		Visitor Information Centre
			Cafe/Shops

A new MP who quits the House of Commons after half an hour never to return can't be all bad. The dull speeches which drove Shropshire's Jack Mytton from Westminster ensured he now had time to turn his life into an undying legend.

Born only eight years later than Lord Byron, the original "mad, bad, ..." Mytton merited the nickname Mad Jack. To test the jumping ability of a horse he was trying, he galloped his carriage at a closed tollgate. The lead horse leaped over, broke the traces and destroyed the carriage. Jack and his companion were thrown out.

Disguised as a highwayman, he held up two gentlemen who were riding over to dine with him. Once he jumped his horse over the table laid for dinner.

He inherited good looks, charm and a fortune. He possessed courage and unusual skill with horses. He was a talented sportsman with gun and horse and a great lover of the countryside. Soon all was dissipated. "There he stood before me, a round-shouldered decrepit, tottering old-young man, bloated by drink, - there was a body as well as a mind in ruins ... a wreck over whom all the storms of life seemed to be engendered in one dark cloud" wrote his biographer, a horse-dealer and sporting journalist.

An ulcerated leg turned gangrenous and he died in a debtor's prison aged 38. Crowds lined the roads along the fifteen-mile funeral route, the church bells tolled, and every shop was closed.

Simon Barnes wrote recently in The Times

When you enter the horsey life, you make a pact. ...

The deal is that you will find incomparable joy in the beauty and the wildness of the life. The payback is that horses will break your bones, your bank and your heart.

It could be Mad Jack Mytton's epitaph.