



# Route 9 Long Mynd to Hopesay

Discover Shropshire

## The Long Mynd

This is the very backbone of the Shropshire Hills with its heather clad slopes and hollows. Here history lies hidden at every corner. Men from the Bronze Age built cairns and in the Iron Age great hill forts. In the tracks of these long dead people the medieval drovers made their roads. And its seen action with guns fired here from Napoleonic times to the Second World War. It has its share of war secrets too: From Malcolm Saville's lone pine club to the training of peregrine falcons at Pole

Cottage to intercept enemy agents carrier pigeons.

No wonder it so inspired Houseman to write about its blue remembered hills.

## Hopesay Common

This little common is a local's favourite. Not ploughed for centuries and fenced by ancient boundaries, trod only by sheep, horses and lucky walkers. It has a stile with a verse from Omar Kyam and in Autumn mushrooms abound. And if you are lucky, the twisting flight of a red kite.

**Walking the Shropshire Way along the Long Mynd to Hopesay Common will take you the length of the Long Mynd on a way used since the Bronze Age.**

What a walk and what views there are as you travel the great hog's back of the Long Mynd and on to Hopesay Common where the land has not been ploughed for centuries. Views that seem to pull the eyes right out of your head. Snowden to the West, the great Clee hills to the east, gliders above you and it seems an Iron Age fort on every hilltop.

*Across the glittering pastures  
And empty upland still  
A solitude of shepherds  
High in the folded hill*

by AE Houseman

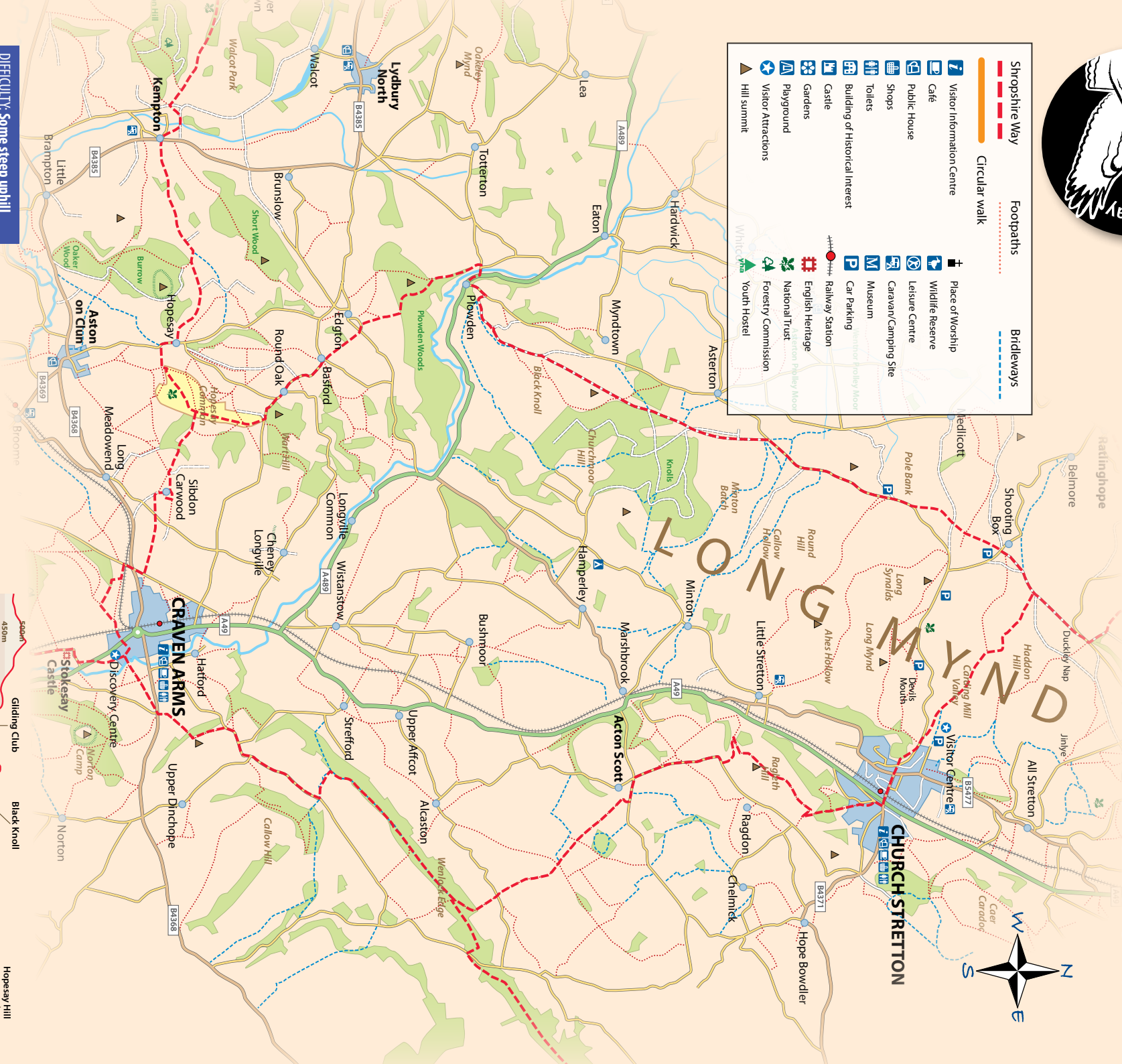




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# Route 9

Striperstones from Robin Hoods Butt



**DIFFICULTY: Some steep uphill sections**



For a more detailed map and information visit:  
[www.shropshirewalking.co.uk](http://www.shropshirewalking.co.uk)

