



The numbers on this map show the starting point for each walk

## PLEASE

- Leave gates as you find them
- Keep your dog under close control
- Take extra care in fields of cows and calves
- Keep to the waymarked paths
- Take your litter home
- Try to use public transport
- Wear suitable footwear and clothing



# Drayton Walks

A series of 10 short walks  
in the Market Drayton area  
compiled by Andrew D. Boden

## Walk 9

### Woodseaves Cutting on the Shropshire Union Canal

The walk is described in sufficient detail to follow it successfully just by using this sheet. However, you are encouraged to use the Ordnance Survey® Explorer™ 1:25 000 map no. 243 - Market Drayton, Loggerheads & Eccleshall - where the route can be seen in the context of the surrounding countryside.

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this guide, the publisher cannot be held responsible for any accident or other problem arising from its use. Distances and other measurements given are approximate.

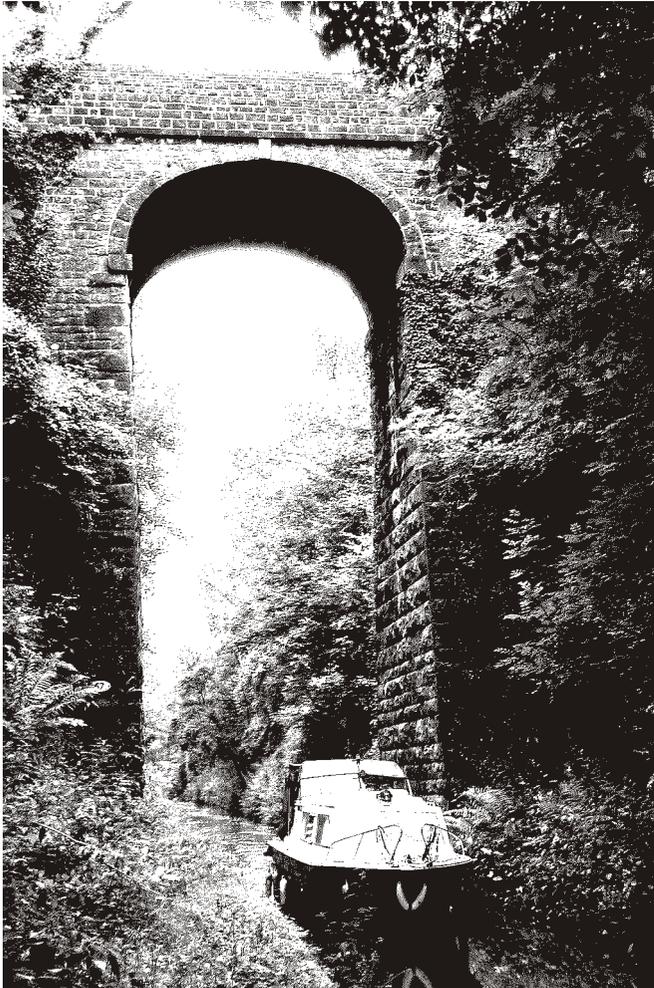
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## Walk 9

Features of the Woodseaves Cutting on Thomas Telford's Shropshire Union Canal are two spectacular high bridges. The canal is narrower than usual here and the boats are limited to 2 mph; so a walker can probably outpace them!



### 1. SJ 6883 3069

The walk begins next to the entrance to Woodseaves Grange (farm) where the road to Cheswardine leads off left from the A529. Follow the Cheswardine road until you reach the bridge over the canal. (Note - this road can be quite busy at times; please take care).

### 2. SJ 7000 3013

Do not cross the canal bridge, but take the gateway on the right which leads down a slope to the towpath. Turn left to pass beneath the road bridge and follow the towpath 'downstream' towards Tyrley Locks. The towpath here is in need of maintenance

and can be quite muddy. Also there are occasional slippages as the high sides of the cutting crumble and lumps of sandstone slide down to the canal bank. Please wear suitable footwear and proceed with care. The cutting is a quiet haven of

greenery with tall ferns and lichens clinging to the high stone sides while trees, with their roots grasping tightly into the rock crevices, provide a high canopy of shade. Soon you will reach the high bridge (no. 56) as shown opposite. Continue past the bridge for about half a mile and walk around a gentle bend towards bridge

57, another high structure which carries a farm track across the canal. A short distance before the bridge take the steps with the wooden handrail up the bank side. Turn left at the top of the steps to double back and follow the well-marked footpath through the trees. This path crosses two wooden bridges as it winds through the wood, up more wooden steps and eventually meets a double bridge with stile and gate into a field.

### 3. SJ 6930 3139

Enter the field and turn left. After a few steps the footpath goes diagonally right across the field to a gateway in the far hedge. Do not go through the gate, but turn right to follow the field edge towards two pools surrounded by trees. Pass to the right of the pools then continue along the field edge. Shortly before reaching the end of the field cross the stile on the left. Continue straight ahead and over the next stile, then continue to the large gates ahead. Go through the left-hand gate which leads into the main courtyard of Woodseaves Grange. The footpath now leads down the farm driveway to emerge at the starting point next to the A529.

