

# A TRIP TO TOWN

## O/S Landranger Sheet 137

**Short Route.** A very short easy round route of 10 miles into Leominster and back.

**Medium Route.** A slightly longer route of 20 miles through several pretty villages into Leominster. Fairly level and on quiet roads.

**Long Route.** You'll have to devise your own!!

**KINGSLAND.** An ancient village but still very active with school, garage, village stores and tea room and medical practice. There are two pubs and a cafe and all is ranged along the long main street with several fine properties. There is a 14thC church and a castle mound with moat reputedly built by King Merewald of Mercia.

**EARDISLAND.** One of the prettiest villages in Herefordshire set along the River Arrow. Children will enjoy feeding the ducks by the bridge. The 18th Century dovecote has been restored and nearby is the 14th Century yeomans dwelling, the Staick House. There are two pubs and down the lane by the church there are tea rooms with craft shop.

**BURTON COURT.** 18th Century house, with a neo-Tudor front designed by Sir Clough Williams-Ellis of Portmeirion fame, built around a 14th Century Great Hall. The house contains exhibitions of costumes and toys.

**DILWYN.** An attractive village with a green at its centre. There is a fine church, St. Mary's, which boasts the longest church key in the country at 17 inches (43cm). The Crown Inn and the nearby Old Forge Studio and Tea Room will supply your inner needs.

**LEOMINSTER.** Pronounced Lemster! An ancient market town with a turbulent past which formerly prospered on the wool trade. Now it is the second largest town in the county - population 10,000 - with a growing antique trade. There are many fine streets and buildings but don't miss the impressive Priory Church with the famous ducking stool, magnificent Grange Court and, if you have time, the museum on Etnam Street. There are several cafes. The Merchant's House in Corn Square, The Emporium in Drapers Lane, The Central Café in West Street during shop hours, Quavers in High Street and The Captains Table in Broad Street - take your pick.

**YARPOLE.** The village, which is the centre of the parish in which Lucton is situated, was mentioned in Domesday. Until recent discreet development it was a farming village with a peaceful history disrupted only by the Battle of Mortimers Cross in 1461. Nearby is the Iron Age hillfort of Croft Ambrey, circa 400BC, and Croft Castle, occupied by the Croft family since Norman times and now administered by the National Trust. Around this are 500 acres of common land and woodland including the SSSI of Fishponds Valley. St Leonard's Church has a 13th C detached belfry. A cheery welcome is guaranteed at the 17th C Bell Inn.

**LUCTON.** The school is close to the tiny village which was incorporated into Yarpole parish many years ago. It was founded by John Pierrepont, a London merchant, in 1708. The original house, an attractive and symmetrical structure in red brick, has a contemporary clock in the pediment, a bell turret and a niche with a statue of the founder. The school, which suffered financial problems in recent years resulting in closure, was reopened as a result of the munificence of members of the Croft family and is now well re-established and thriving with well over 100 pupils. The school premises are popular during holidays as a venue for various organisations.

## A TRIP TO TOWN – Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August

### O/S Landranger Sheet 137

This is a half day ride of 20 miles to Leominster and back to get you warmed up in readiness for the week ahead, to familiarise you with the style of route instructions and to enable you to do a bit of shopping.

**SML** = Short, medium or long route. **L/R** = Turn left/right. **BL/R** = Bear left or right.  
**X** = cross roads. **T** = T-junction. **RBT** = roundabout. **SO** = Straight on. **SP** = Signpost.

Route	Distance	Ref	Instructions	Map Ref
SM	0.0	0.0	<b>1</b> L at camp site exit	439644
SM	1.3	1.3	<b>2</b> R at X <b>SP Kingsland</b>	454631
SM	2.4	1.1	<b>3</b> <b>SO</b> at X by ‘Corners Inn’ in <b>KINGSLAND</b> <b>SP</b> Hereford, <b>Eardisland</b> . Pass Fire Station	444615
SM	2.8	0.4	<b>4</b> L at T with main road. No SP	441614
SM	3.9	1.1	<b>5</b> R by Leominster Car Auctions. <b>SP Eardisland</b>	437597
SM	4.2	0.3	<b>6</b> R at T-junction. <b>SP EARDISLAND</b> Over R.Arrow bridge and thro’ village.	434592
<b>The two pubs are obvious. The tea rooms are up the lane L past the church</b>				
<b>If you prefer a short route ( 10 miles total) return over bridge and SO for Leominster. Pick up route again at Ref:19</b>				
M	5.5	1.3	<b>7</b> L, <b>SP BURTON COURT</b>	419582
M	6.4	0.9	<b>8</b> <b>SO</b> at main road X, <b>SP Lower Burton</b>	425569
M	6.8	0.5	<b>9</b> L before white cottage by yellow hydrant	423565
M	7.2	0.4	<b>10</b> <b>SO</b> at main road X ‘Unsuitable for heavy etc’	425561
M	7.5	0.3	<b>11</b> L at grass triangle just after v.sharp right bend	426557
M	7.6	0.1	<b>12</b> R at T and on to <b>Dilwyn</b>	428555
M	8.6	1.0	<b>13</b> L at T opp. Church into <b>DILWYN</b>	415547
<b>Just past The Crown Inn is The Old Forge Studio &amp; Cafe</b>				
M	8.7	0.1	<b>14</b> L by ‘Crown Inn’ <b>SP Stretford, Kings Pyon.</b>	416545
M	9.1	0.4	<b>15</b> <b>SO</b> at Quicksetts Cottage <b>SP Ivington</b>	421545
M	10.4	1.3	<b>16</b> <b>SO</b> at main road X <b>SP Ivington</b>	442551
M	12.8	2.4	<b>17</b> L at T opposite church in <b>Ivington</b> and then <b>SO</b> for <b>LEOMINSTER</b>	475567
M	14.8	2.0	<b>18</b> R at <b>RBT</b> then L at next <b>RBT</b> . R by ‘ <b>Royal Oak</b> ’ then up <b>School Lane</b> into <b>Corn Square</b> .	496590
SM	15.0	0.2	<b>19</b> Leave the Square via <b>Corn Street</b> passing ‘ <b>Boots</b> ’ L and immediately R up <b>West Street</b> and follow the one way system to <b>Broad Street</b> . L down <b>Broad Street</b> and <b>SO</b> at main road	
SM	15.9	0.7	<b>20</b> L at mini- <b>RBT</b> <b>SP Richards Castle</b>	495596
SM	16.5	0.6	<b>21</b> L <b>SP Eyton, Lucton</b>	492604
SM	17.7	1.2	<b>22</b> L <b>Kingsland, Lucton, Ashton</b>	474613
SM	19.6	1.9	<b>23</b> <b>SO</b> at X <b>SP Lucton, Mortimers Cross</b>	454631
SM	20.5	0.9	<b>24</b> <b>BR</b> at bend with junction	443640
SM	20.9	0.4	<b>25</b> <b>You should be back at Lucton School !</b>	439644

*If you aren't go back to the start and try again!!*