

Records indicate a Saxon church on this site in 974 A.D. The tower of a Norman church which replaced it in the 11th century collapsed in 1775 and the present building, except the chancel, was completed in 1777.

The Cookes memorial survives from the Norman Church. Sir Thomas Cookes was the founder of Worcester College, Oxford, and a member of an ancient family once possessing property in this parish.



St Bartholomew's Church is on a hill overlooking the Worcester and Birmingham Canal which extends 30 miles from Gas Street Basin in Birmingham to Diglis Basin in Worcester.

The canal is level from Birmingham to Tardebigge New Wharf situated below the church, and then it descends by 58 locks to the River Severn. The series of 30 locks from the New Wharf to Stoke Prior (known as the Tardebigge Flight) is the largest concentration of narrow locks in the country.

Follow the Countryside Code

-  **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**
-  **Wear suitable stout shoes**
-  **Be prepared for the weather**
-  **Take a drink of water with you**
-  **Let someone know where you are going**

This leaflet can be provided in large print, Braille, on audio CD or tape, or on computer disc.

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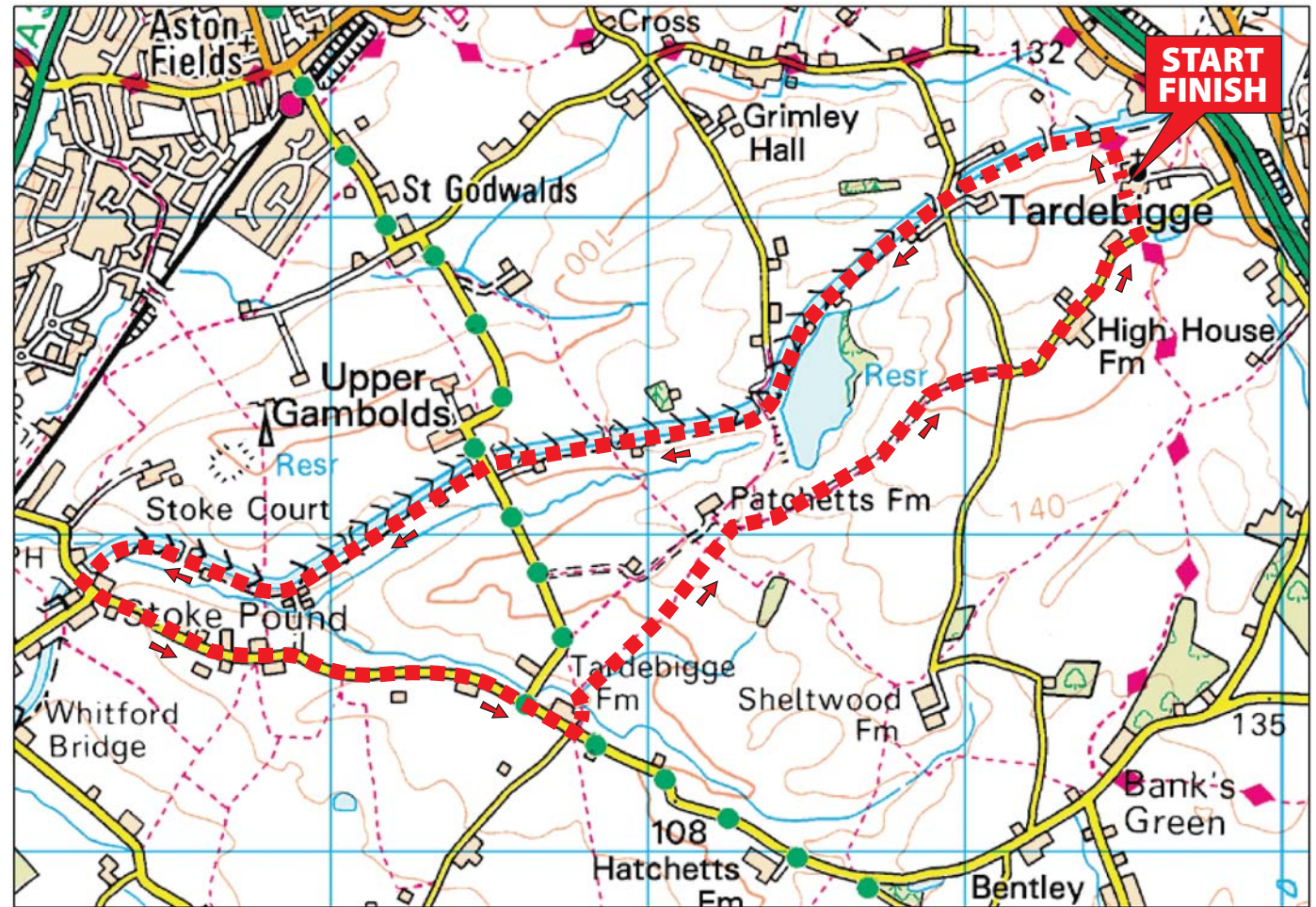
Tardebigge Canal Circular Walk



- Start point:** From Tardebigge Church
- Distance:** 5 miles approximately
2½ hours
- Terrain:** Canal towpath, fields and quiet lanes
- Facilities:** Refreshments local pubs
- Map Ref:** O.S. Ref: SO995691

Start

- 1** After a visit to the church and grounds take the path down to the canal.
- 2** Turn left onto the canal and follow the towpath to the Queens Head Inn.
- 3** Leave the canal at the Queens Head Inn public house go left and then turn left again and continue along Copyholt Lane to reach a footpath just past Tardebigge Farm (a black & white building).
- 4** Turn left onto footpath and after crossing 2 bridges take the right path. About half way along the field look for a stile in the hedge and cross over and head towards another stile. Cross the stile and continue forward and go through a gate. Cross the field in the general direction of the farm buildings to reach a track. Go right along the track keeping the hedge on the left until London Road is reached.
- 5** Cross London Road into High House Lane and follow the lane until the Monarch's way path is reached on the left. Take this path and pass Tardebigge first School to arrive back at Tardebigge Church.



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