



THE CHURCHES
CONSERVATION TRUST

Historic churches in
Shropshire
Staffordshire

wonder at
treasures
revealed

visitchurches.org.uk/daysout

get closer to the past

Shropshire and Staffordshire are home to some of England's finest historic churches.



In these buildings, you can touch the past. From worn floor tiles to a pew polished smooth by generations of churchgoers, there is something in every building that makes history come alive.

All the churches in this leaflet have been saved by The Churches Conservation Trust. The Trust is a charity that cares for more than 340 churches in England. This is one of 18 leaflets that highlight their history and treasures.

For more information on the other guides in this series, as well as interactive maps and downloadable information, see visitchurches.org.uk



be dazzled
step inside St Mary's Shrewsbury,
for a dazzling display of internationally
renowned stained glass



Shrewsbury, St Mary the Virgin

Shropshire

1

An ancient church with world-famous stained glass

- Stained glass spanning six centuries
- Animals, birds and angels carved in an oak ceiling

The spire of St Mary's is one of the tallest in England and for over 500 years it has dominated the skyline of Shrewsbury's old town. In 1739, showman Robert Cadman made a fatal attempt to slide from it, head first, using a rope and a grooved breastplate. His engraved obituary stands outside the west door.

The church has ancient origins. It dates from Saxon times and has beautiful additions from the 12th century onwards. Inside, the atmosphere is peaceful with the soaring stone arches giving way to the church's great treasure – its stained glass. There are panels in glorious colour including the world-famous 14th-century 'Jesse window' and scenes from the life of St Bernard; a Medieval cartoon strip that shows him ridding flies from an abbey, riding a mule and curing the sick.

St Mary's Street, Dogpole, Shrewsbury SY1 1EF

→ Shrewsbury town centre

Nearest railway station: Shrewsbury (0.5 miles)

🕒 Open 1 Apr to 31 Oct: Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm; 1 Nov to 31 Mar: Mon-Sat, 10am-4pm; occasional Sun



3

vast
riches

marvel at the soaring spaces
of St Leonard's, Bridgnorth



2

Battlefield, St Mary Magdalene

Shropshire

**A memorial church
to a bloody battle**

This large, dignified church stands in open countryside on the site of the ferocious Battle of Shrewsbury, which took place in 1403. Thousands of soldiers are thought to have died in the fray, and the church was built as a memorial to them. A statue of Henry IV, who defeated Henry 'Hotspur' Percy in the battle, stands on the outside east wall. On the roof beams inside are representations of the shields of the knights who fought with Henry IV.

Battlefield, Shrewsbury SY11DX

→ 3m NE of Shrewsbury off A49

Nearest railway station: Shrewsbury (3 miles)

🕒 *Open Mon-Sat, 9.30am-5.30pm and Sun, 10am-4pm*



3

Bridgnorth, St Leonard

Shropshire

**Vast Medieval
church restored by
the Victorians**

This proud Gothic church is a Victorian restoration. The original church was almost entirely destroyed in the Civil War when Roundhead troops used it as an ammunition store and it exploded during a battle. Inside, the church has an airy vastness – as you enter, you get an extraordinary sense of space unfolding before you. The 19th-century interior is thoughtfully designed – look for the umbrella stands on the pews.

St Leonards Close, Bridgnorth WV16 4EJ

→ Bridgnorth High Town Centre

Nearest railway station: Telford (10 miles)

🕒 *Open Fri and Sat, 11am-3pm*



4

Upton Cressett, St Michael

Shropshire

**A beautiful, remote
Norman country church**

A picturebook church, St Michael's is on a hillside above a quiet, idyllic valley west of Bridgnorth. With its stone walls and moss-covered roof, this mostly Norman church looks as much a part of the landscape as the trees that surround it. In February, a carpet of snowdrops enlivens the old gravestones. The church's interior is sparsely furnished and has a lovely Norman arch in the centre. Nearby is Upton Cressett Hall, a privately owned manor, built in the reign of Elizabeth I.

Upton Cressett, Bridgnorth WV16 6UH

→ 4m W of Bridgnorth off A458

Nearest railway station: Telford (10 miles)

🕒 *Open daily*



5

Wroxeter, St Andrew

Shropshire

**A Saxon church built
from Roman ruins**

St Andrew's is built on the site of *Viroconium*, the fourth largest town of Roman Britain, and evidence of the ancient town is everywhere. The gateposts are made from Roman columns; the walls contain massive Roman stones; and the huge font is made from an inverted Roman column base. Inside, the church are three 16th-century alabaster tombs – each has a life-size, and eerily life-like, painted figure lying in repose.

Wroxeter SY5 6PH

→ 4m SE of Shrewsbury on B4380

Nearest railway station: Shrewsbury (5.5 miles)

🕒 *Open daily*

visitchurches.org.uk/daysout

Spend a day with us

More churches to enjoy

Each CCT church has been saved because it is special. We can't do justice to them all in one leaflet, so visit our website for more information on those only briefly described here.

Shropshire

Adderley, St Peter

6

Set in rolling countryside, this red sandstone church mainly dates from around 1800. The attractive pointed cast-iron windows were made nearby in the Severn gorge, birthplace of the Industrial Revolution.

Adderley Road, Adderley, Market Drayton TF9 3TD
→ 7m N of Market Drayton on A529

🕒 *Keyholder nearby*

Longford, Talbot Chapel

7

The surviving south aisle of a Medieval church, demolished in 1803. It contains a fine 17th-century monument to Thomas Talbot, with original railings. The inscription has a moving tribute to Talbot's widow.

Longford Road, Longford, Newport TF10 8LR
→ 2m W of Newport on Salters Lane/Longford Road

🕒 *Open daily*

Preston Gubbals, St Martin

8

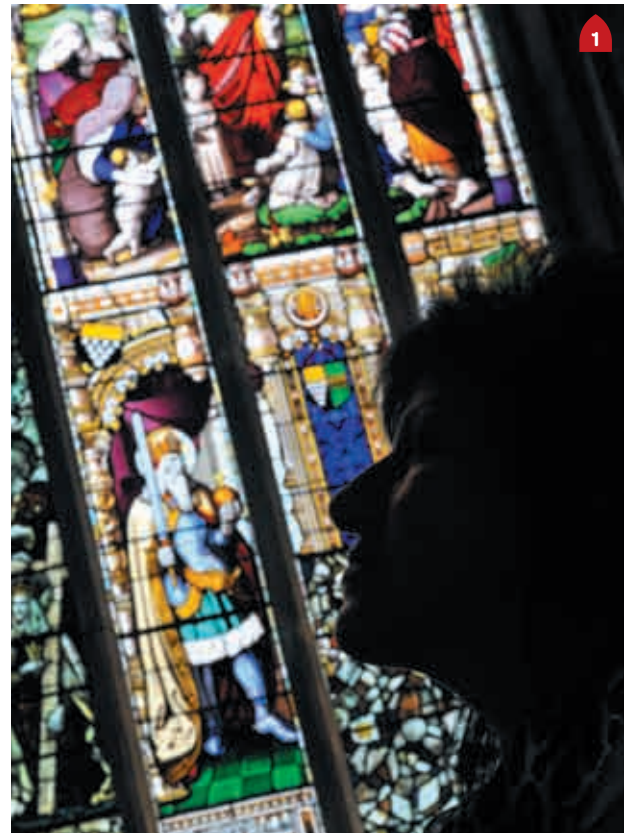
A charming church, remodelled many times, featuring a beautifully preserved 14th-century engraved tomb slab. Outside, on the south side, a sundial has been created – possibly in the early 19th century – on the base of a churchyard cross.

Preston Gubbals, Shrewsbury SY4 3AN
→ 4m N of Shrewsbury off A528

🕒 *Keyholder nearby*



2



1

visitchurches.org.uk/joinus

Become a supporter

Stirchley, St James

9

An intriguing church set in a quiet location only a mile away from central Telford. The chancel, dating from the 12th century, is made from local sandstone and contains an eye-catching ornate arch. The nave and tower are 18th-century brick additions.

Stirchley Road, Stirchley Village, Stirchley, Telford TF3 1DY
→ 2.5m S from Telford town centre, access from A442
Brookside roundabout

🕒 *Keyholder nearby*

Staffordshire

Patshull, St Mary

10

A handsome sandstone church built in 1742 by Sir John Astley in the picturesque grounds of his home, Patshull Hall. The interior contains impressive 16th- and 17th-century memorials to members of the Astley family.

Patshull Hall, Burnhill Green, Wolverhampton WV6 7HY
→ 7m W of Wolverhampton off A464 Holyhead Road

🕒 *Closed due to conservation work*

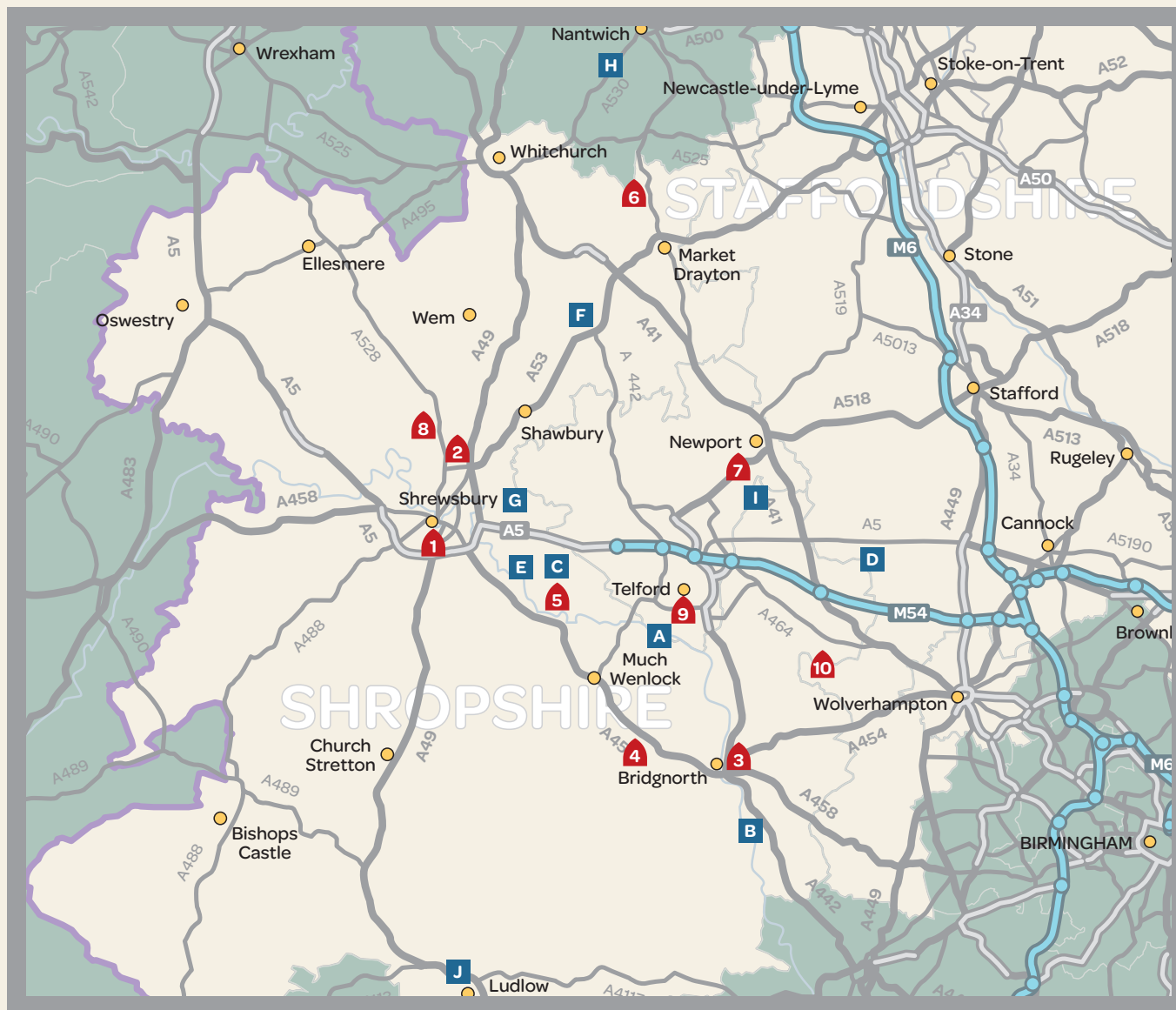
Finding our churches

The map opposite shows the location of each of our churches in Shropshire and Staffordshire, together with other nearby attractions and CCT churches in adjoining counties.

Our website, visitchurches.org.uk, has much more detailed information to help you plan your trip.

	Ordnance Survey ref
1 Shrewsbury, St Mary the Virgin (cover image)	SJ 494 126
2 Battlefield, St Mary Magdalene	SJ 512 173
3 Bridgnorth, St Leonard	SO 717 934
4 Upton Cressett, St Michael	SO 656 925
5 Wroxeter, St Andrew	SJ 564 083
6 Adderley, St Peter	SJ 661 395
7 Longford, Talbot Chapel	SJ 726 184
8 Preston Gubbals, St Martin	SJ 491 195
9 Stirchley, St James	SJ 699 067
10 Patshull, St Mary	SJ 800 006

CCT churches in neighbouring counties.
For details, go to visitchurches.org.uk or see the relevant county guide.



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Other local heritage attractions

- A** Ironbridge – gorge and museums
- B** Dudmaston House – and art collection
- C** Viroconium – Roman city
- D** Weston Park – house, gardens, farm shop
- E** Attingham Park – house, gardens
- F** Hodnet Hall – gardens

- G** Haughmond Abbey
- H** Cholmondeley Castle – gardens
- I** Lilleshall Abbey – Augustinian remains
- J** Ludlow Castle



www.english-heritage.org.uk
Telephone 0870 333 1181

Find out more

Our website has a host of additional information that will help you plan and enjoy your visit, including:

- Interactive maps
- Filterable lists of all our churches
- Up to date opening times
- Visitor comments
- Downloadable guides
- Image galleries
- Event listings

Go to visitchurches.org.uk to access all this and more.



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Welcome to a thousand years of English history

The Churches Conservation Trust is the national charity protecting historic churches at risk.

We've saved over 340 beautiful buildings which attract more than 1.5 million visitors a year. With our help and with your support they are kept open and in use – living once again at the heart of their communities.


Visiting information


Go to visitchurches.org.uk for detailed directions, local maps, information on disability access and up to date opening times.

For other enquiries, call us on **020 7213 0660** (Monday – Friday, office hours), or email welcome@tcct.org.uk

! Please take care when visiting our churches. Floors may be uneven/worn or slippery, and interior lighting may be low.


 Assistance dogs are welcome.

 For full disabled access information, see our website.

 Unsure about the 'keyholder nearby' access? You will find details at the church or call us in advance.

P Parking is available at most churches – see the website for more details.

 The closest station for each church is shown in the guide.

 For bus routes, see traveline.org.uk

 Cyclists welcome! For cycle routes, go to sustrans.org.uk

Help us save historic churches

The CCT needs to raise an additional £1.5million every year just to cover essential repairs. If you enjoy your visit please leave a donation at the church, or go to visitchurches.org.uk/donate for details of how you can help.



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visitchurches.org.uk

The Churches Conservation Trust
1 West Smithfield, London EC1A 9EE
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