



## WOKING DFAS TOUR TO SHROPSHIRE 13th to 17th JUNE 2016



(Five days and four nights at the Lord Hill Hotel, Shrewsbury)

TOUR LEADER: Malcolm Read



We will stay in the beautiful historic town of Shrewsbury which looks from the air as though it has been lassoed by the River Sever. Travelling by coach, we will use experienced guides where appropriate. The cost will be around £302 double room pp and £385 single room pp, which includes travel by coach, 4 nights B&B and all entrance tickets. **YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE OUT YOUR OWN TRAVEL INSURANCE.**

If you are interested in coming on the tour, please contact Malcolm Read at bookings desk or E: Mail: [malcolm.read41@gmail.com](mailto:malcolm.read41@gmail.com)

## DRAFT ITINERARY - WOKING DFAS TOUR TO SHROPSHIRE



**Monday 13th June 2016**

Bridgnorth

Much Wenlock Priory,

**Tuesday 14th June 2016**

Shrewsbury

**Wednesday 15th June 2016**

The Ironbridge Gorge

**Thursday 16th June 2016**

Stokesay Castle,

Ludlow

**Friday 17th June 2016**

Bourton House Gardens

(Cotswolds)

The map of Shropshire shows most all the places we intend visiting except our visit to Bourton in the Cotswolds on the way home

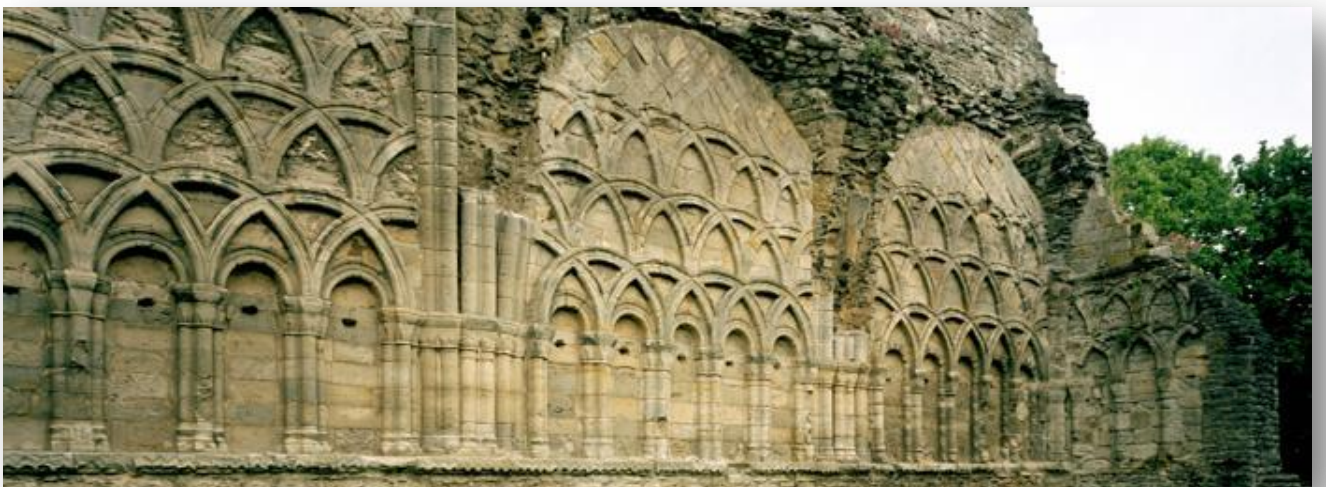


**The spires and towers of Shrewsbury**

## Much Wenlock Priory



View of the transepts and the chapter house with the lavabo in the foreground and detail of interlaced blind arch decoration. [free audio guide](#)



# Bridgnorth

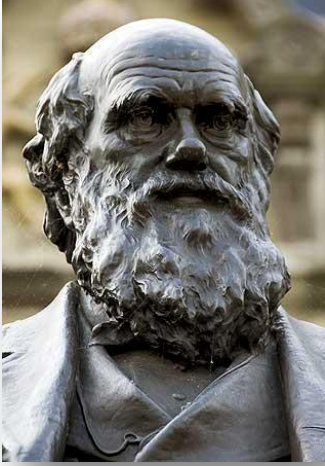


We will stop at this lovely town and ride the cliff railway to the high town for lunch at one of the many pubs and restaurants with a chance to wander around and visit Thomas Telford's church before moving on to Wenlock Priory.

(Below) Painting of Bridgnorth by C A Hopworth in 1870



# Shrewsbury



It is impossible to do justice on one page to Shrewsbury with its half timbered houses, the ubiquitous River Severn, Shrewsbury School, winner of bloom in Britain, the Castle and home to many famous people the most illustrious of whom was Charles Darwin. We will have a morning guided tour and then time to lunch, shop, wander the gardens and see some of the finest modern church stained glass windows, before choosing an early or later bus back to the hotel.

*Charles Darwin*



# The Ironbridge Gorge



The Ironbridge Gorge is known as “the birthplace of industry.” A lasting monument to the industrial revolution in the UK is this iron bridge which was the first iron bridge to be built anywhere in the world. It was built in 1779 across the Severn, linking Broseley and Jackfield in the south with Ironbridge, Madeley, Coalport and Coalbrookdale in the north.

**This whole area is now called the Ironbridge Gorge and is a World Heritage Site.**

The reasons the gorge was so useful to the early industrialists was firstly due to the accessibility of the raw materials, coal, iron ore, limestone and clay, for the manufacture of iron, tiles and porcelain and secondly due to the deep and wide River Severn that allowed easy transport of products to the sea. The industrialising of this beautiful gorge was not pretty but since the factories were closed it has returned to its natural wooded beauty and the old homes are beautifully set in the picturesque villages and hamlets dotted across the valley.

We will have a tour including the Gorge museum, a short walk to the bridge and toll house, Coalport China Museum, Lunch, Jackfield Tile Museum and Coalbrookdale.

## Coalport China Museum

(Right) Slip Casting Demonstration



(Left)  
Dinner  
plate  
from the  
Royal

Exchange set of plates created by Coalport in 1844 for use by Queen Victoria at the opening of the Royal Exchange.



## Jackfield Tile Museum

A "world-class" collection of tiles has gone on display after being donated to a museum.

The 1,300 decorative tiles from the mid-19th and 20th Century range from one-off pieces to ornate panels from hospitals and public buildings.



Collector John Scott has given the tiles, designed by artists including Pugin and William de Morgan, to Jackfield Tile Museum in Shropshire.

# STOKESAY CASTLE



Stokesay Castle is a fortified manor house which was built in the late 13th century by Laurence of Ludlow, who was the leading wool merchant in England.

The building is one of the best-preserved medieval fortified manor houses in England and includes the amazing Great Hall with its timber roof. audio guides available



# Ludlow



Ludlow has nearly 500 listed buildings. They include some fine examples of medieval and Tudor-style half-timbered buildings including the Feathers Hotel built in 1619 (during the reign of King James I). The town was described by Sir John Betjeman as "probably the loveliest town in England" and its Lunchtime meals come highly recommended.

Ludlow's recorded history begins in 1086 when the impressive castle was first developed as one of a line of castles along the Marches to keep out the Welsh. Its coat of arms pays homage to Richard Duke of York. It displays the three white roses and the white lion of the Earl of March



## Bourton House Gardens (Cotswolds)



Bourton House Gardens is an award-winning three acre garden surrounding a fine 18th century Manor House. We will stop here on our way home for a ploughman's lunch. The garden features luxuriant terraces and wide herbaceous borders with stunning plant, texture and colour combinations. Imaginative topiary includes a knot garden, parterre and topiary walk and there are several spring-fed water features.

