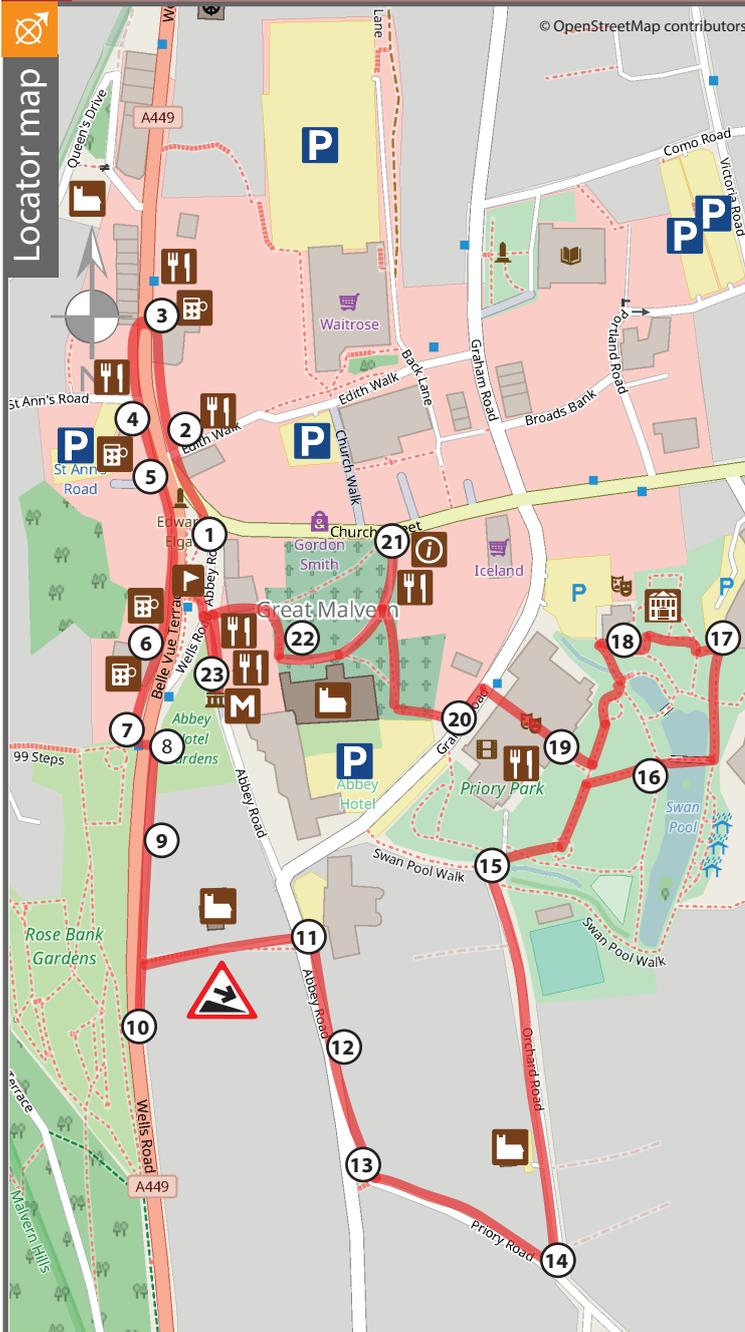




THE WALK TAKES IN MANY OF THE FINE BUILDINGS TO BE FOUND AROUND GREAT MALVERN, MANY WITH CONNECTIONS TO THE VICTORIAN WATER CURE WHICH BROUGHT THE TOWN MUCH FAME AND INVESTMENT IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.



Locator map



Directions

1 Start of the Walk

Start the walk at the Elgar statue. The statue was designed by local artist Rose Garrard. The Post Office site was earlier occupied by the Vicarage and before that by the original village church. Walk north to Barclays Bank

2 Barclays Bank

Barclays Bank was originally a library and social centre. 1818 saw the development of this building as a Library, Assembly Rooms and Billiard Rooms. Continue north to the Foley Arms Hotel

3 Foley Arms Hotel

Built in 1810 by Edward Archer. Lady Foley who was the Lady of the Manor maintained a suite of rooms for her visits to Malvern. Cross the road and head south to The Unicorn

4 The Unicorn

Dating from 1450 The Unicorn is one of the oldest surviving buildings in the area. Providing rest and refreshment for the travellers on the road from Worcester to Ledbury. Continue south along Belle Vue Terrace.

5 The Courtyard

Entrance to The Courtyard - this is the old trading entrance to what used to be Burrows bottling plant established in 1850. The adjacent WH Smith Building - was the Post Office until 1935 Note the Art Deco tiles either side of the doorway. Continue along Belle Vue Terrace

6 Belle Vue Terrace

Of all the water cure landmarks pride of place must go to Lloyds Bank, or as it was formerly, the Crown Hotel. At the end of the terrace is the Mount Pleasant Hotel dating from the late 18th century with its attractive Orangery behind. Continue south to Rose Bank Gardens.

7 Rose Bank Gardens

This garden occupies the site of a former large house left to the town in 1951 by Dyson Perrins of Lea & Perrins Worcestershire Sauce fame. It was allowed to fall into disrepair and demolished in 1960s to form this small park. At the northern side of the garden are 'ninety nine' steps which give access to the hills and St. Ann's Well. Cross The Wells Road and look over the wall

8 Abbey Hotel Gardens

The private gardens of the Abbey Hotel used to be a public park with a large conservatory where a German band used to perform each summer until WW1. The band stand was removed from the park and relocated in the Theatre Gardens (Priory Park). Walk south to Warwick House

9 Warwick House

The largest shop development in Malvern was this department store. It was closed in the 1990s and the building has now been converted to apartments. Walk south to The Tudor and Holyrood House

Continued overleaf.

See www.visitthemalverns.org for more walking trails and information on the area.

This route has been designed to complement O/S Explorer map No. 190

Map Key

Main route	Route keypoints	Museum/gallery	Cafe	Picnic site
Bridleway	Public house	Information	Parking	Mansion
Footpath	Ascent/descent	Landscape feature	Church	Finish flag

 Directions

10 Holyrood and Tudor Houses

Developed in the mid 19th century to support the Water Cure. They were separate single sex establishments - joined by the Bridge of Sighs. Famous patients included Wordsworth, GF Watts, Florence Nightingale and Charles Darwin. Retrace to steps between Holyrood and Warwick Houses Descend the steps past the Baptist Church turning left toward Park View.

11 Park View

The handsome middle part of this building was Dr Wilson's purpose built water cure clinic (which he called Priessnitz House) it later became the County Hotel and lodgings for the College of Electronics. Continue south to Malvern House

12 Malvern House

Malvern House, Abbey Road. Erected by Dr Wilson in 1852. Dickens' wife used to stay to convalesce. Follow road around into Priory Rd

13 Wilson Memorial

This memorial erected in 2015 is on the site of a former fountain with a marble tablet carrying a dedication to the late Dr James Wilson, the first practitioner of the Malvern Water Cure. Continue south east to Orchard Road, named after the Priory orchard

14 Victorian Post Box

Victorian letter box restored in 2004. Post boxes having this same tall fluted design are located in Eton and Christchurch. Turn left into Orchard Road continue into Priory Park

15 Priory Park

Priory Park covers an area of approximately eight acres. It is quintessentially Victorian and has been open to the public since 1925. The Park includes the Swan Pool crossed by a wooden bridge which was restored in 2010. Walk through the park towards bandstand

16 Victorian Bandstand

The bandstand was originally located in the once public Abbey Hotel Gardens. The ornate structure is a listed building and during the Summer months hosts regular 'Bands in the Park' recitals at weekends. Walk over the footbridge and turn left

17 Priory Park Mansion

Over the bridge and to the left at the end of the park stands the imposing Priory Mansion dating from 1874. It was the home of Dr Gully where he saw his private patients. It later became a Prep School and now houses the principal offices of Malvern Hills District Council. Look towards the hills across the park to see The Grange

18 The Grange

The original building was built by a local land owner James Mason and then was bought by Dr Gully. Walk to Theatre and enter via the steps

19 The Theatre Complex

Converted to the Winter Gardens the much modified structure built in 1884 as the major public space in the town replacing the original Royal Library. It had the appearance of a miniature Crystal Palace, housing an assembly room with stage, promenade and conservatory. The Theatre fell into decline and was re-launched in 1928 as the Malvern Festival with the help of Elgar, Shaw and Barry Jackson, a Birmingham impresario and founder of the Birmingham Repertory Theatre. The Theatre received a £6m Lottery Grant in 1998 which enabled the complex to be expanded to include a large atrium a concert hall, theatre and cinema. Exit via the Theatre main entrance and cross the road to the narrow path which leads to the Priory

20 Path to the Priory

In the church yard are gas lamps, restored to their original livery. Malvern is the only town in Britain which still has gas lamps on public roads (the Wells Road and Holy Well Road). Take the path to your right in the church yard

21 Lyttelton Well

The building now housing Lyttelton Well was originally the Choir School - closed after WW2. It is a fifteenth century building although its foundation was 1085. Take path through church yard.

22 Great Malvern Priory

Great Malvern Priory was a Benedictine monastery c.1075-1540 and is now the Anglican parish church. In 1949 it was designated a Grade I listed building. Principle features of the building are the gothic exterior, Norman nave, the stained glass, the Misericords and the medieval tiles. The grave of Darwin's daughter Annie is in the churchyard, she died of TB in 1851 at the age of 10. Ascend the Priory Steps and look left

23 Priory Gateway

Much of the original has been largely masked by 19th century restoration, although original timber gate posts are still in evidence; this leads into what used to be the Priory grounds. The Gatehouse now houses the excellent town museum, previously it housed the offices of an architect and solicitor. Elgar's friend, Troyte Griffiths used the building as his architect's office.

End - Cross the road and climb the steps onto Belle Vue Island and refresh yourself from the Malvhina public drinking spout where the walk ends.


ZOOMABLE MAP
<http://my.viewranger.com/route/details/MTE5Njly>