

## Choose your trail



### Cannock Chase Club Site – Castle Ring Fort

Camping and Caravanning



#### Route Summary



A great route through the forests of Cannock Chase using tracks, paths and sections of The Heart of England Way. The walk climbs to visit Castle Ring Fort before a little lane walking brings you to a path back into woodland and the campsite.

#### Route Overview



Category: Walking  
Length: 6.510 km / 4.07 mi  
Last Modified: 18th July 2017  
Difficulty: Medium  
Rating: Unrated  
Surface: Rough  
Date Published: 11th July 2017

#### Description



### A WALK TO CASTLE RING FORT FROM CANNOCK CHASE CAMPING AND CARAVANNING CLUB SITE



#### Walking by Castle Ring Fort

This walk explores the woodland and Cannock Chase areas to the south of Cannock Chase Club Site. Good tracks and paths make navigation easy and The Heart of England Way is used for a while to reach Castle Ring Fort, the highest point of Cannock Chase. From here a little lane walking brings you to a path back into the forest. Paths and tracks then take you in a wide loop to pick up your outbound route and back to the campsite. Some of the tracks and paths can be wet and muddy if it has been raining so wear boots and sensible clothing.

Ordnance Survey map: Explorer 264 - Cannock Chase and Chasewater.

NOTE: If you are using a GPS the route will be measured at 4.64 miles.

The going is steep in places but if you allow 2.5 – 3 hours you will easily get around and explore the fort too.

#### START

From Reception at Cannock Chase Club Site walk up the left side of the site away from the barrier to reach a gate for

the dog walk by the woods. Go left through the gate and follow the path in the woods to reach a large post with 'AFCC' on it and a path junction. Go left to walk through woodland to reach a road. Cross carefully over half right to pass a footpath sign and re-enter the trees to go right on a good track which is The Heart of England Way.



### Heart of England Way signpost

Descend into the forest to go ahead at a track crossroads. Keep descending to cross a fording point by a pond.



### The fording point

Start rising on the track again to pass a sign and dip down and cross a second smaller fording point. Rise up again more steeply and stay ahead at a junction left. Climb past an orange-topped post following the Heart of England Way. When a track comes in left continue ahead on it. At the next crossroad of tracks go straight ahead and continue to climb passing another orange-topped post.

The track gets rougher as you climb in the trees. As the angle eases look out for a sign where the Heart of England Way leaves left and take this narrower path through thicker trees. Rise up to a crossroad of paths and go left and then immediately half right by a small sign. Rise through the trees to exit and climb into the fort ramparts. Climb out of them up steps to reach the edge of Castle Ring Fort.





2. Go left to walk the complete circuit of the fort taking time to explore it. Continue around the fort to reach steps left above a car park.

NOTE: if you turn right when you reach the edge of the fort you can walk to these steps in a shorter distance but without seeing the whole fort.



### Walking near Castle Ring Fort

Drop down the steps to reach the car park and walk through it to the road. At the entrance to the car park go right at a road junction to descend a lane. Soon rise up to just before a white house where the lane bends left. Here leave the lane, taking a path right to pick up a track beyond a barrier. Take the track for a few paces and leave it to go left on a path into trees passing the gardens of the white house. Follow the path to go ahead at a staggered path crossroads. Continue on the path in trees (it can be muddy here) soon curving right past a tarn to join a track coming in right. Continue on the track past the tarn to start rising up with the tarn left.



### At the tarn

The track gets wider and passes a track coming in right in a dip. Continue upwards and ahead passing a yellow 'High Voltage' warning sign. Continue on more level open ground with a road over left. Follow the track and pass a house left continuing to reach a point just before a barrier by the road. You are facing the Beau Desert Golf Club entrance here.

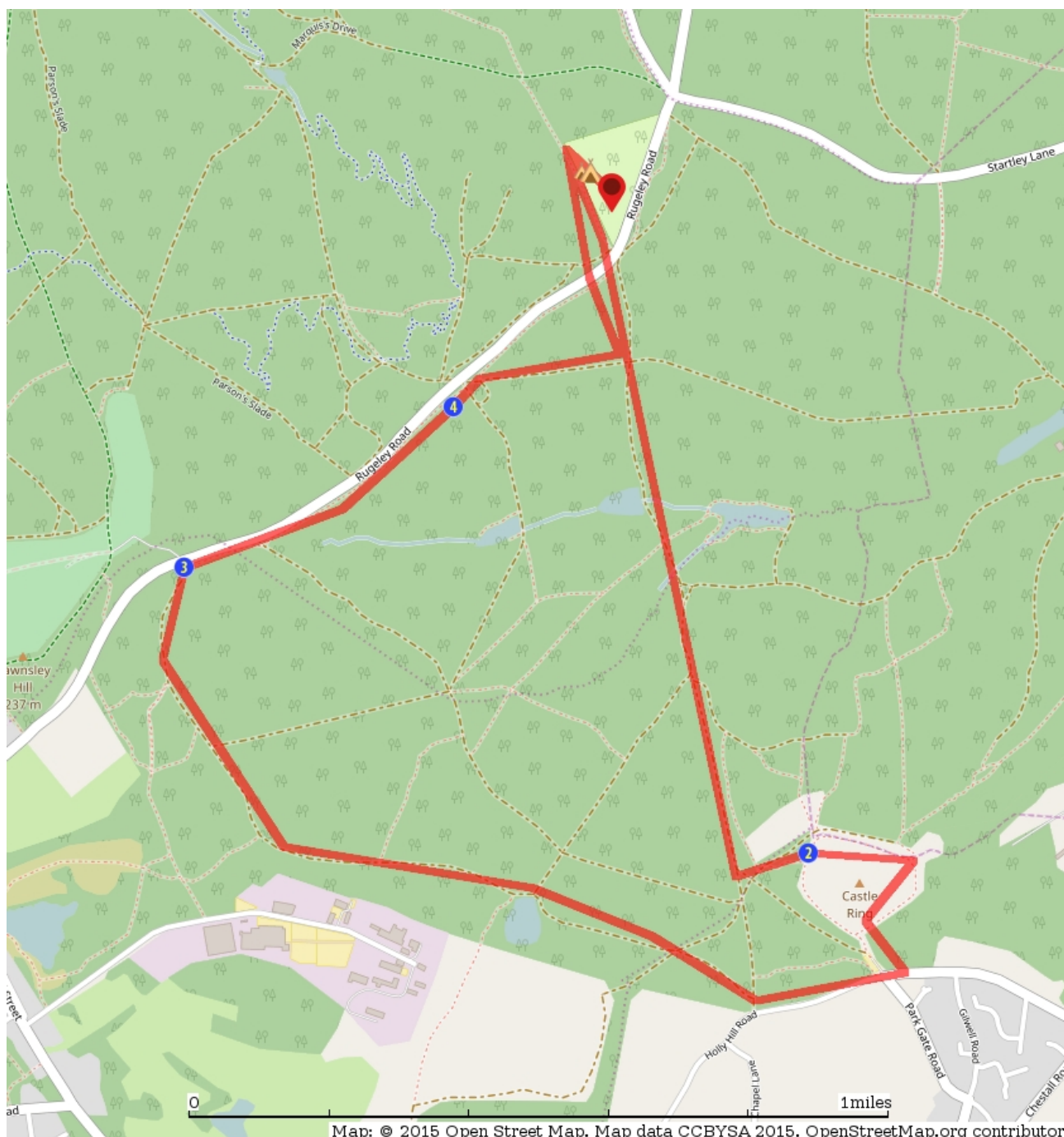
3. Go right before the barrier, taking a path that runs alongside the road in the forest. Continue to a track by a barrier and cross this to continue on the woodland path near the road that soon rises above you. There are some detours on this section to avoid longstanding wet areas. Continue on the path to reach a track and car park by a barrier.



4. Cross the top of the car park exiting via a barrier to take a good woodland track. Follow this to a track crossroads and re-join the outbound route and the Heart of England Way, going left on it. Follow your outbound route back to exit left to the road at a footpath sign. Cross the road and follow the track ahead to reach the big post with 'AFCC' on it. Here go right to pass through the gate back to the Club Site.

## Waypoints

# Choose your trail



Map: © 2015 Open Street Map. Map data CCBYSA 2015. OpenStreetMap.org contributors

