

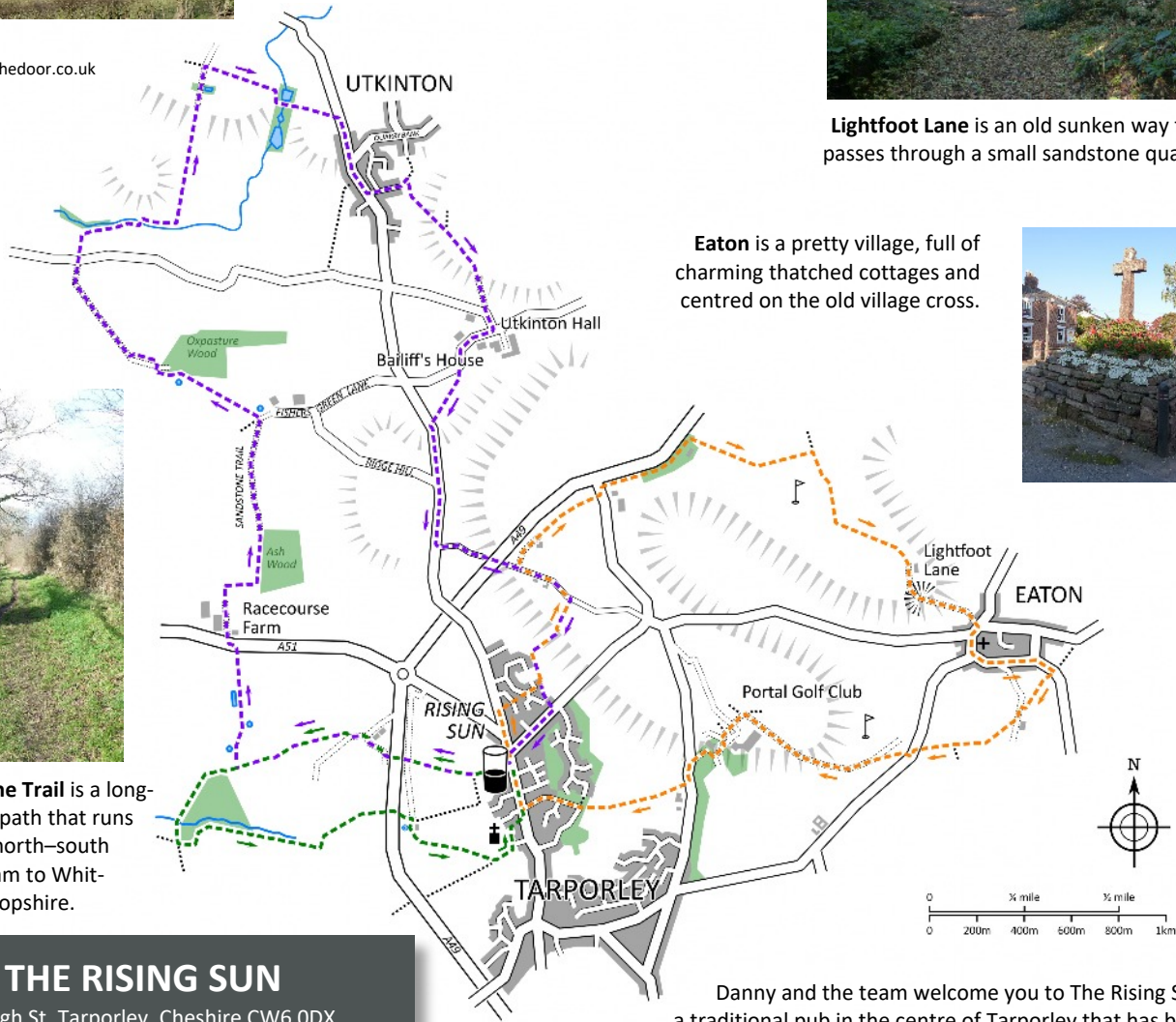


Utkinton Hall is a Grade I listed building, dating back in part to the medieval period. It was home to the honorary wardens of Delamere Forest, and the old Bailiff's House is nearby.



Lightfoot Lane is an old sunken way that passes through a small sandstone quarry.

www.walksfromthedor.co.uk



The **Sandstone Trail** is a long-distance footpath that runs for 34 miles north-south from Frodsham to Whitchurch in Shropshire.

Eaton is a pretty village, full of charming thatched cottages and centred on the old village cross.



THE RISING SUN
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 For opening and food service times, please see our website or social media.

Danny and the team welcome you to The Rising Sun, a traditional pub in the centre of Tarporley that has been serving Cheshire for hundreds of years. We pride ourselves on our extensive drinks range and our delicious food, so why not join us for a pint or two, enjoy a well-deserved gin from our huge selection or share a bottle of bubbly over a leisurely lunch. Our Sunday menu is the perfect choice to wind down the weekend and we are ideally positioned for Delamere Forest and nearby Nantwich Town if you fancy exploring.

THREE CIRCULAR WALKS FROM

The Rising Sun

TARPORLEY, CHESHIRE



- SANDSTONE TRAIL 2½ miles**
An easy stroll sampling the Sandstone Trail, with views to Beeston Castle
- EATON VILLAGE 4½ miles**
Field and golf-course walking to a pretty village, via a sunken quarrymen's path
- UTKINTON 6¼ miles**
Follow the Sandstone Trail through rolling Cheshire countryside, passing a historic manor house

ROBINSONS

Sandstone Trail (2½ miles: Fairly easy)

Fairly level, with several stiles. Two busy road crossings; may be muddy in places after rain. Allow 1–1½ hours.

1 Turn left along the High Street. **2** Cross Daffodil Close then turn left (The Close). **3** When the road bends right, take the path ahead to the left of the gateposts, which ends at a gate into fields. **4** Walk down the line of trees to a footbridge with metal gates at either end. **5** Cross the next field to a similar footbridge. **6** At the bottom of the next field, go through a kissing gate into a track parallel to the A49. **7** Go through a gap in the fence and cross the busy road. Find a similar gap in the fence on the other side, slightly to the right. **8** Turn right along a tree-lined path to a rough driveway. **9** Turn left down the track (ignoring a stile in the hedge on your right and a farm entrance on the left). After 75 m, turn right onto a waymarked footpath. **10** The hedged path runs between fields for 500 m, before being joined from the right by the Sandstone Trail. **11** Continue ahead, past a bench to a footbridge and gate. **12** Bear left along the edge of the wood to a footpath sign, with views of Beeston Castle. **13** Turn left (signposted to Tarporley) to a kissing gate. **14** Walk up the left-hand side of the field, next to the wood and right of a small stream, and continue up the field when the wood ends. **15** At the top of the field, turn left through a kissing gate and then right through another. **16** Follow the path to the right of and above a shallow valley to a stile leading down to the Tarporley bypass. **17** Cross carefully, then climb the steps to a further stile. **18** Bear right and cross a weedy field to a kissing gate. **19** Turn right at the entrance to Moss Cottage and keep to the right of the garden, passing left of a pond to a kissing gate into open fields. **20** The official path crosses a stile in the fence into the tussocky field on your left, but a well-used unofficial path continues right of the fence to a second stile and then left. **21** Whichever you take, aim for a metal gate in the bottom right-hand corner of the churchyard. **22** Follow a path left to a bench, then right and left to the church's south door. **23** Beyond the church, a spiked metal gate leads out to the High Street; turn left to the Rising Sun.

Eaton village (4½ miles: Moderate)

Allow 2–3 hours. May be muddy in places; several stiles. Take extreme care while crossing the golf course.

1 From the front door, turn left along the High Street. **2** At the end of the village, turn right (signposted to Utkinton). **3** Just beyond a bungalow called Newlands, turn right into a narrow footpath between hedges. **4** Cross a road and continue along the similar path ahead. **5** Continue past a grassy area with trees and past the last houses to a signposted footpath; turn left behind the gardens then turns right through a gate into a field. **6** Walk up the right-hand side of the field to the corner, turn left and right to a gate and stile. **7** Follow the

left-hand edge of the next field to a gate into a metalled lane. **8** Turn left and pass a couple of houses on your left. Shortly before reaching the main road, turn right along another track which passes a farmyard and narrows to a grassy path that emerges on a road. **9** Turn left to the main road, and turn right on the right-hand pavement. **10** Follow the A49 for 400 m (beyond an entrance, the path leaves the road briefly to run through trees before returning to the roadside). **11** At the end of the trees, turn right onto a footpath that emerges onto the golf course. **12** Follow the hedge on your left, with fairways to your right, before passing to the left of a tee to a metal kissing gate. **13** Turn right along a hedged path with the golf course on your right. **14** Cross a golfers' path and continue to a junction of tracks. **15** Turn left and follow the sunken track which descends through an old quarry before joining a driveway (Lightfoot Lane) that leads out to the road in Eaton village. **16** Turn right past the village cross, passing the church on your left. **17** Turn left into Edgewell Lane and follow it to the end of the village, passing the school on your left. **18** Just beyond the last house, turn right over a stile and head half-right to a stile into a track in the far right-hand corner. **19** Turn left along the track, then turn right through the hedge just before some barns. **20** Head half-left to a stile in the hedge, beyond which turn right. **21** Follow the right-hand side of two fields, separated by a stile, to another stile into a road. **22** Cross another stile opposite into the golf course and bear half-left to join a tree-lined service road. **23** Follow the road left, which then curves right to the clubhouse and car park. **24** Follow the road to the left at the end of the car park to a junction, where you keep straight on (signposted 'Arderne Golf Course and Golf Academy'). **25** Before the service road bends right below a raised green, take the second left (signposted 'New footpath'). **26** Turn right, then, after a short distance when the main path bends left, turn right onto a narrow path that emerges at the top of a driveway to a house. **27** Turn left and walk down to the road. **28** Turn left along the road for 75 m, then turn right onto a signposted footpath through two gates into a field. **29** Follow the field edge to a wooden kissing gate then a wooded path to Park Road. **30** Follow the road down to the High Street. **31** Turn right to return to the Rising Sun.

Utkinton (6¼ miles: Moderate)

Allow 3 hours. May be muddy in places; multiple stiles, and some road walking. Livestock are likely to be encountered.

Follow steps **1–10** of the **Sandstone Trail** walk, above.

11 Turn right through a kissing gate onto the northbound Sandstone Trail (signposted to 'A54 Rode Street and Fishers Green'). Follow the left-hand field edge to a gap in the hedge, then continue to a kissing gate. **12** Continue past a narrow pond to a further kissing gate. **13** Walk down the field to a kissing gate in the far left-hand corner. **14** Cross the A51 carefully and turn left past Racecourse Farm. **15** At

a Sandstone Trail noticeboard, turn right onto a broad, tree-lined path. At the end, continue along the field edge, then turn right through a kissing gate and continue to Ash Wood. **16** Swing left along the woodland edge to the far end. **17** Follow the track ahead of you to the end of Fishers Green Lane, where there is a house with a pond in the garden. **18** Turn left, then immediately right, through a kissing gate. **19** Walk left, diagonally across the field, as indicated by the Sandstone Trail sign. In the far corner, pass right of a pond and through a two kissing gates. **20** Follow the woodland edge for 100 m, then turn right through a gate. Cross a green lane to a kissing gate and follow the path left, parallel to the track, before joining it after a further 100 m. **21** Bear right and follow the green lane to a road. **22** Cross and go through a kissing gate opposite. Walk down the field edge to a wood, where the path swings right above the stream valley. **23** Beyond the wood, the path runs along the stream, before crossing a footbridge and continuing with the stream now on your right. **24** At the end of the field, leave the stream and follow the hedge uphill. **25** Join a hedged track in the top right-hand corner and continue uphill, passing a flooded, wooded pit partway up. **26** At a gateway, leave the Sandstone Trail, turning right through a hand-gate. Follow the top of the field to the corner, then swing right to a stile. **27** Cross into the trees and follow the path over a footbridge below a fishing pond. **28** Climb another stile and walk up to another in the top right-hand corner. Follow the narrow path along a garden wall out to the road in Utkinton. **29** Turn right into the village, carrying straight on at the war memorial. **30** Pass the village hall on your right, then turn left into Northgate. **31** Pass the end of North Brook Road on your left and continue ahead, joining a path after the last house. **32** At the bottom of the valley, turn right over a stile and bear right up the slope. **33** Cross a stile in the middle of the field and continue to a ladder-stile in the far corner. **34** Follow the fence to a gate on the far side; turn right then follow the farm track, down to the road. **35** Turn left to a junction by Utkinton Hall where you turn right, shortly passing the Bailiff's House. **36** The road bends left, then right. At the second bend, take the signposted footpath over a stile ahead. **37** When the wall on the left ends (where a gate gives a glimpse of historic Utkinton Hall), keep to the right of the line of trees and walk uphill. Towards the top of the field, bear right to a stile in the hedge that gives onto a road. **38** Turn left, through a sandstone cutting. At the top of the hill, cross the entrance to Ridge Hill, where there is a good, if distant, view of Beeston Castle. **39** Continue along the road for 300 m then turn left into Heath Green. **40** Pass between houses, then continue along the old road to the A49. **41** Cross carefully and pick up the road opposite, ignoring a byway signposted on the left. **42** Just after Hill Farm (on the right), go through a kissing gate, also on the right, and walk down the field edge to a stile and gate. **43** Walk left then right along the edges of the next field and at the bottom, turn left through a metal hand-gate. **44** Take the path ahead, along the garden fences of the adjoining houses. Pass the end of a residential road and continue along the path to Forest Road. **45** Turn left and walk down the road to the High Street, where you turn left to return to the Rising Sun.