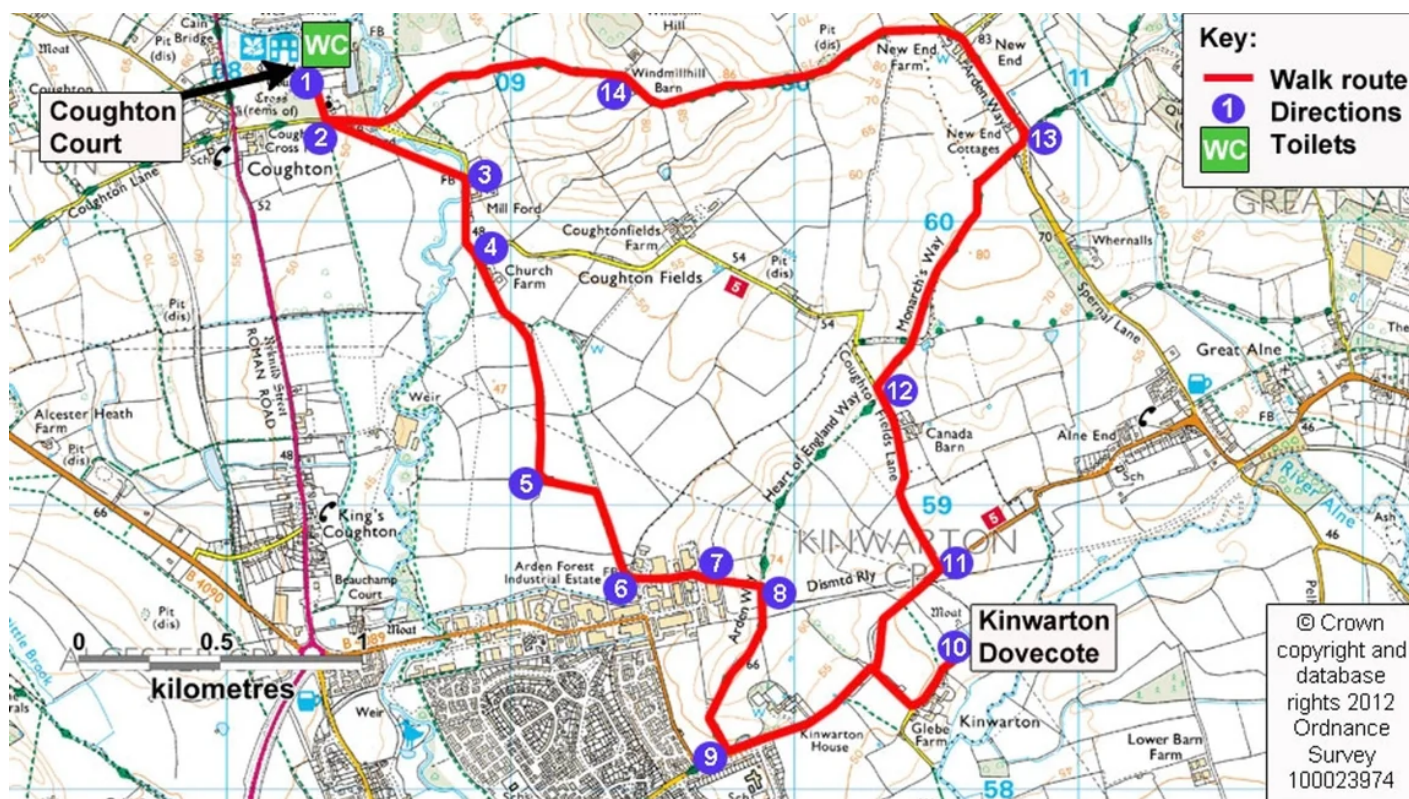


WARWICKSHIRE

Coughton Court and Kinwarton Dovecote trail

Extend a visit to Coughton Court with a circular walk through the Warwickshire countryside to a rare surviving 14th-century dovecote. Along the way, you'll see three historic churches, including one that was built by Sir Robert Throckmorton.



Information

Address: Coughton Court, near Alcester, Warwickshire B49 5JA

OS map: OS Explorer 220 (south sheet) and Explorer 205

Activity: Walking

Moderate: A moderate walk covering a variety of surfaces. For further details, please see Terrain section.

Dog friendly: It's essential that dogs are kept on leads, as there are livestock and water hazards along the route. Dogs are not permitted inside the house at Coughton Court.

Full trail: Miles: 8 (km: 12.8)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 3 hours 30 mins

Terrain

The route includes uneven sections, while the field paths may be marshy following wet weather. Look out for livestock (and their droppings), as well as water hazards (ponds and ditches).

Total steps: 14

Start point: Coughton Court visitor centre. Grid ref: SP083606.

1. With Coughton Court visitor centre behind you, walk along the drive in front of the house, passing the 16th-century gatehouse and the church.
2. At the end of the drive, you'll see the Roman Catholic church of St Peter, St Paul and St Elizabeth on your left. Cross the road into the field and walk diagonally left across the fields until you get to a footbridge. Cross this and rejoin the lane.
3. Follow the lane for 300m (330yds), then turn right into Church Farm.
4. Pass through the farm and carry straight on until you reach a fork. Take the right-hand path leading to a farm building.
5. At the farm building, turn left along the edge of the field and then right. Walk along the field edge until you get to a left turn into the industrial estate.
6. When you arrive at Estate Road, cross straight over, walk to the end of the road and then enter the field.
7. Walk up the hill to join the Arden Way at the top. Go through the hedge and turn right.
8. Follow the path, keeping to the left, until you come out on the Great Alne/Alcester road.
9. Turn left and follow the road towards Great Alne. When you come to a right turn signposted Kinwarton, take this road down to a farm, bearing left towards the church. The dovecote will be straight ahead.
10. A small door provides access into the dovecote, given to the National Trust in 1958.
11. Retrace your steps to the main road, turn right along the road, then head back up Coughton Fields Lane on the left.
12. After you pass the farm, climb the stile on the right and follow the Monarch's Way across the fields. You'll eventually come to a road.
13. Turn left along the road and, after passing some houses, turn left again along a track.

14. Follow this track for 3.2km (2 miles), passing newly planted woodland (a private venture to replant the Forest of Arden) and Windmill Hill. The track then joins Coughton Fields Lane. Turn right along the lane, then right again onto the drive back to Coughton Court.

End point: Coughton Court visitor centre. Grid ref: SP083606.
