

The River Severn

The River Severn is the UK's longest river, standing at 354km. Like the river Wye, the Severn begins its journey at the Plynlimon mountain in the Cambrian Range. The Severn flows through Powys, Shropshire, Worcestershire, and Gloucestershire, ending its journey at the Severn Estuary, which then flows into the ocean. The river becomes tidal close to Maisemore, just north of Gloucester.



The name 'Severn' comes from the name 'Sabrina', or 'Hafren' in Welsh, who was considered to be a nymph who drowned in the river.



Along the river lies many major towns and cities, such as Shrewsbury, Gloucester, and Worcester. On the journey, the river has many notable bridges, included the world's first iron arch bridge near Ironbridge, and two major road bridges that connect Wales to England, the Severn Bridge, and the Prince of Wales Bridge.



The Iron Bridge near Ironbridge



Prince of Wales Bridge

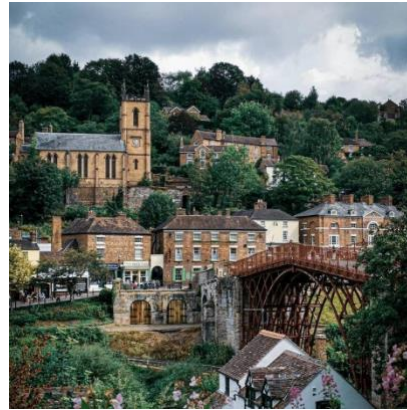


Stop number 1: The Cambrian Mountains are the source of both the River Wye and the River Sever. This river begins at the highest point of the range, Pumlumon, and folklore says there is a sleeping giant inside this mountain.



Stop number 2: Shrewsbury is a market town on the River Sever. Its town centre has an unspoilt medieval street plan, and the town is the birthplace of Charles Darwin.

Stop number 3: Ironbridge is a village located on the bank of the River Severn, at the heart of the Ironbridge Gorge. The village takes its name from The Iron Bridge located nearby, which is the first iron arch bridge built in Britain. The village is a tourist destination, and promotes itself as the ‘Birthplace of the Industrial Revolution’.



Stop number 4: Bridgnorth is a town in Shropshire, split by the River Severn into High Town and Low Town. The town is named after bridge, built further north.



Stop number 5: Lincomb Weir, Holt Weir, and Bevere Weir are all recently completed fish passes. These are constructed on or around natural barriers to allow fish to migrate further without being blocked.



Stop number 6: Worcester is a cathedral city in Worcestershire, England. The River Severn runs through the western side of the city centre, overlooked by Worcester Cathedral. Worcester is the home of the English composer Edward Elgar, Worcestershire sauce, and the world’s oldest newspaper, Berrow’s Worcester Journal.

Stop number 7: Tewkesbury is a medieval market town in Gloucestershire, England. It stands at the joining of the River Severn with the River Avon. The town grew due to trading at this point, and at the meeting point of main roads between Gloucester and Worcester.





Stop number 8: Gloucester is a cathedral city in Gloucestershire, England. The city lies on the River Sever, and between the Cotswolds and the Forest of Dean. The city is a port, linked via a canal to the Severn Estuary.

Stop number 9: The Severn Estuary flows into the Bristol Channel, which then flows into the Atlantic Ocean. It has a high tidal range, around 15m, meaning it's often discussed as a possibility for a renewable energy source for the UK. Here, the rivers Wye and Usk also flow into the Estuary on the Welsh side.





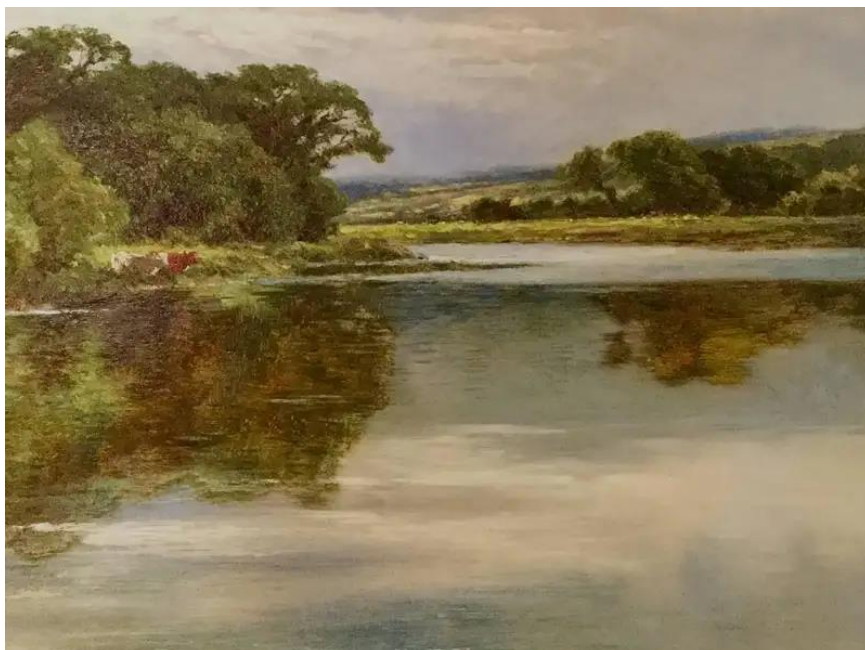
River Severn Autumn
Light

Paul Mitchell



Upcoming Tide on the
Severn

Roy Munday



On the River Severn
at Bridgnorth

Henry H Parker

1880-9