

THE RIVER WYE

The River Wye is the UK's 4th longest river standing at almost 215km long. It flows from the Cambrian Mountains, Plynlimon, in mid Wales to the Severn Estuary in southwest England. Legend has it there is a sleeping giant within the mountains.

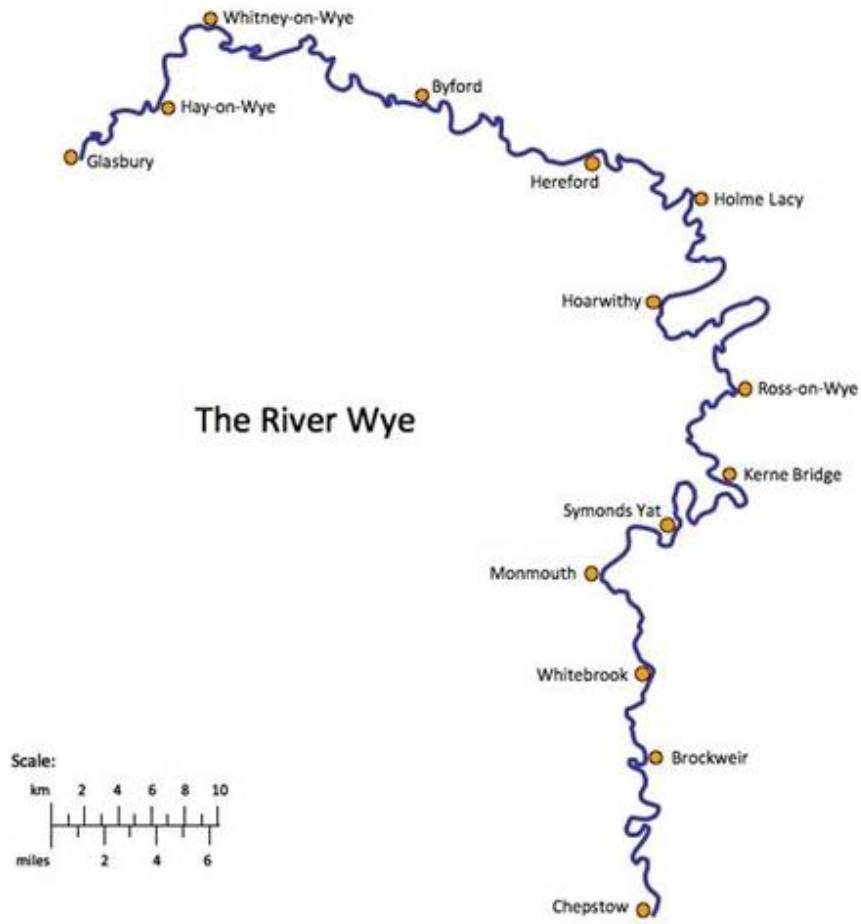


The river forms part of the border between England and Wales, and flows through the Wye Valley, an area of outstanding natural beauty.

The Wye is important for nature conservation and recreation, but it is unfortunately severely affected by pollution. The river is tidal from its joining with the river Severn for 24km, with some water levels rising up to 15m. Historically, it has been used to transport coal from the Forest of Dean, cider from Hereford, along with stone, wine, and timber. The waters are also used for salmon fishing.



Bigswear Bridge over the River Wye, near Monmouth



Stops along the journey

Stop number 1: The Cambrian Mountains are the source of both the River Wye and the River Severn. 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: Hay-on-Wye is a market town in Powys, Wales. The town has over twenty bookshops, and hosts an annual book festival, giving itself the name “the town of books”.

Stop number 3: Hereford is the only city along the River Wye and is in the county of Herefordshire in England. The name comes from the Anglo-Saxon “here”, an army of soldiers, and the “ford”, a place for crossing a river.



Stop number 4: Ross-on-Wye promotes itself as “the birthplace of British tourism”. The town’s attractions comes from its river scenery in the Wye Valley.

Stop number 5: Kerne Bridge is situated on the left bank of the River and takes its name from a nineteenth century bridge over the river. Today, it is now known for being a popular canoeing spot.



Stop number 6: Momouth is a town in Wales, and situated where the River Monnow joins the River Wye. The town was the site of a small Roman fort, and became established after the Normans built Monmouth Castle in 1067. Monmouth has become a tourism centre at the heart of the Wye Valley

Stop Number 7: Brockweir is a village in the Forest of Dean, on the eastern bank of the River Wye. The village has been an important crossing point of the River Wye.



Stop number 8: Chepstow is a town in Wales, located on the tidal River Wye above its joining with the River Severn. The town has a castle situated on a cliff top above the Wye and is sometimes referred to as the oldest surviving stone castle in Britain.



The River Wye at Tintern Abbey

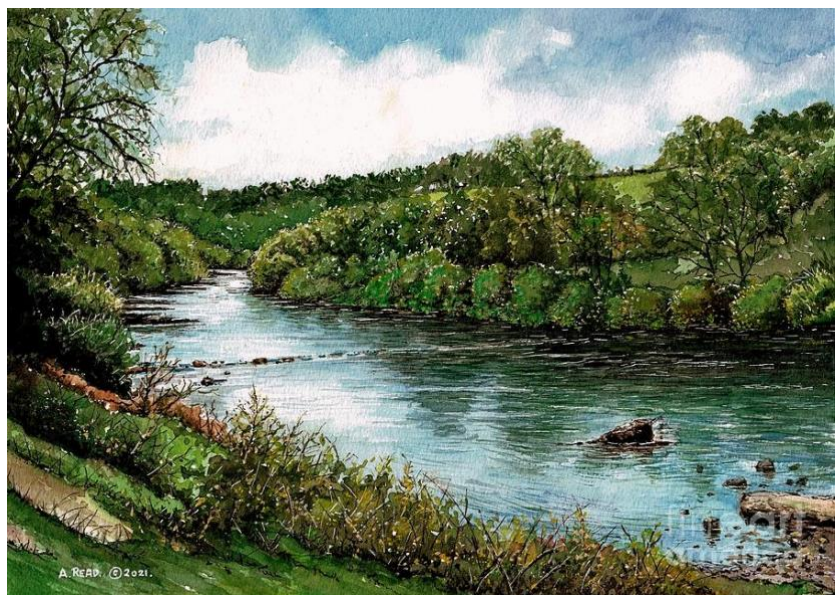
Philip James de Louthembourg

1805



Goodrich Castle on the River Wye

Edward Dayes



Wyebank River Wye

Andrew Read