

25 June 2022: The Gloucestershire Way - Shipton Oliffe to Stow-on-the-Wold

The week postponement left only three of us free; however, this time, the weather was great for walking. Barring a heavy shower in Shipton Oliffe at 9am that had us sheltering in St Edmunds church, the rest of the day was bright and cool with just a few sprinkles. The 21km route followed lanes and field paths through huge areas of ripening crops, Cotswold stone hamlets and rolling hills. Hampen, Salperton, Notgrove and a break for some good coffee at the Plough Inn in Cold Aston. Another few kilometers took us across the Windrush and into the churchyard at Lower Slaughter for our packed lunches. The place looked crowded with tourists after so many miles of quiet countryside. Another four kilometres took us to the busy A439 and into Stow just before three. Richard had very helpfully left a car there, so a quick return to Shipton and so on homeward.

Bruce Matheson