



## THE PAINSWICK

### Cider with Rosie... Juniper Hill & Slad Village

Cross to the Slad Valley and Laurie Lee's pub

5 miles (8km) - 2 to 3 hours

(Depending on how long you spend in the pub!)

Moderate walk with a couple of strenuous climbs.



Leave via the front of the hotel, turn R onto the lane. Proceed down the hill staying on the road. At the end turn L and then R onto **Ticklestone Lane**. The mill pond is on the left past **Painswick Mill** where you may spot some ducks. Cross the **Painswick Stream** and follow the path around to the R. Follow the lane uphill to meet a track.

Turn R and follow the path, taking a sharp L turn. Soon afterwards take the footpath on the R (South). After about 75 m turn R through a gate. Walk straight across the field (West). At the top of the slope you will see the **farm buildings**. Walk to the left of the buildings and right onto the **farm track**. The field may be muddy over this section. Turn L onto the farm track and follow this track around the next field edge to the road (**Stepping Stones Lane**).

Turn R onto the road and then after 25m L onto the footpath by the stream. Follow the path between the hedges and then the pollarded trees. Cross into a field and continue to follow the stream to the far (west) end of the field. Go through the kissing gate and cross the bridge over the weir – please take care. The building on the opposite side of the drive is **Kings Mill**.

Turn L and follow the track, cross the stream and then continue along the track up the hill. Bear R where the track meets a tarmac drive and walk towards the buildings (known as **Sheephouse**). Look back up at the valley to Painswick and the church. At Sheephouse turn L and follow the path that starts behind the **old street light** and a tree. The path follows the wall up the hill. This continues in the same direction (East), through a field with a hedge on the L. Cross a **stile** and stay in the same direction following the hedge/fence on the R. At the top you meet **Stepping Stones Lane**.

Turn L then R and then R again through a gate to follow the track up **Juniper Hill**, the original **carriage way** between **Painswick** and **Slad**. On the left are old limestone quarry

**Painswick Mill** First recorded in 1634. In 1752 an advertisement described the mill as a 'very good place for spinning'. In the following century it changed from cloth to produce hook and eyes and later was a pin mill before it

The **Painswick Stream** was the local source of power. In 1086 four mills were recorded and by 1820 the stream was powering 25 mills.

**Sheephouse** is a former C17 farmhouse and outbuildings. Now a grade II listed building.

From the days before cars this **carriage way** was the route taken by horse drawn vehicles between the two valleys. There is a water trough towards the top to refresh weary horses.

Continue up the track; bear R where the track divides. Take in the view down the valley to **Stroud**. The path levels out at the horse trough. Cross the cattle grid and stay on the track. You are crossing the top of **Juniper Hill**, now it is all downhill to **Slad**.

As the main track starts to descend take the track on the R, this passes a black shed on the L. After about 600m the track becomes a tarmac lane, shortly after turn L onto a narrow **Public Footpath**. Follow this down the hill, with the boundary of **Quarry Wood** on the L. Cross a **stile** and continue in the same direction. Follow the field down to a gate, cross and continue down the track. Where the track bears L go straight on down a steep path with a wall on the R. Cross the **Stroud Road** at the end (take care).

Turn L (north) and follow the footway into the village of **Slad**. Once in the village you will pass the **Woolpack Inn** on your R. Cross the road by the Inn into the entrance of **Holy Trinity church** where **Laurie Lee's** grave can be found on the R of the church. Continue in the same direction and leave the church yard by the north gate. Rejoin the main **Stroud Road** and turn L. Continue up through the village following the footway on the R. There is a short section with no footway – take great care and walk on the R in single file. Continue onto the **War Memorial** on the R at the edge of the village.

Take the lane to the L and walk up the steep hill. Where the lane goes to the L turn R onto the bridle way. The track meets a larger track, bear R and continue to follow the main Laurie Lee Walk which gradually goes up hill (North East). At the top of the hill there is a wide path and **Ann's Bench**. Turn R along the wide track. Take the **second path** on the L (after 5 more trees). Follow this track down through the woods. Where the track bears L ignore the path to the R and shortly after there is a further junction. The main track bears L, another track goes R and there is a narrow path straight on (North East). Follow this path straight on down the hill **between the trees**. Take the R at the hairpin bend.

At the bottom cross the track and go straight on through a gate (North West). Follow the path to another gate, cross the lane, and continue down a track staying in the same direction. Where the track turns L go straight on over a **stile**. This wide path runs down the hill **between two fences**. At a farm gate the path narrows to run between a hedge and a fence. Join a track which bears R. You are now on the route you set out on. At the next junction (close to a treehouse) take the L track down to **Painswick Mill**. Follow the track around to the L, at the end of the lane turn L and then R back up **Knapps Lane** to return to

**Slad** is famous for being the home and final resting place of **Laurie Lee**.

**The Woolpack Inn** is an unspoiled local pub and was Lee's favourite Inn.

**Laurie Lee** (1914 – 1997) was a poet and novelist who captured the essence of rural England between the First and Second World Wars. His seminal work, '**Cider with Rosie**', a lyrical portrait of his Cotswold boyhood, has become a classic. Other works include his experiences in the Spanish Civil War.

**The Laurie Lee Wild Life Walk** was created in 2014 to mark the centenary of his birth. You may come across some of the 14 'poetry posts' which mark

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