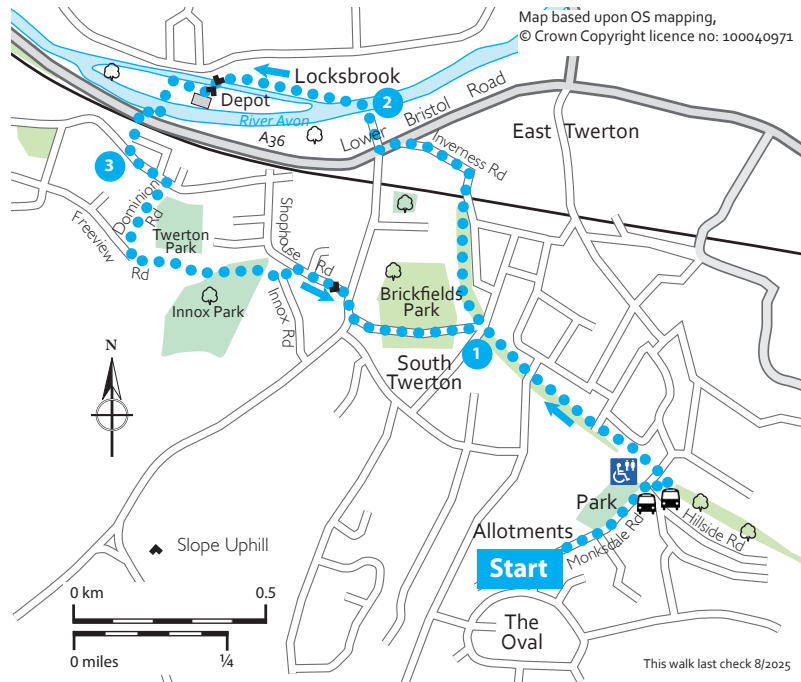


Walk 1 Wildlife & Waterways (on Wheels)

A route suitable for pushchairs and motorised wheelchairs taking in the green and blue spaces of West Bath.

Route



Start & Finish: Outside Monksdale Road allotments.

W3W - pint.posed.using

Distance: 3 miles / 4.8km with an up and down of 269 ft / 82m

Slopes: Though mostly flat there are a couple of steep inclines.

Steps and stiles: None.

Terrain: Pavement and paved paths, some hard gravelled surfaces.

Transport: Visit travelwest.info for bus information to and from Hillside Road. Free parking on residential streets. Please park respectfully.

Public toilets: Monksdale Road (by sandpits play area) 7am to 9pm. Note: Winter hours 7am to 6pm (20p)

Refreshments: The Locksbrook Inn and Basil's Bakery.

Rest points: Benches in parks along the route.

Dogs welcome: Yes, though involves some road walking. Take care on the cycle path.

Wheel friendly: Yes

Additional info: All road crossings have been checked for dropped kerbs.

Features on the route: Three playgrounds - Moorfields Sandpits, Innox & Brickfields Parks. Hannah Close Community Garden.

Standing on the pavement at the gate to the allotments head down hill keeping the allotments on your left. Shortly you reach a red gate into a park. The path through the park has a number of steps, if you can manage those cut through the park heading down hill, otherwise stay on the pavement.

At the end of the park look right to see a footpath up to the bridge you can see over the road in front of you. Cross over the road to take this path. At the top of the slope turn left to cross over the bridge you were just looking at from beneath. Look out for cyclists.

Stay on this path along the Linear Park and Two Tunnels Greenway going underneath a bridge and then across another green bridge ①. Soon after this second bridge you will come to a junction of paths. Bear right and across a brick bridge.

Soon after the end of the bridge turn left off the footpath onto a residential street (Inverness Road) following signs for 'Bristol and Bath Railway Path'.

Walk to the end of the street and cross Burnham Road, then turn right. At the T-junction turn left along the pavement of Lower Bristol Road (A36) until the pedestrian crossing. Cross the road using the crossing and turn left and then immediately right down Fielding's Road by the Golden Fleece pub.

When the road starts to bear right, cross the road to your left to take the footpath down the side of the large building and through metal railings. Follow this route over another green coloured bridge, this time over the River Avon ②. At the end of the bridge turn left to join the Bristol and Bath Railway Path. Continue along the path with the river on your left until you reach a stone humpback bridge just past the Locksbrook Inn.

Turn left onto the bridge to cross the river. The path here is quite steep in both directions. Then follow the path round to the right to continue walking along the river, with it on your right now.

The path curves around and pops out by a bus depot. Stay on the footpath passing through some metal barriers. Then cross the river once again over a large vehicle bridge. Be cautious of the very high kerb here.

Continued on next page.



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At the T-junction turn right and then immediately left to cross the road at the crossing point. Then continue onto the footpath through the tunnel signed Arches 1 - 13. The path is steep to start with before levelling out. At the T-junction turn left onto the pavement of High Street 3.

Keep on the left hand pavement, past the shops on the Parade, until you see Clyde Gardens on your left. Use the zebra crossing to cross High Street opposite Bath College. Continue up hill on Dominion Road.

As Dominion Road bears right take the footpath on your left, behind a lamp post and between the signs for Dominion Road and Hanna Close. At the top of the path, either take the flight of steps up to Freeview Road, or use the switchback ramp loop to your right to do the same thing. Turn left and continue along Freeview Road until you reach Innox Park. Continue through the park using the surfaced path and out through the exit.

In the spring and summer, look up the slope to see where a wild flower meadow has been established. This is a great spot to look for pollinators such as butterflies, hoverflies and bees. The walk up the slope also rewards you with wonderful views across the valley.



At the T-junction of The Brow and Innox Road turn left. At the next T-junction turn right uphill on Shophouse Road. This section is steep. At the brow of the hill as the road curves right you will see the One Stop Shop on your left. Cross the road just before it to take the path that runs alongside it. Walk past the bollard straight ahead and follow the path down past another playground on your right.

After leaving the park through a metal exit barrier, just before you meet the road where the path forks, take the left fork slightly uphill 1.

Turn right to re-join the Linear Park and Two Tunnels Greenway. Cross the green coloured bridge again and continue along the path. Remember to check for cyclists once again.

Retrace your footsteps for approx. 550m back over the first bridge you crossed. Once across, turn right back down to Monksdale Road. Return to the start via the way you came.

*W3W stands for What3Words, which is an alternative way of specifying precise locations. You can use the W3W app or website for free to see these locations on a map.

Birds to spot along the route

Black-headed Gull

For much of the year, it has a white head, the black head feathers coming through in the summer only. Small compared to other Bath gulls, they are usually in small noisy flocks.



Cormorant

When not standing in this tell-tale stance, drying its wings the cormorant can look almost reptilian as it swims low into the water. They are excellent fishers, able to catch and eat large fish and eels.



Mute Swan

Large, with long S-shaped necks & orange bills with a black base and a black knob. These are easy to spot on the waterways of Bath. Often seen bottom up as they dive down for water plants, insects & snails to eat.



Grey Heron

Grey herons though are unmistakable are easy to miss as they stand statue still at the water's edge. They are tall, with long legs, a long beak and grey, black and white feathering.



Peregrine Falcon

Don't forget to look up! Peregrine Falcons were first spotted in the city in 2000. Since 2006 they have annually nested and raised young on the spire of St John's RC Church in South Parade.

