



Introduction

Welcome to our third volume of '*100 Walks from the Poppy and Pint: Winter Walks from your Doorstep*'. I hope that you find it useful. You will find a range of walks suitable for exercise during this third 'lockdown'. They all start from our very own doorstep, directly from the Poppy and Pint. They are all specially selected or formulated walks with several things in common: they are suitable for winter walking, the paths are quiet; the paths are varied and hold interest; all are on good, waymarked paths. Moreover, on all the walks it should be possible to be 'socially distant' from others and on all walks, there is the right kind of 'atmosphere' in green spaces.

What I have discovered is that walking in Nottinghamshire can be a restorative experience. Nottinghamshire villages are beautiful. Its landscape is many and varied. Apart from the big rivers and canals, there are wonderful streams and hills and rolling countryside – all a joy to behold. These walks take you to such places; lesser known, quiet, and tranquil places – all from your very doorstep. I have tried hard to avoid the honey pots of Holme Pierrepont Country Park and the immediate river embankment – all of which featured in Volume 1.

This is the third volume of walks to complement Volumes One and Two. Unfortunately, it is not possible to put these publications together in one tome as the subsequent size of the file would be too big to e mail!

Thanks so much for your support and interest. I hope that this publication encourages you to 'get out there' and I hope to see you on the trail one day. In any event, maybe we will meet in The Poppy and Pint when this is all over to compare notes and share ideas.

Happy Rambling from Lady Bay and be sure to stay in touch!

Best wishes,

Trevor Riddiough

January 2021

Route-finding

You should be able to follow the **clues** to get you around each route without a map.

Useful maps are: Ordnance Survey: OS Landranger 129 Nottingham and Loughborough 1:50,000 **or** Explorer 260 Nottingham Vale of Belvoir 1:25,000 **or** Ordnance Survey OS Explorer 246 Loughborough 1:25,000

You can download these maps onto your mobile phone once you have bought them.



ViewRanger is a free App and navigational aid. Once downloaded you may never get lost again as it shows your exact location on a clear base map! It uses GPS signals and so does not use your data allowance and is economical with your phone battery.

If you would like a five-minute quick start guide, e mail me and we can arrange a phone call to get you going!

Acknowledgements

This project has been a collaboration between people. I am really grateful to the following people who have helped me enormously during this task:

Front Cover: Louie McGavin – Year 6, Hambrook Primary School, Bristol – our Grandson.

Suggestions for routes: Trevor Pull, Karen and Keith Rainford, Catherine Todd, Pete Strauss.

James Halfpenny, manager of the Poppy and Pint and The Castle Rock Brewery for their support and encouragement.

Andy Allan, CEO of Thunderforest Maps, for allowing me to use the map images free of charge. This was so important, as this leaflet would not be useful without the maps. Maps © www.thunderforest.com, Data © www.osm.org/copyright.

Contact: E mail: trevor.riddiough@yahoo.com

I am currently a volunteer walk and trek leader for Ramblers Walking Holidays at home and abroad. If you would like to join us on any of our tours, why not check out the brochure and dream of better times to come: <https://www.ramblersholidays.co.uk/>

Ramblers Walking Holidays is a social enterprise with a not-for-profit ethos: part of its income is channelled back into charities and initiatives that support access to the great outdoors and benefit people living in the less-advantaged destinations that we visit.

On a Personal Note

Many of you have asked if you can recompense me in any way for my time, materials or resources in making this guide. There is absolutely no need to do this. And in any case, the copyright agreement that I have with the map maker Thunderforest will not allow their use for personal gain! I only hope that you enjoy walking these routes as much as I have.

It is a remarkable thing that I still set out on a local walk with the eagerness I feel when I climb the mountains that were so much part of my everyday life before the first lockdown. I have thoroughly enjoyed my walks whilst this guide has been in preparation, much more so because I have walked with a purpose, knowing that you might follow me in my tracks. Yet recently, I have to admit that my gaze has been wandering more and more from the path and away to the fells of the Lake District, to the mountains of Snowdonia, the Scottish Highlands and to the treks in the Alps. While we can only wish and dream of such adventures, I hope that, like me, you will settle for this, the very best that Nottinghamshire can offer us. And if you do, it will have served us well.

On virtually all the walks I was accompanied by my wife and fellow mountain leader, Jenny McGavin. We started walking, recceing and writing up these local walks in March 2019. Since then, we have covered over 1,000 miles and completely worn out, between us, one pair of running shoes and two pairs of walking boots. On each walk the routine is simple. Jenny navigates the routes, makes improvements and suggests the final version. I take photos and write up afterwards. I consider myself lucky to have such good companionship on any walk, path, or mountain. I am most grateful to her for agreeing to this crazy project! She was with me on Walk Number 1 and was still with me on Walk Number 101! She made it all so enjoyable and worthwhile.

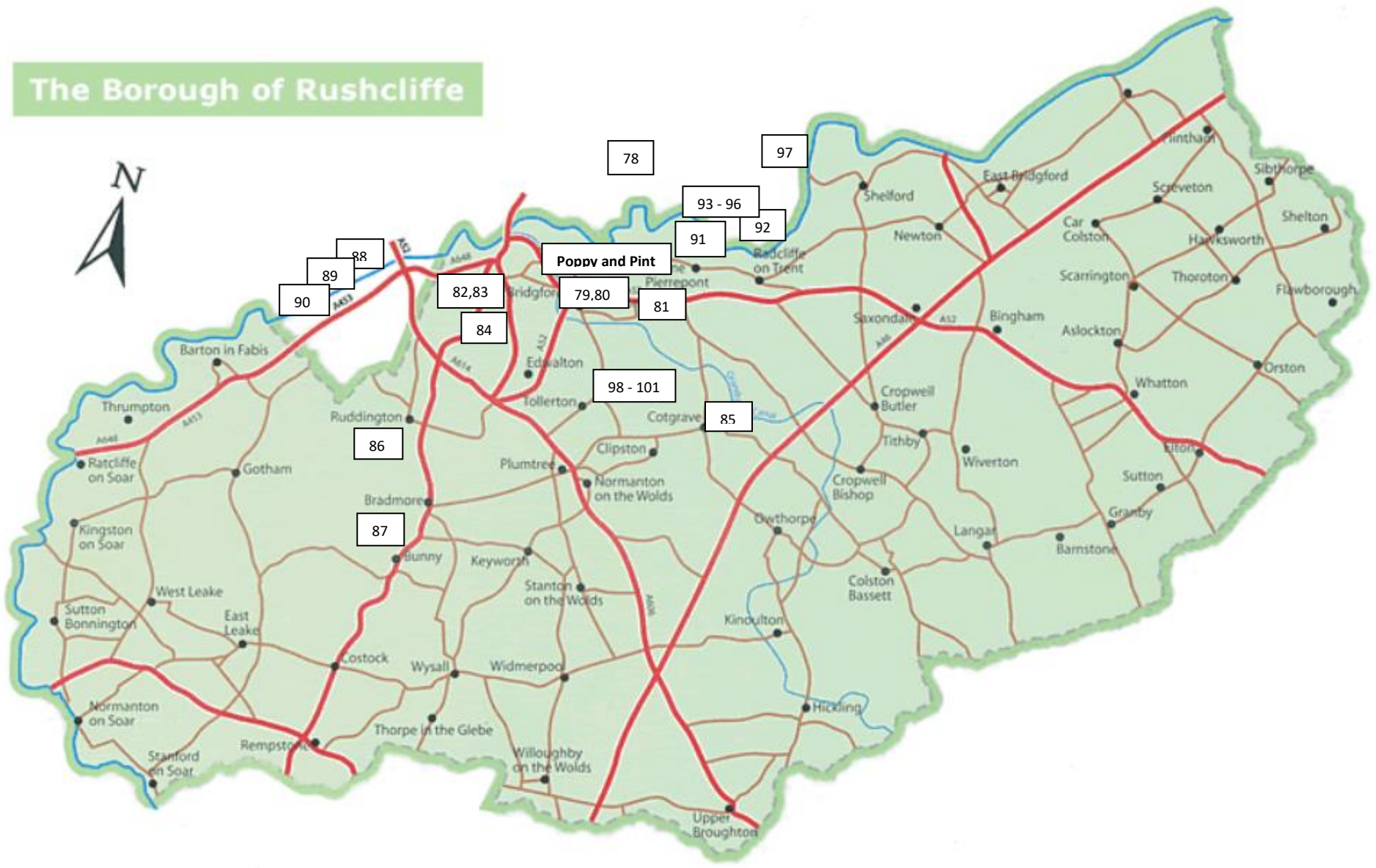


Finally, if you are not already a member of the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, you may wish to think about joining. At times like these, we all need to look after our local area. The Trust maintains many of the areas highlighted in this guide including Skylarks Nature Reserve, which has always been my favourite place to go when I am home. Invariably we can spot over 40 bird species in a single walk, and the Green Woodpecker flying across the front field never cease to amaze me. Volunteers, including Young Rangers, at Skylarks Nature Reserve have recently planted 750 Trees to improve hedgerows and other habitats. Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust has also recently achieved the incredible feat of raising the money to purchase outright the Attenborough Nature Centre and Reserve in Beeston. It is now canvassing for The Broadmarsh to become a Central Park for Nottingham. What a legacy!

To join, visit: [Homepage](#) | [Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust](#)

Location Map of Furthestmost Point on each Walk

The Borough of Rushcliffe



100 Walks from the Poppy and Pint – Volume 3: Winter Walks from your Doorstep

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 🚲 Bike friendly route | 📍 Canalside section | 😊 Child/ Pram friendly |
| 🐦 Especially good for birds | 🌊 Riverside section | |

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A. North of the River Trent

Walk 78: Sneinton Heritage Trail

Description

This is a fascinating walk along footpaths and streets around the historic and old parts of Sneinton – with Green’s Windmill as the destination. It is possible to see the windmill from many parts of Lady Bay across the river and on the hill opposite. The finer detail of this walk and its historical connections can be found on: [17sneinton.pdf \(u3asites.org.uk\)](http://u3asites.org.uk/17sneinton.pdf). This web site gives an excellent description of all the landmarks and places of interest on this walk. I will not repeat these here. Suffice it to say that this makes for a highly interesting two hour walk from Lady Bay.

Clues

Make your way to Lady Bay bridge via the riverside path from The Hook. Walk underneath Lady bay Bridge then climb up to the bridge by the concrete steps on your left. Cross the bridge on the left side pavement. Turn right at the traffic lights, then cross the main road so that you are on the pavement by the Lady Bay Retail Park. At the retail park roundabout, turn left and then immediately cross the road (A612) on the pedestrian crossing. Follow signs to the Sneinton Greenway. Head towards the right-hand side of the Harley-Davidson showroom and cross the railway line using the footbridge. Come off the footbridge and turn left, following the green signs ‘Sneinton Greenway’ to ‘City Centre’. Come to Manvers Street and then take the first right onto Sneinton Hermitage. Note the sculpture of the dragon. Continue along Sneinton Hermitage and look for a gap in the wall on the left, revealing some caves. Just past the caves, the stone wall changes to blue brick where the old bridge used to be. Climb the steps on the left: ‘Lees Hill Footway’ to Lees Hill Street. Turn left. At the end of Lees Hill Street is St Stephen’s Church and churchyard. Turn left along St Stephen’s Road and then right into Notinone Street. At the end of Notinone Street, turn left onto Sneinton Road, then immediately right onto Notinone Place. Here is a complex of Salvation Army premises and the William Booth Birthplace and Museum. Return to Sneinton Road and turn left and then left again onto Windmill Lane. Beyond the car park on the right is a path leading to Belvoir Hill and the destination of our walk: Green’s Windmill. Leave the windmill on the path to the right of the play area. Turn right onto Belvoir Hill then left and right onto Sneinton Hollows. Turn left onto Castle Street which leads to Hermitage Square. On the roof of the disused pub is a statue of William Abenego Thompson – the famous Nottingham bareknuckle fighter! On the right here is the old Police Station. Go down Meadow Lane, opposite Sneinton Hermitage. At the end of the road is a T junction. Take the path opposite and under an old railway bridge to the pedestrian bridge railway crossing. Go over the pedestrian bridge onto Daleside Road by the Harley-Davidson showroom. Now retrace your steps over Lady Bay Bridge and onto Lady Bay and the Poppy and Pint!

Distance: 7 kms

Walking Time: 2 hours

Walk 78: Sneinton Heritage Trail



Lady Bay Bridge

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B. South of the River Trent

Walk 79: Grantham Canal via Regatta Way – short circuit 🚲 🏰 😊

Description

A short and pleasant walk from the Poppy and Pint on road, path and towpath. Good after rain – no mud! Child and bike friendly.

Clues

Walk along Trent Boulevard towards the Watersports Centre. Turn right at Regatta Way. Cross to the other side of Regatta Way at the crossing point half-way along. Cross the Radcliffe Road traffic light junction. Turn left then right onto Ambleside Road. Take the first right onto Stavely Way. Follow Stavely Way to Goldrill Close. Head down Goldrill Close to a set of Garages. Take the jitty in the middle of the garages, which brings you to the Canal. Turn left and walk along the path to a bridge on your right. Take the bridge over the canal. Turn right onto the towpath, go under the road bridge and cross the Radcliffe Road once more. Take the canal towpath opposite and follow it all the way to Rutland Road and The Poppy and Pint.

Distance: 3.5 kms Walking Time: 50 minutes

Walk 79: Grantham Canal via Regatta Way – short circuit



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Walk 80: Grantham Canal via Regatta Way – long circuit 🚲 📏 😊

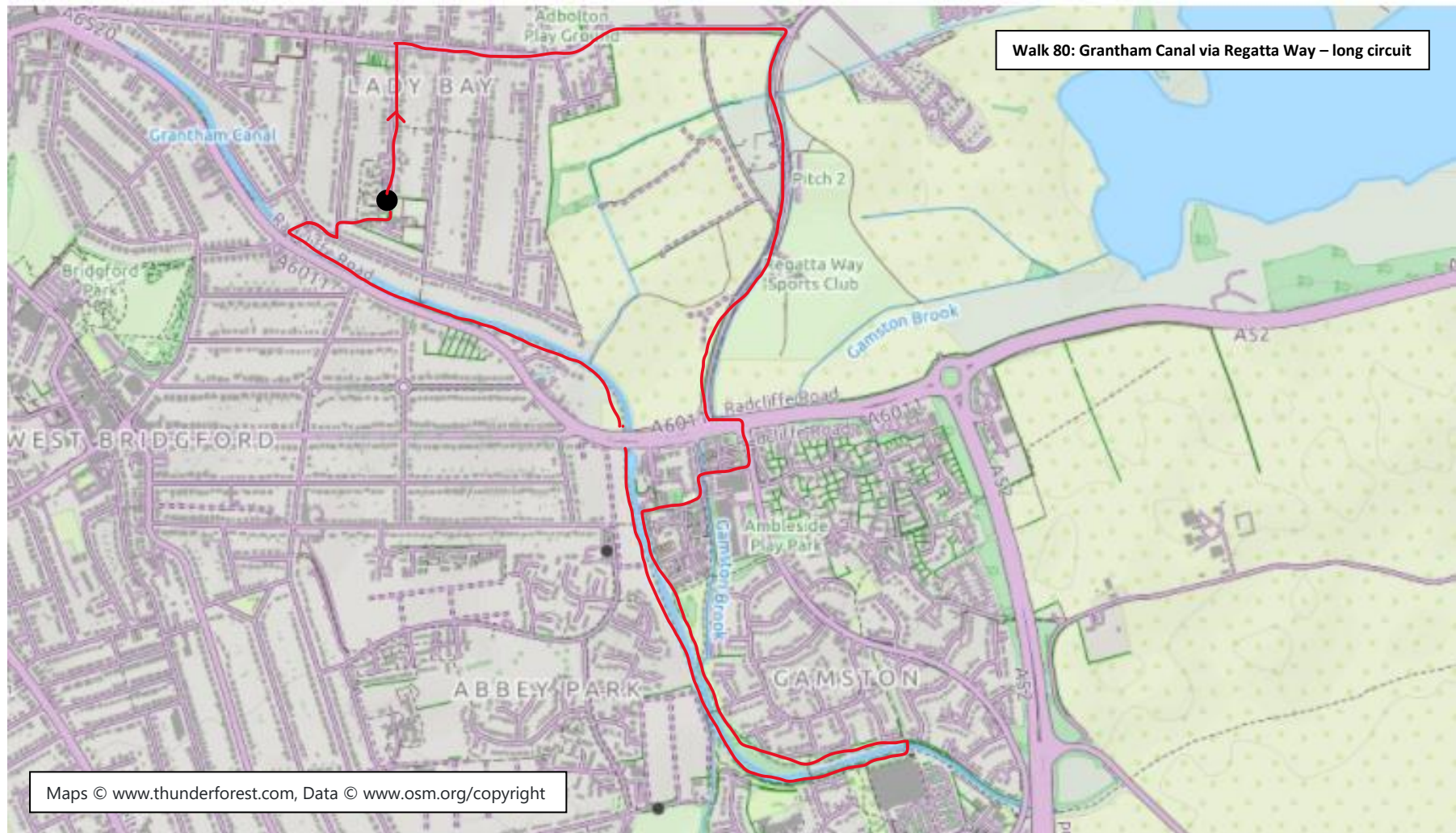
Description

This walk takes you towards Lings Bar along the Grantham Canal. Water birds can be seen on the canal. There are four canal bridges along this section of the canal. It is possible to turn round at any one of the bridges to adjust the distance according to need.

Clues

Walk along Trent Boulevard towards the Watersports Centre. Turn right at Regatta Way. Cross to the other side of Regatta Way at the crossing point half-way along. Cross the Radcliffe Road traffic light junction. Turn left then right onto Ambleside Road. Take the first right onto Stavely Way. Follow Stavely Way to Goldrill Close. Head down Goldrill Close to a set of Garages. Take the jitty in the middle of the garages, which brings you to the Canal. Turn left and walk along the path to a footpath across the grass. Take this footpath, pass a small copse and re-join the tarmac path. Walk to the fourth bridge – opposite Morrisons. Cross this bridge, turn right and return along the canal towpath. Go under the road bridge and cross the Radcliffe Road once more. Take the canal towpath opposite and follow it all the way to Rutland Road and The Poppy and Pint.

Distance: 5.5 kms Walking Time: 1.5 hours



Walk 80: Grantham Canal via Regatta Way - long circuit

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Walk 81: Skylarks to Bassingfield – direct   

Description

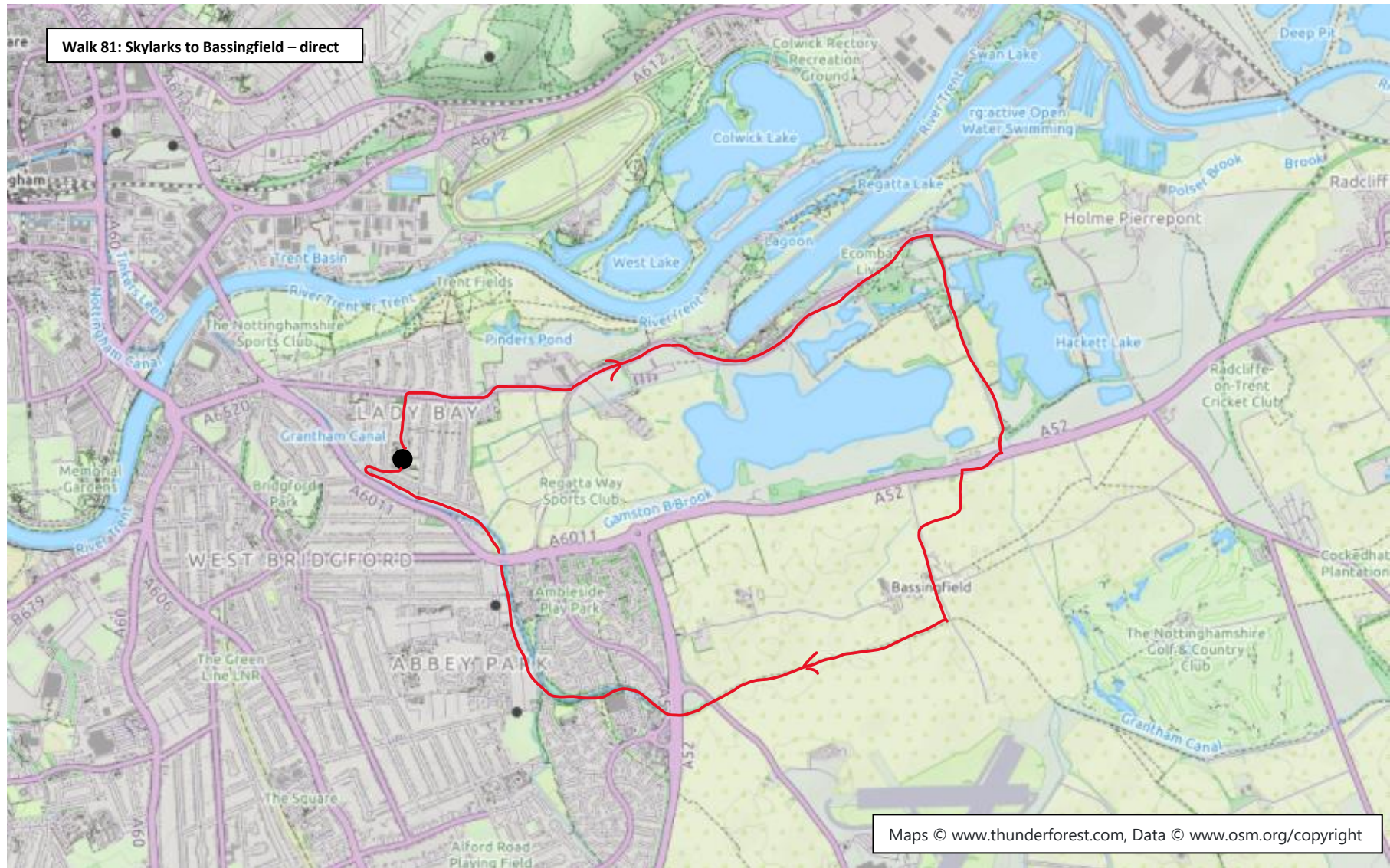
A lovely walk and a relatively short circular walk that gives the best of Skylarks Nature Reserve, north of the A52 and the best of the Grantham Canal, south of the A52.

Clues

The direct road route to Skylarks Nature Reserve is along Trent Boulevard, Adbolton Lane and then Regatta Way. Go past the main entrance of the Water Sports and find the Skylarks Car Park on your right. At the Skylarks Car Park, follow the Blue Route anti clockwise. Take the path at the back of the car park to a concreted area by a portacabin. Turn left, go past two large rocks and follow the path to a wooden gate on your right. Go through the gate and head south. Go past several spurs on your left leading to bird watching screens. Keep straight on and eventually come to the A52 main Radcliffe Road. Turn right and walk along the road in the direction of Nottingham. Cross the main road by the petrol station. **Caution: there is no pedestrian crossing here.** Once across the road, look for a footpath left about two hundred metres past the bus shelter. This path is signed by a wooden signpost. Take this footpath and follow it as it takes you around a field and onto Bassingfield Lane. Turn left onto the lane and follow it to a T junction: Nathans Lane is on the left and Bassingfield Lane continues on your right. Take the footpath straight ahead which leads to the Grantham Canal. Turn right and walk along the towpath to Tollerton Lane. Cross this road and continue on the towpath on a short section of the canal to Gamston Lings Bar Road. Cross the main road: **Caution: there is no pedestrian crossing here.** Continue on the canal towpath on the other side, past Morrisons and to a road bridge. Go under the road bridge and then cross the Radcliffe Road once more. Take the canal towpath opposite and follow it all the way to Rutland Road and The Poppy and Pint.

Distance: 10 kms

Walking Time: 2.5 hours



Walk 82: Kingfisher Pond via The River Trent

Description

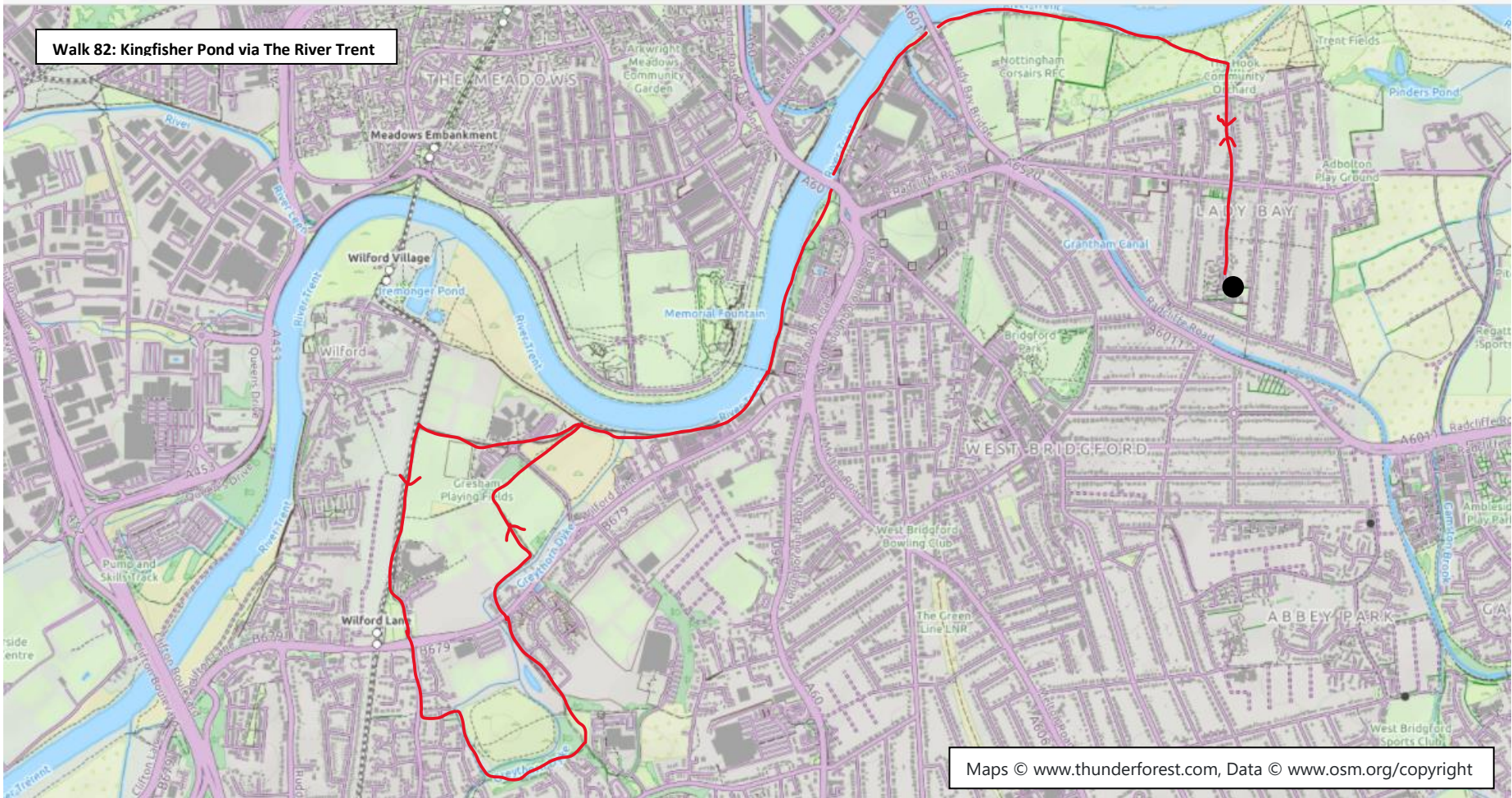
Kingfisher Pond is a Nature Preserve on the Edge of Compton Acres. It is extraordinarily close to the housing estate around it and yet it maintains a wilderness feel about it. Wildlife is in abundance – including Kingfisher! On the day we visited, we saw and were entranced by two Kingfishers flying to and fro over the lake in the winter sunshine. What a treat!

Clues

Walk to The Hook via Mona Road. Once on The Hook, take the river path upstream. Go under Lady Bay Bridge, past the City Football Ground, under Trent Bridge and past the Suspension Bridge. Just before the Nottingham Emmanuel School take the tarmac path left marked: 'The Becket School and Compton Acres'. Come to a small roundabout and take a tarmac path to the right of the Gresham Pavilion towards The Becket School. Come to the tram lines and turn left towards Compton Acres. At a Y path junction, turn left towards Compton Acres. The tarmac path shortly becomes a road. Cross this road and walk ahead to the main road: Wilford Lane. Cross this road at the pedestrian crossing and walk ahead down the road: Compton Acres. Just beyond the first road on the left (Redwood) is a footpath. Take this footpath left and proceed around the gardens of houses to a T junction. Turn left and continue along the tarmac path to Kingfisher Pond (on the left). Explore the ponds and the viewing platforms. Continue to another T junction and turn left towards Wilford. Take this tarmac path to a Y junction. Turn left here if you wish to explore Kingfisher Pond some more. Otherwise, turn right and head towards Wilford Lane by the side of a new estate. Cross Wilford Lane at the pedestrian crossing and turn right then immediately left onto Bede-Ling. At the end of Bede-Ling, take the path right to West Bridgford. Continue down the side of a green fence on the left. At the end of the fence, take the tarmac path left. Just before a small bridge, turn right and walk alongside a thin coppice to a green metal gate by a road. Cross the road and take the signed footpath straight ahead on a long boardwalk. At the end of this path, turn right and return to Lady Bay the way you came along the River Trent.

Distance: 10.5 kms Walking Time: 2.5 hours

Walk 82: Kingfisher Pond via The River Trent



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Walk 83: The Two Ponds: Kingfisher and Iremonger ☞ 🌿

Description

Iremongers Pond nestles on the south bank of the Toll Bridge. A beautiful Lake and Park unseen to most who walk the Toll Bridge. A great place for kids to explore. The pond offers quiet country walks round the recently completed bank side path for walkers, push chairs and dog walkers, together with quiet fishing for many native fish species. The name of Iremonger is still revered in city sporting circles. The pond is named after a pair of sporting legends, the Iremonger brothers. The two talented brothers, Albert Iremonger and James Iremonger, plied their soccer craft either side of the Trent; Albert at Notts County, Jim at Forest, and they also turned out with some success for Notts County Cricket Club. Their names were synonymous, yet rarely were they photographed together. The embankment at the eastern end of the pond once carried trains from Manchester to Marylebone Station, stopping at Nottingham Victoria Railway Station. The pond was originally dug to provide soil for the embankments in 1894. Swans, Moorhens, Great Crested Grebes, Tufted Ducks, Mallards Kingfisher, Cormorants and Herons can be seen on the pond. At present there is a spectacular display of May Blossom in this area together with Bull Rushes, Oak, Walnut and Willow.

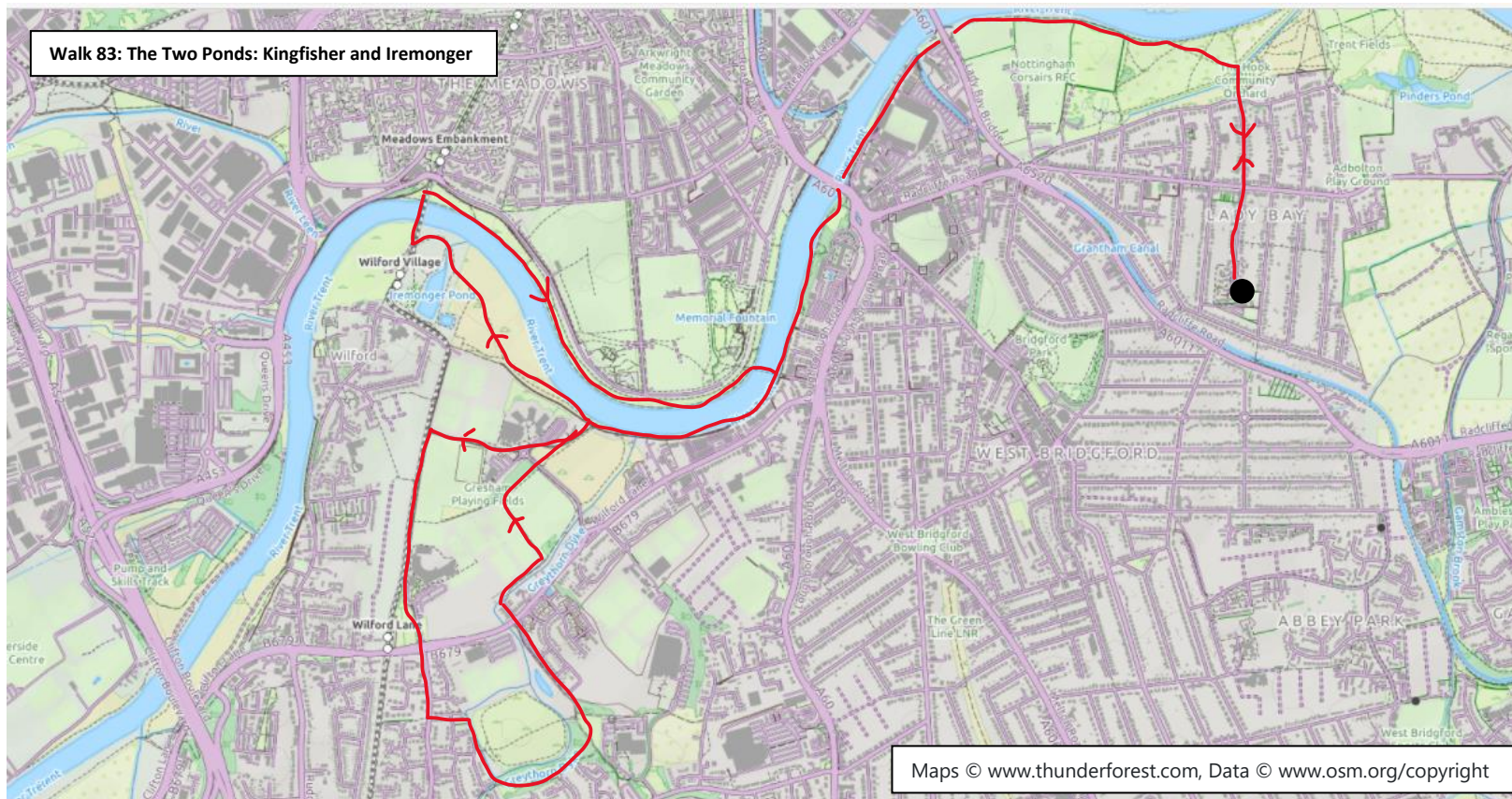
Kingfisher Pond is a Nature Preserve on the Edge of Compton Acres. It is extraordinarily close to the housing estate around it and yet it maintains a wilderness feel about it. Wildlife is in abundance – including Kingfisher! On the day we visited, we saw and were entranced by two Kingfishers flying to and fro over the lake in the winter sunshine. What a treat! This walk takes you to both ponds via the River Trent.

Clues

Walk to The Hook via Mona Road. Once on The Hook, take the river path upstream. Go under Lady Bay Bridge, past the City Football Ground, under Trent Bridge and past the Suspension Bridge. Just before the Nottingham Emmanuel School take the tarmac path left marked: 'The Becket School and Compton Acres'. Come to a small roundabout and take a tarmac path to the right of the Gresham Pavilion towards The Becket School. Come to the tram lines and turn left towards Compton Acres. At a Y path junction, turn left towards Compton Acres. The tarmac path shortly becomes a road. Cross this road and walk ahead to the main road: Wilford Lane. Cross this road at the pedestrian crossing and walk ahead down the road: Compton Acres. Just beyond the first road on the left (Redwood) is a footpath. Take this footpath left and proceed around the gardens of houses to a T junction. Turn left and continue along the tarmac path to Kingfisher Pond (on the left). Explore the ponds and the viewing platforms. Continue to another T junction and turn left towards Wilford. Take this tarmac path to a Y junction. Turn left here if you wish to explore Kingfisher Pond some more. Otherwise, turn right and head towards Wilford Lane by the side of a new estate. Cross Wilford Lane at the pedestrian crossing and turn right then immediately left onto Bede-Ling. At the end of Bede-Ling, take the path right to West Bridgford. Continue down the side of a green fence on the left. At the end of the fence, take the tarmac path left. Just before a small bridge, turn right and walk alongside a thin coppice to a green metal gate by a road. Cross the road and take the signed footpath straight ahead on a long boardwalk. At the end of this path, turn left onto the river embankment. Just before the Nottingham Emmanuel School the wooden fence on the right-hand side of the path ends. Here the main path goes up a ramp, with a wall and railings on both sides. Walk right off the main path and continue on a small

footpath which runs parallel to the main path. This path then bends right towards the river and into an area of Hawthorn bushes. Follow the main path straight ahead and you will pass a small lake on your right before arriving at the main Iremongers Pond. Walk around the pond in a clockwise direction, stopping at the information boards on the way. Eventually you will see the Toll Bridge on your left. Work your way on good paths to the bridge. Cross the river on the Toll Bridge and return via the Victoria Embankment. Cross the river again on the Suspension Bridge and retrace your steps to The Hook and Lady Bay and the Poppy and Pint!

Distance: 12 kms **Walking Time: 3 hours**



Walk 84: To Sharp Hill Wood via the Canal and Green Line

Description

This is by far the preferable route to Sharphill Wood and back, using a minimal number of roads. The Housing developments in this area are moving apace. Best to explore Sharphill Wood before the area changes beyond recognition. This route takes you out on the Grantham Canal and back on the West Bridgford Green Line. The highlight of the walk surely must be the now infamous pedestrian tunnel underneath the A52! The paths around Ruddington Hall are delightful and well worth the effort. Sharphill Wood is the closest patch of countryside to Nottingham City Centre. It is on a ridge above Trent Bridge and West Bridgford. A map, nature trail and description of the official access points to Sharphill Wood is available on [New-Nature-Trail-1.pdf \(sharphillwood.org\)](#)

Clues

Start the canal section on Radcliffe Road just past Rutland stores. Walk on the canal towpath until you reach the A6011. The path then turns right for 50m to a place where you can cross the main road. Once over the road walk back to the canal tunnel. Be careful at the tunnel as the path is very narrow and other people may be walking – self distance! Walk along the towpath to Bridge No. 5. Just after this bridge, come off the canal towpath right onto a wide path to the back of some houses. Stay on this main path, following blue cycle path signs to Edwalton. Come to a road: Beckside. Cross this road and continue along the footpath opposite. This path twists and turns, goes past Edwalton Primary School and comes out at Wellin Lane. Walk up Wellin Lane and past the shops to Village Street at the end. Turn left onto Village Street. Take the first footpath right to a metal gate, beyond which are the open fields of the golf course. Continue on this footpath, following the yellow waymarker posts. Continue through an avenue of trees eventually coming to a wooden gate. Through the wooden gate is a path that takes you to the main Melton Road. Turn right here and take the lane on the right Loughborough Road. Go up this lane to a footpath on the right, by a green fingerpost, just after the entrance to Ruddington Hall. Take this footpath and head uphill and then onto Old Road to a T junction. Turn right here, along Landmere Lane. Turn left, opposite Wayte Court, onto a public footpath, leading to a tunnel under the A52 main road. Take this path and climb up the other side, following yellow waymarkers into Sharp Hill. On entering the wood, turn left and follow the main path as it climbs and wends its way through Sharphill. Maintain roughly the same direction and at a T path junction, turn left. You will eventually end up at the north-west entrance next to a badger sett and a comprehensive information panel by the Wildlife Trust. Come out of the woods at this point to find a dramatic view of the city. Follow the main track down on the right as far as the yellow footpath post at the end of the track. Turn right here and follow the clear track down towards the houses and emerge onto Musters Road. Follow this for a short way onto Boundary Road where you turn right, again (confusingly) following a blue cycle sign to Sharphill and Edwalton. Pass Rushcliffe school on your right-hand side before turning left immediately after Sutherland Drive bus-stop down the Green Line footpath. This leads all the way back to Melton Road. At the end of the Green Line path, turn left and then take the first right at the traffic lights onto Rectory Road. From here you can make your way back to the Poppy and Pint via the West Bridgford park.

Distance: 13.5 kms Walking Time: 3.75 hours



Walk 85: Cross fields to Cotgrave – return by Canal

Description

A walk that transports you away from the busy paths of Lady Bay into wide open countryside, wildlife and fine views. The Water Treatment Works just before Cotgrave are a joy to behold. A more beautiful place than it sounds. The return section is equally good including quiet sections of the Grantham Canal through Cotgrave Country Park.

Clues

Follow the Grantham Canal out of Lady Bay until you reach the back of the Morrisons superstore where you follow the public footpath round to the right keeping Morrisons on your left. Follow this footpath across the road where a sign designates the end of the cycle route and follow it as it becomes grassy. Eventually, steps on your left take you to the main A52. **CROSS WITH EXTREME CAUTION.** Pick up the footpath on the other side of the main road and continue in the same direction across a series of fields. There are one or two kinks in the path, but it maintains roughly the same direction as it heads towards the village of Tollerton. Ignore the path off to the left which leads to a farm building and keep going over a few small wooden footbridges until you reach another road at the edge of Tollerton. Cross the road and join a wider track which again keeps the same direction. Cross a small wooden footbridge over a small stream. Then, walk through two hedges. At the third hedge, watch out for a fork in the path at the hedge with a signpost showing one yellow arrow leading straight on and one yellow arrow pointing to the right. Go straight ahead. At a cross paths, look out for the Water Treatment Works on your left. Go straight over at the cross paths and through a gap in the hedge. Cross several fields keeping the church spire in front of you all the way. Follow the yellow waymarker posts, go through a gap between the houses and find the church on Church Street. Turn left along Church Street and past the church. Turn left onto Plumtree Road, then immediately right onto Bingham Road. You will pass The Manvers Arms, and The Post Office on the way. At the right-hand bend onto Colston Gate, go straight ahead onto Hollygate Lane. Pass the News Shop and arrive at the canal. Take the canal towpath all the way back to Rutland Road and The Poppy and Pint. **Take care** when crossing the Lings Bar Road as there is no pedestrian crossing here.

Distance: 15 kms

Walking Time: 5 hours



Walk 86: To Rushcliffe Country Park via Ruddington and the Green Line

Description

Before World War Two, the Rushcliffe Country Park site was open farmland. Hedgerows bounded arable fields and grassland with a small stream flowing through. This provided a rich habitat for a wide range of wildlife. The War Office needed 'filling factories' for making bombs and acquired the land in 1938. It was an ideal site, close to a railway, a supply of workers and had a water source. The factory consisted of 87 buildings spread over the site. Over the years, government departments changed, and the site was named Ordnance, Storage and Disposal Depot. The ministry announced the closure of the depot in 1981 and sold surplus stock. The gates closed and locked on 31 December 1983. Returning the land to agriculture was Ruddington Parish Council's preferred option. As time passed, nature took over and wildlife returned. A country park was proposed, and a business park to make the site financially viable. Demolition began in January 1990 leaving a flat site like an 'American prairie'. The lake was dug out; Severn Trent filled it with water. Workers and volunteers planted over 140,000 trees. Workers moved 60 Norwegian Maple trees (30 years old at the time) and re-planted around the business park.

The park is set in beautiful countryside just south of Ruddington. It is an ideal place for many activities, with a network of over 8 kilometres of footpaths. Visitors can do many things including: walking, cycling, running and jogging, dog walking, wildlife spotting, exercising dogs, including Coppers agility course, picnics, space for children to play, and a large play area, skateboarding in the skate park, 4x / BMX track, adult exercise equipment, two table tennis tables.

This walk takes you directly to the country park via the Grantham Canal, across country to Edwalton and then onto Ruddington. The return brings you to Sharphill Wood and back to West Bridgford by the Green Line footpath.

For a map of the park, visit: [100.jpg \(2349x1678\) \(noc-uk.org\)](#)

Clues

Outward

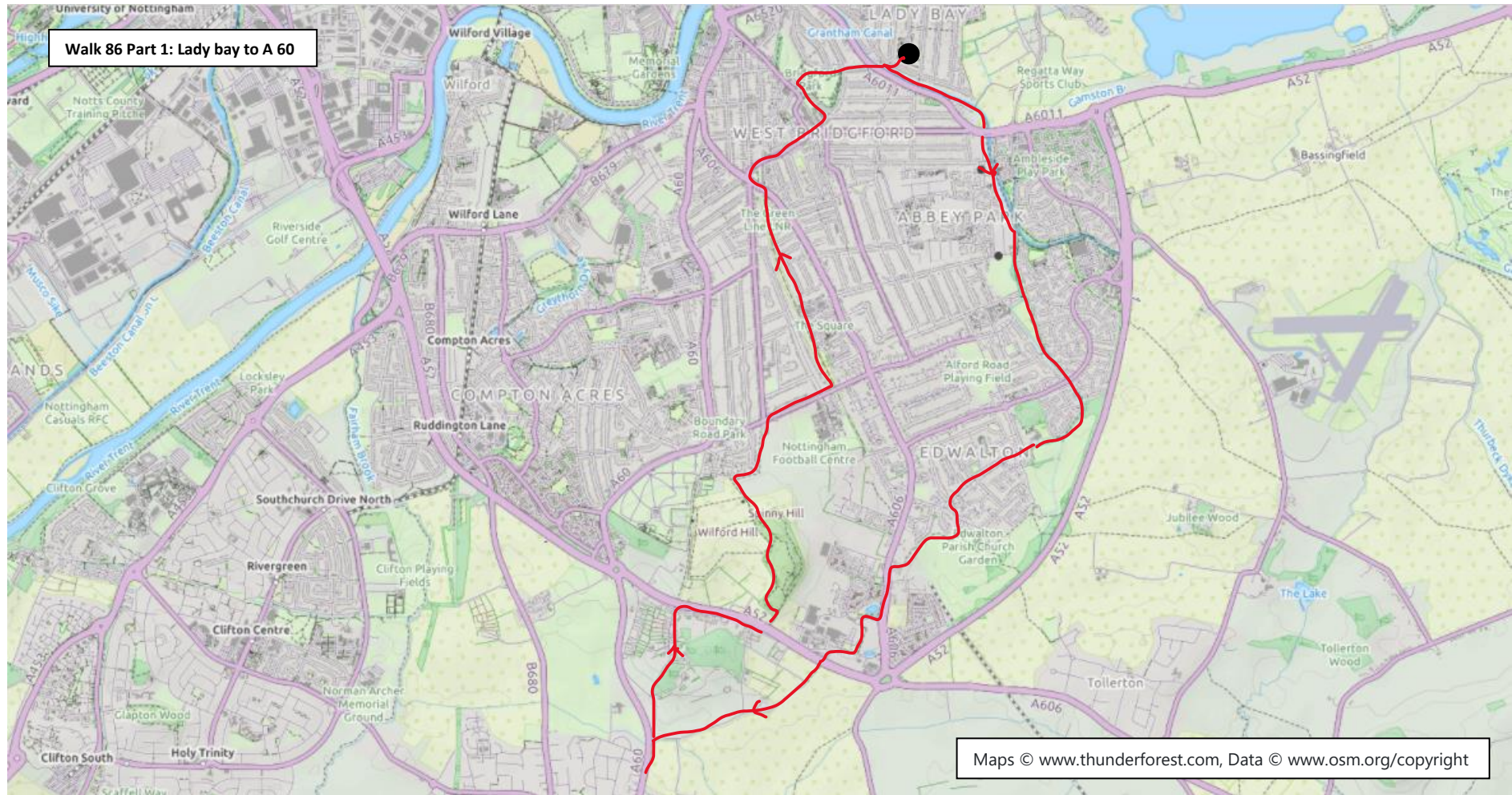
Start the canal section on Radcliffe Road just past Rutland stores. Walk on the canal towpath until you reach the A6011. The path then turns right for 50m to a place where you can cross the main road. Once over the road walk back to the canal tunnel. Be careful at the tunnel as the path is very narrow and other people may be walking – self distance! Walk along the towpath to Bridge No. 5. Just after this bridge, come off the canal towpath right onto a wide path to the back of some houses. Stay on this main path, following blue cycle path signs to Edwalton. Come to a road: Beckside. Cross this road and continue along the footpath opposite. This path twists and turns, goes past Edwalton Primary School and comes out at Wellin Lane. Walk up Wellin Lane and past the shops to Village Street at the end. Turn left onto Village Street. Take the first footpath right to a metal gate, beyond which are the open fields of the golf course. Continue on this footpath, following the yellow waymarker posts. Continue through an avenue of trees eventually coming to a wooden gate. Through the wooden gate is a path that takes you to the main Melton Road. Turn left and continue along Melton Road to Rose Way by the new

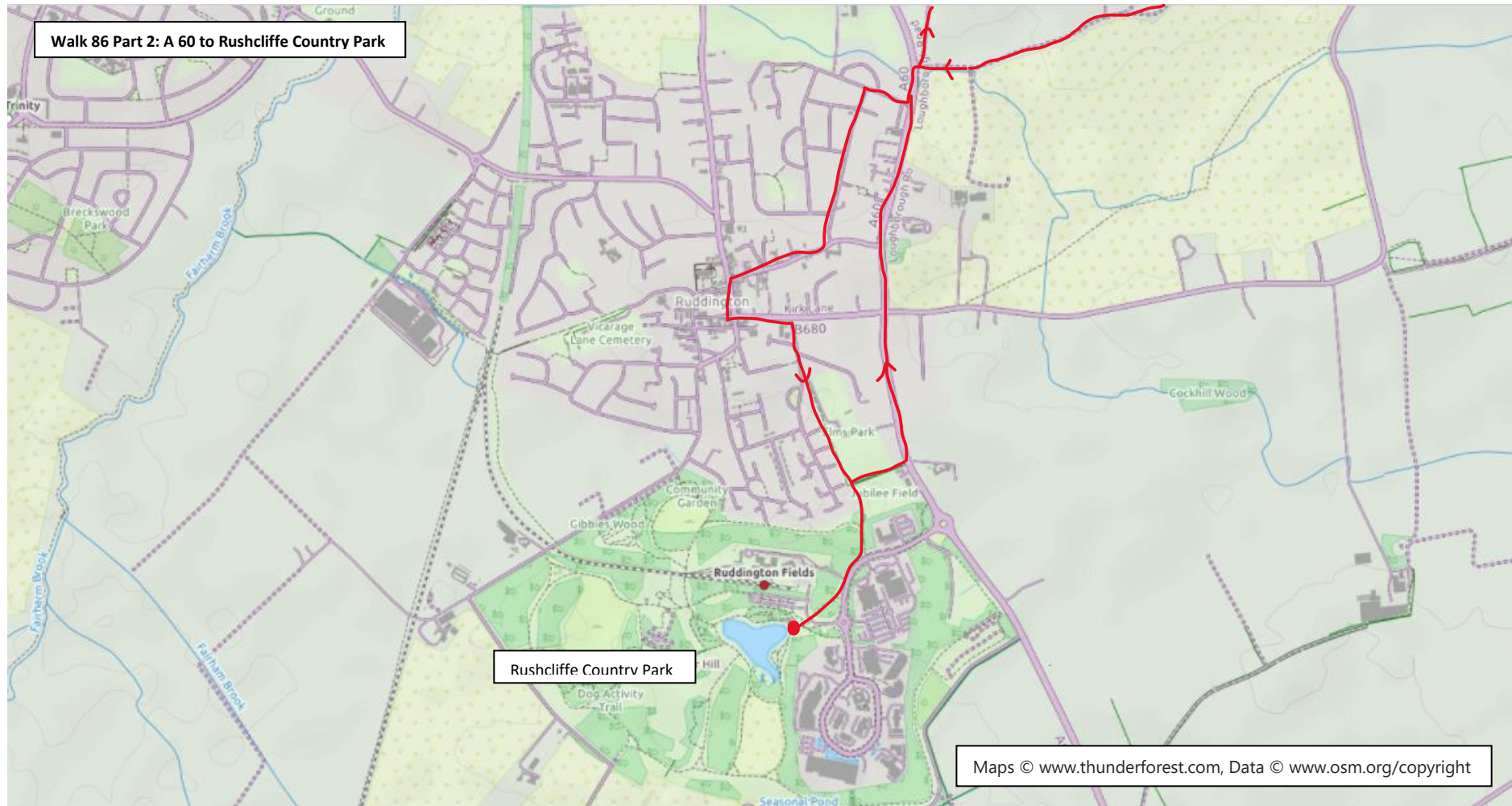
housing development. Turn right down Rose Way towards the estate and you will see Sharpill rising behind the new development. At the roundabout turn sharp left down an unsigned narrow path between temporary metal fencing and follow this into the garden centre car park. Make your way diagonally across the car park towards a kissing gate and opening between two fences under a young Silver Birch tree which leads onto a roadway. Turn right onto this roadway, past 'Inspired Villages' building. Take the signed Public Bridleway left which takes you to the A52 dual carriageway. Cross this road WITH CAUTION and take the footpath opposite, indicated by a wooden fingerpost. Follow this path across a field to a clearer track between two hedgerows. Go through a gated entrance to the A60 Loughborough Road. Make a note of this entrance as you will return here later. Turn left here and then cross the main road by some bollards. You are entering Ruddington. Walk down Ashworth Avenue opposite. Take the first left onto Rufford Road. At the T junction turn right onto Easthorpe Street. Turn left at the main junction by the Red Heart Pub onto Wilford Road. Take the first left onto Kirk Lane. Then take the first right onto Elms Park. Just after house number 106, the road bends to the right. At that bend, take the footpath straight ahead, signposted 'Country Park'. Go past a children's playground. You are in Elms Park. Once past the play park, make a note of the very clear pathway on the left. You will return here later. Continue straight ahead and come to a wide path at the end of Elms Park. Pass a minor entrance to Rushcliffe Country Park on your right and continue to a road. Turn right and take the path to the right of a bus shelter which will lead you directly to the main entrance and car park of the country park. Go ahead to the visitors' centre and main lake. Explore the country park.

Return

Retrace your steps to the path on Elms Park referred to above. Turn right, on this path to the main A60 Loughborough Road. Turn left and walk along the road, past the petrol station. Cross the road and continue just past the gated entrance mentioned above. Just past this entrance, on the right, is a lane called Loughborough Road. Go up this lane to a footpath on the right, by a green fingerpost, just after the entrance to Ruddington Hall. Take this footpath and head uphill and then onto Old Road to a T junction. Turn right here, along Landmere Lane. Turn left, opposite Wayte Court, onto a public footpath, leading to a tunnel under the A52 main road. Take this path and climb up the other side, following yellow waymarkers into Sharp Hill. On entering the wood, turn left and follow the main path as it climbs and wends its way through Sharpill. Maintain roughly the same direction and at a T path junction, turn left. You will eventually end up at the north-west entrance next to a badger sett and a comprehensive information panel by the Wildlife Trust. Come out of the woods at this point to find a dramatic view of the city. Follow the main track down on the right as far as the yellow footpath post at the end of the track. Turn right here and follow the clear track down towards the houses and emerge onto Musters Road. Follow this for a short way onto Boundary Road where you turn right, again (confusingly) following a blue cycle sign to Sharpill and Edwalton. Pass Rushcliffe school on your right-hand side before turning left immediately after Sutherland Drive bus-stop down the Green Line footpath. This leads all the way back to Melton Road. At the end of the Green Line path, turn left and then take the first right at the traffic lights onto Rectory Road. From here you can make your way back to the Poppy and Pint via the West Bridgford park.

Distance: 19 kms Walking Time: 4.5 hours





Walk 87: To Rushcliffe Country Park and Bradmore, Bunny Hill and Sharp Hill Wood

Description

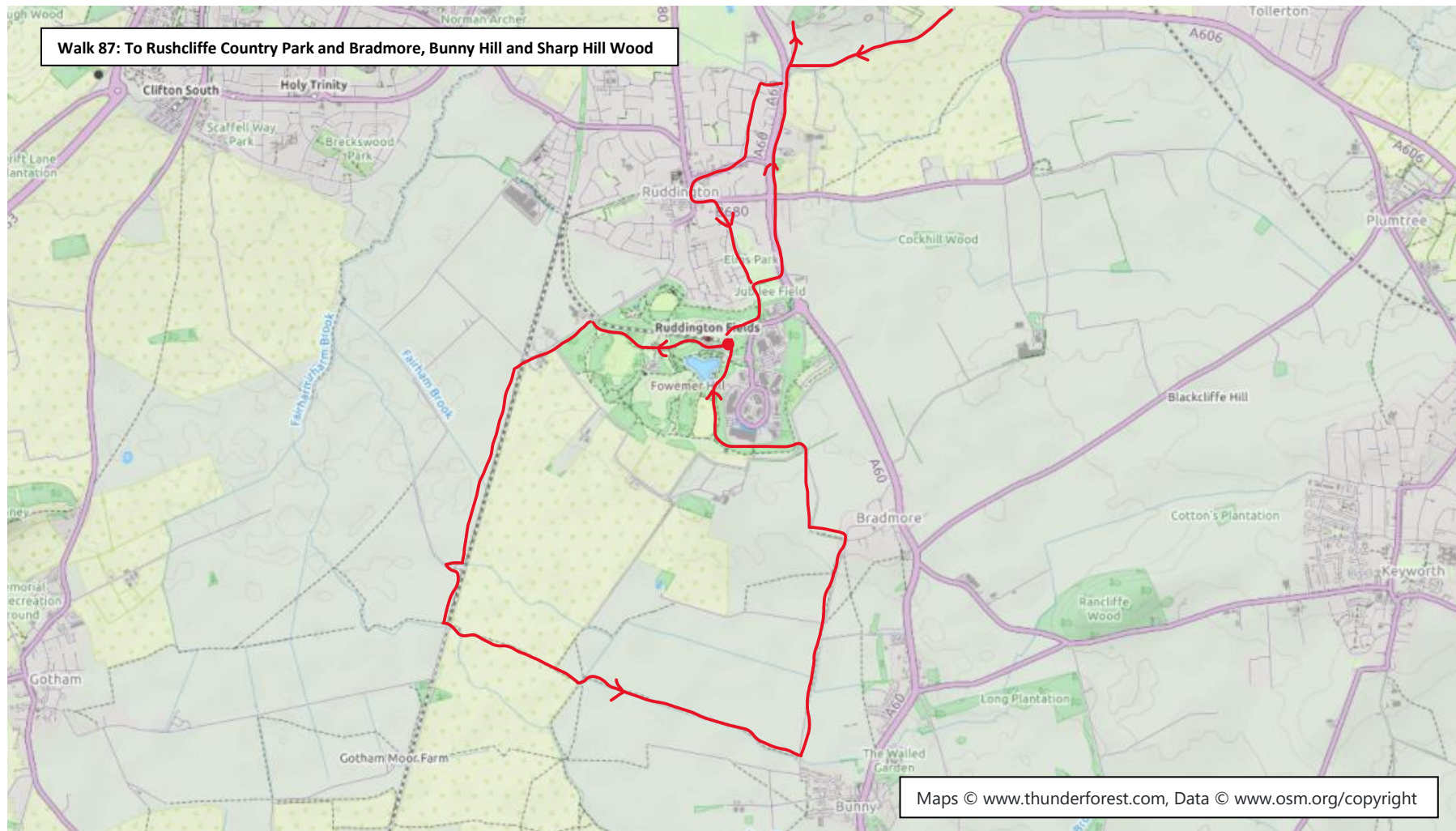
A long walk with much to reward you along the way. The first half of the walk takes you to Rushcliffe Country Park. The second half is in open countryside with wild open space around you and much birdlife along the way. We pass Ruddington Moor, Gotham Moor and Bunny Moor on the way. The outermost point is just on Bunny Hill before touching on Bradmore village. This village is often passed on the A60, but rarely seen or visited. To top it all is Sharp Hill on the way home with its wildlife and panoramic views across Nottingham. A grand day out!

Clues

Take the outward leg of Walk xx to Rushcliffe Country Park. From the Visitors' Centre walk ahead to the lake and turn right. Follow signs to the play area. Keep to the wide path as you head west. Keep walking in this direction keeping the play area on your right. Go straight past the sign to 'Dog Agility' towards a copse alongside the steam train railway line. Keep going to a yellow barrier and gate. Go through the gate and turn left. Go along the track to a white metal gate. Go through the gate and take the signposted track straight ahead, past some garages on your left. This track bends right and over a railway bridge. Just after the bridge, turn left and follow the direction of the wooden fingerpost alongside the railway line. Keep to this path with the railway line on your left for just over a kilometre. Come to a bridge and walk around the lane leading up to it and back to the railway line on the other side. Continue on this path southward. Come to a railway pedestrian crossing on your left after another half a kilometre by bridge number 302. Cross the railway line at this point. Take the path in front of you eastward. Go through a gap in the hedge and turn immediately left. Keep the hedge on your left and follow yellow waymarker posts as you walk eastward across fields to a left and a right turn to a wooden footbridge. Over the footbridge, turn right and follow the obvious path alongside a dyke to a signposted path T junction. Turn left and head along a track northward all the way to a road. On this section, aim for the blue house on the hillside in front of you. At the road, you are on the edge of Bradmore village. Turn left at the road then turn right at the wooden signpost in front of you, opposite Littlemoor Lane. The path goes through a gap in the hedge and then goes around a field. Follow this path around the field clockwise, and under some electricity cables by a pylon. Eventually you come to a track by a yellow wooden waymarker. In front of you is an entrance to the Rushcliffe Country Park. Go through the gate here and turn left. Follow the path around a wood. Come to a wooden signpost. Turn right here towards the 'Visitors' Centre'. Keep on this path past the lake on your left and back to the Visitors' Centre.

Now take the return leg of Walk xx back to West Bridgford and onto Lady bay.

Distance: 28 kms **Walking Time: 7 hours**



C. West of the River Trent

Walk 88: To Restaurant Sat Bains by Canal and River 🏞️ 🌊 🏠 😊

Description

Restaurant Sat Bains is situated on the River Trent underneath Clifton Bridge on the fringes of the city of Nottingham. 🌸🌸 Michelin 2 Star restaurant virtually on our doorstep! The location beneath a flyover on the fringes of the city might be a little incongruous but this is a truly magical and tranquil spot by a beautiful stretch of the river. The restaurant is closed during the lockdown; however, it is possible to order a take home meal through Momma Bains – Sat Bains’ mother. Absolutely first-class quality as you would expect. You get four meals in a box. All vegetarian, all vegan, all delicious. Order online and collect from the restaurant between 11am and 2pm on the day. Service is always on alternate Fridays. For more information and to order, visit:

[#Mommabains](#) | [#mommabains At Home](#)

This route gives you the ideal opportunity to go for a walk and to call in at the restaurant to collect your meal on the way! Whether you order a meal or not, this is a great circular walk taking you on both sides of the River Trent all the way to Wilford Village and back. A real treat!

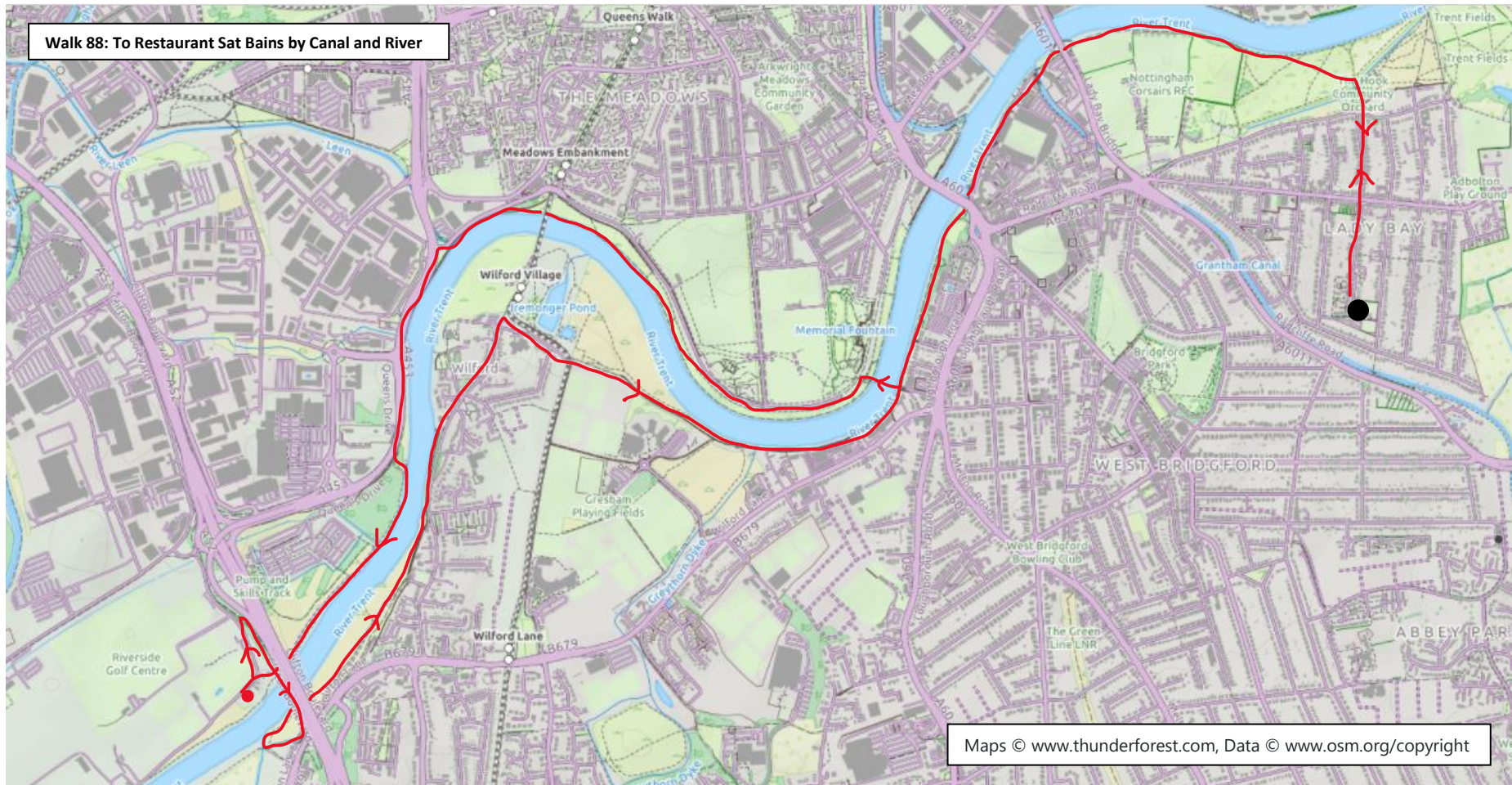
Clues

Walk to The Hook via Mona Road. Once on The Hook, take the river path upstream. Go under Lady Bay Bridge, past the City Football Ground, under Trent Bridge and to the Suspension Bridge. Cross the suspension bridge and continue on the Victoria Embankment downstream on the north bank of the Trent. Pass the Toll Bridge and keep to the pavement on Riverside way, to Queens Drive. Turn left onto Queens Drive. Keep to the pedestrian section of the pavement and the river on your left. Walk to just before B and Q and look for a footpath left and downhill, sign posted ‘The Big Track’. Take this riverside path all the way to Clifton Bridge. Once under the bridge, come off the main path right and onto a short road section to a T junction. Restaurant Sat Bains is here on your left.

Return by going over Clifton Bridge to access the south side of the River Trent. Leave Restaurant Sat Bains and turn right. The road then bends to the left. Continue to the entrance of the Riverside Golf Centre. Take a small path opposite (right) through the hedge and onto a cycleway/footpath. Walk uphill and onto Clifton Bridge. Cross the bridge and then take the stairs right and down onto Clifton Lane. Just by the end of the steps is a pedestrian crossing. Cross the main road and turn right onto a path on top of the embankment signposted to ‘Wilford and City Centre’. Take this path underneath Clifton Bridge. Stay on the embankment to the left when the tarmac path joins the road, right. Follow the green finger posts to ‘Wilford Village’. Go through a green squeeze gate and follow the green signs to Wilford Village. Eventually come to a metal squeeze gate where you turn left, following signs to ‘The Meadows and Victoria Embankment’. Walk on the path just above the road: Main Road. Keep the river on your left, passing the ‘Bee Railings’. Beyond St Wilfred’s Church

Drive stay on the roadside pavement and continue to The Ferry Inn by the suspension Bridge. Turn right just beyond the Ferry Inn onto Coronation Avenue. Cross the tram tracks and pick up the footpath on the south embankment. Follow this all the way back to The Hook and Lady Bay, going past the suspension bridge and under Trent Bridge on the way.

Distance: 12 kms **Walking Time: 3.25 hours**



Walk 89: Beeston Canal, The Big Track and The Trent Valley Way – shorter route

Description

This is a fascinating route taking you along the Beeston Canal through the city to Beeston and back along the River Trent on the Trent Valley Way. This route is much shorter than going all the way out to Beeston Lock, making it more accessible! The Beeston Canal is a broad canal and is part of the River Trent. It runs for 4½ miles from Lenton Chain, where it joins the River Trent, to Beeston Lock No 5, where it joins the River Trent (Western End). The Beeston Canal takes you safely through the heart of the city and is a key feature of the waterfront district. The canal ends at the River Trent opposite the City Ground which is where our walk begins.

Already established for 84 miles through Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire, the Trent Valley Way is a long-distance footpath along the Trent Valley. The Trent Valley Way connects cities, towns and villages, wildlife and history. It links the cities and towns which have built their industry and heritage on the River Trent, including Stoke, Rugeley, Burton-upon Trent, Nottingham, Newark, Gainsborough and Scunthorpe and passes through six counties. Our walk takes in about half of The Beeston Canal before joining the Trent Valley Way for the return leg.

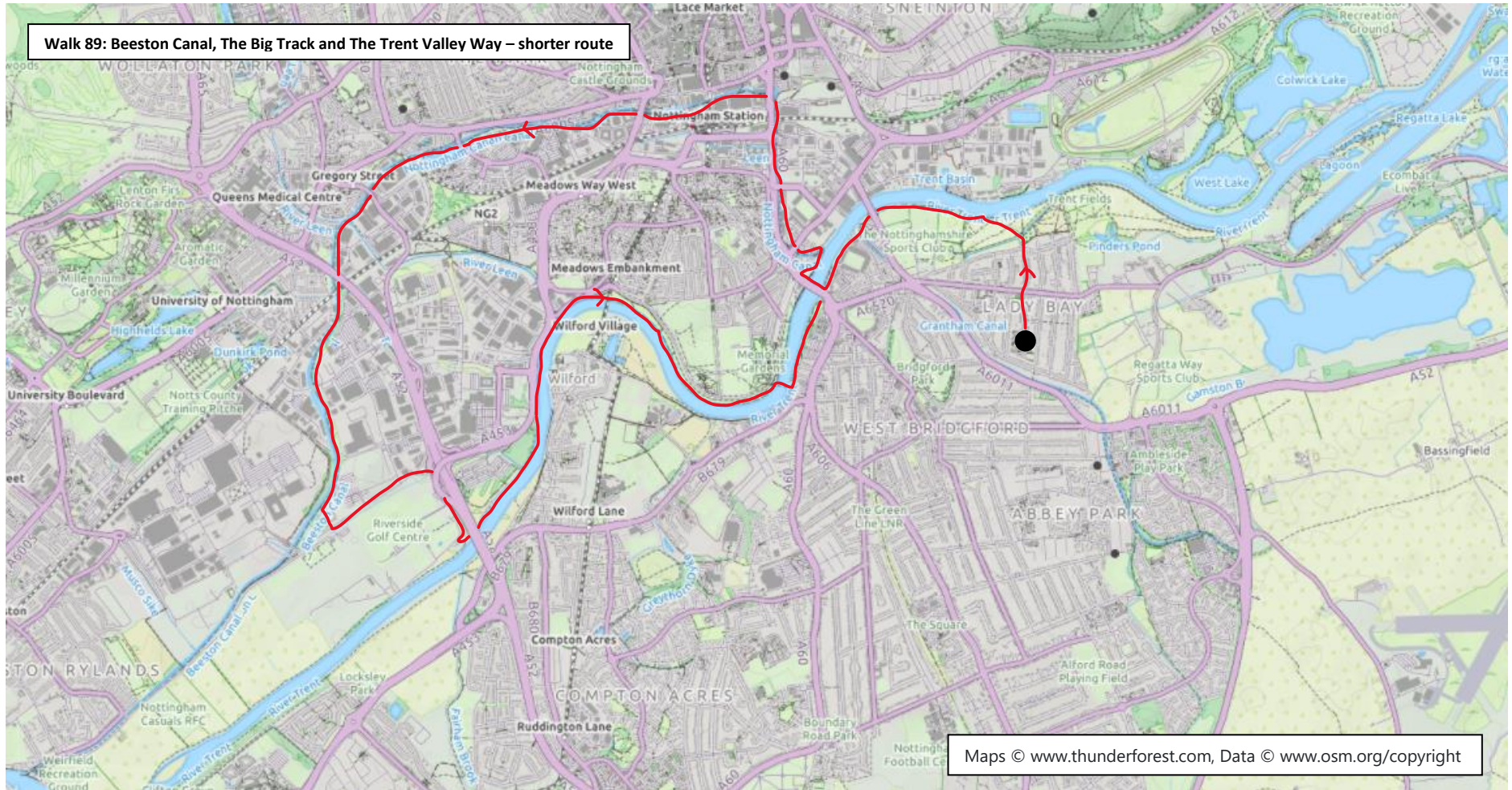
Clues

Walk to The Hook via Mona Road. Once on The Hook, take the river path upstream. Go under Lady Bay Bridge. Follow the side road up to Trent Bridge and cross the Trent Bridge on the right-hand pavement, heading towards the city. Immediately over the bridge, take the signed path on the right which slips down the side of the bridge to the river path **opposite** the City Ground. This path takes you to the lock which delivers the Beeston Canal into the River Trent. Take the towpath on the right-hand side of the canal and follow it for around 7 kms through the city and out the other side. On the way you will need to change sides on the towpath near The Premier Inn by crossing a Turnover Bridge. A Turnover Bridge gets its name because it was where the horse towing the canal boat could change sides of the canal towpath without unhitching the rope. Next, you will pass a The Navigation Inn and lock. Follow signs to Beeston. Stay non the towpath to the Clifton Bridge, Bridge 16. The Canal then bends to the right just before a road bridge with red and white stripes on the side. At the bend and before the 'red and white' road bridge, look for a tarmac path going off on the left. There used to be a signpost at this point, but now it is just an upright pole! Go left here and follow this tarmac path through a barrier and to a road: Thane Road. Go left along Thane Road to a roundabout and then take the right turn, along Lenton Lane, signposted Restaurant Sat Bains. Walk down the lane, alongside the flyover to the end where you will find the restaurant Sat Bains. Turn Left at the large restaurant sign and take the track under Clifton Bridge and onto a footpath marked as The Big Track, alongside the River Trent. Turn left here and return by the River Trent following the Big Track/ Trent Valley Way. Eventually, the path emerges onto the pavement just past B and Q. Turn right and walk along the pavement to The Victoria Embankment. Cross the river on the Suspension Bridge and take the river path downstream to The Hook and Lady Bay.

Distance: 15 kms

Walking Time: 3.5 hours

Walk 89: Beeston Canal, The Big Track and The Trent Valley Way – shorter route



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Walk 90: Beeston Canal, The Big Track and The Trent Valley Way – longer route

This is a fascinating route taking you along the Beeston Canal through the city to Beeston and back along the River Trent on the Trent Valley Way. This route is slightly shorter than going all the way out to Beeston Lock, making it more accessible! The Beeston Canal is a broad canal and is part of the River Trent. It runs for 4½ miles from Lenton Chain, where it joins the River Trent, to Beeston Lock No 5, where it joins the River Trent (Western End). The Beeston Canal takes you safely through the heart of the city and is a key feature of the waterfront district. The canal ends at the River Trent opposite the City Ground which is where our walk begins.

Already established for 84 miles through Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire, the Trent Valley Way is a long-distance footpath along the Trent Valley. The Trent Valley Way connects cities, towns and villages, wildlife and history. It links the cities and towns which have built their industry and heritage on the River Trent, including Stoke, Rugeley, Burton-upon Trent, Nottingham, Newark, Gainsborough and Scunthorpe and passes through six counties. Our walk takes in almost the whole length of The Beeston Canal before joining the Trent Valley Way for the return leg.

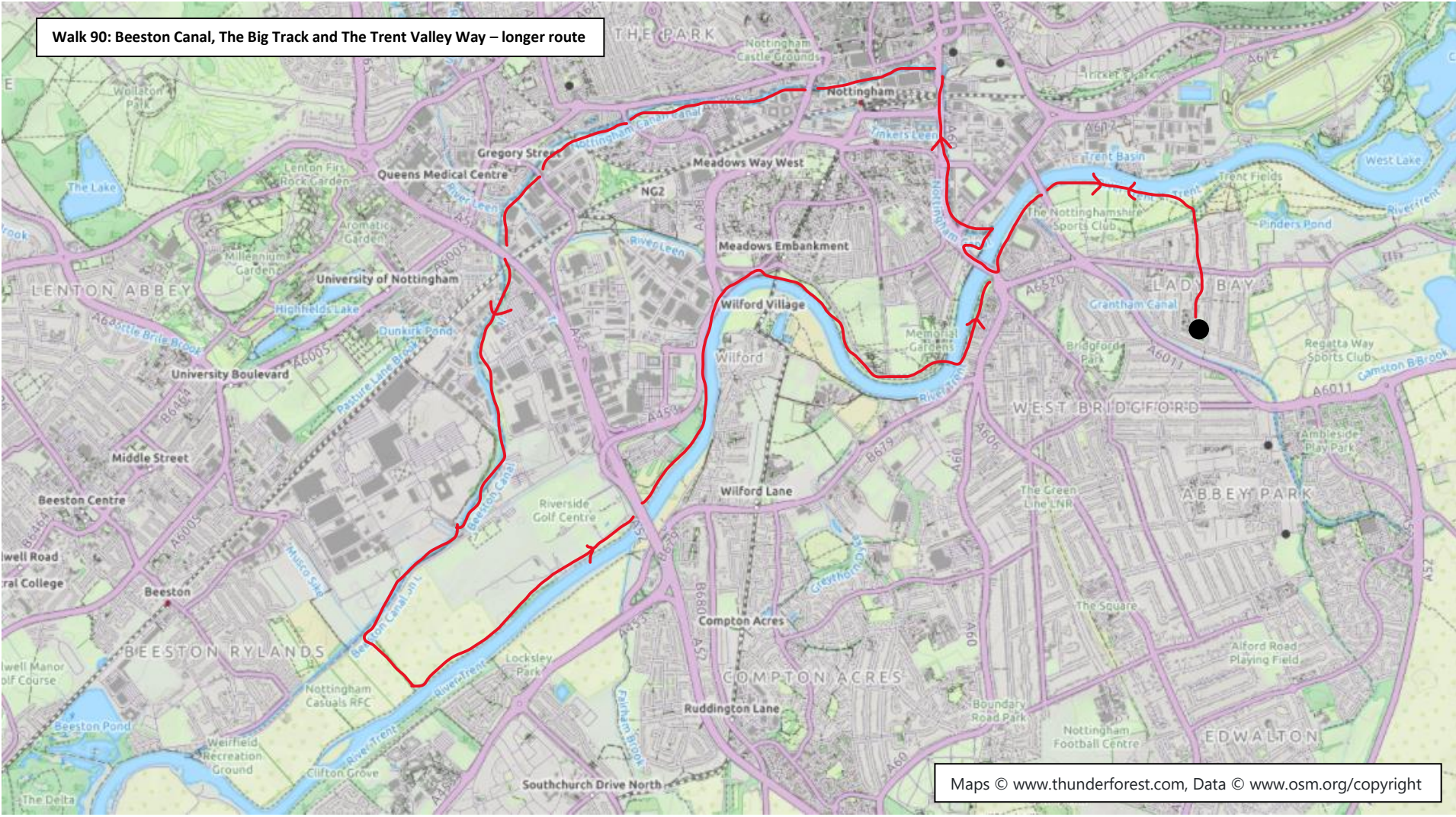
Clues

Walk to The Hook via Mona Road. Once on The Hook, take the river path upstream. Go under Lady Bay Bridge. Follow the side road up to Trent Bridge and cross the Trent Bridge on the right-hand pavement, heading towards the city. Immediately over the bridge, take the signed path on the right which slips down the side of the bridge to the river path **opposite** the City Ground. This path takes you to the lock which delivers the Beeston Canal into the River Trent. Take the towpath on the right-hand side of the canal and follow it for around 7 kms through the city and out the other side. On the way you will need to change sides on the towpath near The Premier Inn by crossing a Turnover Bridge. A Turnover Bridge gets its name because it was where the horse towing the canal boat could change sides of the canal towpath without unhitching the rope. Next, you will pass a The Navigation Inn and lock. Follow signs to Beeston. Pass bridge number 18 – the footbridge to Boots. Just past this Footbridge, Bridge No. 18, take the metal steps over the wall on your left to a footpath on the other side of the wall. Now walk back along the path in the direction of Nottingham for about 100m. Come to a metal gate. Through the gate, the path bends right, by an electricity pylon. Take this path, away from the canal. After about 500m on this straight path you will come to the River Trent. Turn left here and return by the River Trent following the Trent Valley Way. Eventually, pass through a metal gate by a house. Take the fisher path right off the road, following the blue cycle signs. Pass under Clifton Bridge and emerge onto the pavement just past B and Q. Turn right and walk along the pavement to The Victoria Embankment. Cross the river on the Suspension Bridge and take the river path downstream to The Hook and Lady Bay.

Distance: 16 kms

Walking Time: 4 hours

Walk 90: Beeston Canal, The Big Track and The Trent Valley Way – longer route



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D. East of the River Trent

Walk 91: To Holme Lock   

Description

A variation on the theme of walks around The National Watersports Centre. This walk takes you to Holme Lock, on the River Trent. At 25 feet deep and 175 feet long the Holme Lock in Nottinghamshire is one of the biggest and deepest canal locks in the country. Holme Lock is a delightfully rural location, right next to the National Watersports Centre on the River Trent (non-tidal section). For boaters, the broad and fast-flowing River Trent is a clear contrast to the narrow network of canals that it connects to. There are narrow boat berths located on the 'topside' of the lock making this a picturesque and quiet part of the park.

Clues

Walk to The Hook via Mona Road. Once on The Hook, take the path immediately right alongside the allotments. Once in open space on Trent Fields, keep the 'flood pool' on your left and head for the Sailing Club. Continue on the river path past the Sailing Club. Follow the path straight ahead with the river on your left. Walk past the canoeists' changing rooms to the beginning of the canoe slalom course. Turn left and cross the bridge over the starting point of the slalom course. The path then bends to the right, alongside a short canal section to Holme Lock. At the lock you will see a path heading through the right-hand hedge, going diagonally right to a footbridge. Take this path, cross the bridge and you are on the perimeter path of the Regatta Lake. Turn right and walk alongside the Regatta Lake with the lake on your left. Towards the west end of the lake, take steps up and right onto the exit road of the Watersports Centre, just by the Desperate Measures Canoe Shop. Take this road onto Adbolton Lane, turn right. Turn right again, at Church Farm at Skylarks, still on Adbolton Lane, onto Trent Boulevard and back to The Poppy and Pint.

Distance: 7 kms

Walking Time: 2 hours



Walk 92: Radcliffe by Cliff, River and Weir

Description

The highlight is the Radcliff Cliff Walk which takes you high along the river towards nearby Shelford village. The Cliffs of Radcliffe give commanding views over the Trent Valley and beyond. The route from the cliffs down to the river and along its bank gives fascinating views of Stoke Lock and Radcliffe Weir, nearby, as well as of Stoke Bardolph opposite. The paths down to the riverside were first laid out as a public walk in the 1920's and include lily ponds and lakes. This area is now designated a Local Wildlife Site. Common Toads hibernate in the damp woodland, emerge in early spring, and make their way down to the ponds to mate and spawn. The area is also home to birds like the Tawny Owl, Nuthatch and Great Spotted Woodpecker.

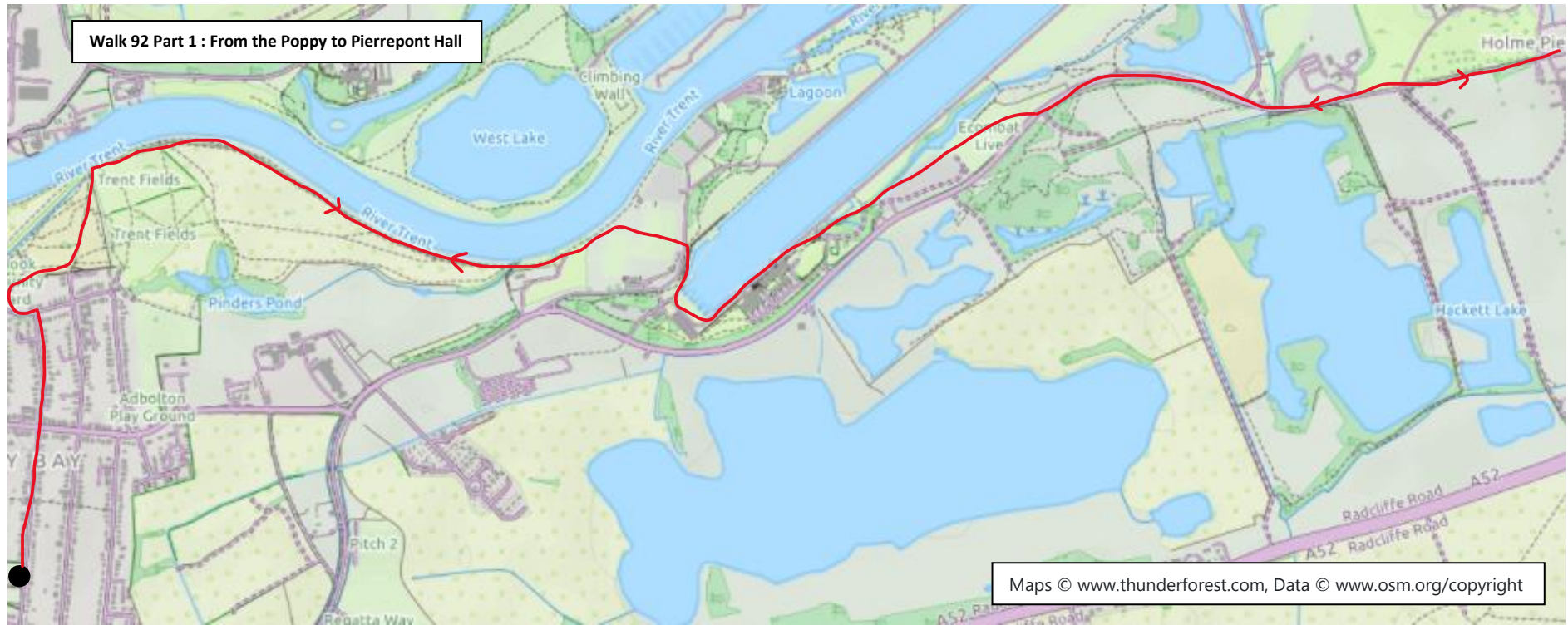
Clues

Walk to The Hook via Mona Road. Once on The Hook, take the path immediately right alongside the allotments. Once in open space in Trent Fields, keep the 'flood pool' on your left and head for the Sailing Club. At the next fence turn right and walk around the cricket ground heading towards 'Desperate Measures' canoe shop which is to the left of the cricket pavilion. Continue on steps down to the Water Sports area and around the Regatta Lake in an anti-clockwise direction. Pass the main building and the spectators' area. Then take a path diagonally right past a memorial stone and three benches and walk down to a metal gate. Go through the gate and cross a field with the hedge on your immediate left. Enter the 'e combat zone' and look for a path diagonally rightwards that takes you to the road and the main Skylarks Nature Reserve car park. Turn left along the road and walk almost the whole length of this road and then track to Radcliffe. You will pass Blotts and Holme Pierrepont Hall. Just after the railway bridge the track bends to the right at the start of some houses. At this bend, look out for a narrow footpath straight ahead alongside a farm. Take this path which will bring you out by the playing fields and onto the road at Wharf Lane. (NB, if this path is boggy – continue on the main path to the main road in Radcliffe by the Chestnut pub, turn left and then take the first left again along Wharf Lane which brings you down to the car park on roads). There is a brand-new adventure playground and a skatepark here. Once on Wharf Lane, turn left. Go past a car park. Just past the railway bridge take the narrow path up right onto The Cliffs of Radcliffe. Follow the path upwards and keep onto the main path until you come to an Information Board on the left – opposite one of the entrances to the Rockley Memorial Park. Just before the Information Board, on the left, are concrete steps leading steeply downhill to the river below. Take these steps down. At the bottom, the path bends right and runs parallel to the river. You will soon come to a path right that takes you straight to a lake. Go straight on here and keep the river immediately on your left. There are many benches and picnic spots along this stretch. Eventually, the path comes to a weir, where the path bends to the right and then leads to steps uphill and back to the main path at the top. At the main path, turn right and retrace your steps back to Lady Bay.

Distance: 12.5 kms Walking Time: 4 hours

Map of Radcliffe Cliff Top and Lily Ponds







E. Around Colwick

Walk 93: Colwick Country Park - direct from Lady Bay Bridge 🚲 🏠 😊

Description

This is the most direct and shortest route to Colwick Country Park keeping you off the main road (A612). It keeps to the roads behind Daleside Road and takes you straight onto Racecourse Road, just by the entrance to the park. The Country Park has two main lakes: West Lake and Colwick Lake bounded by the River Trent. Site Facilities include 24-acre West Lake; 65-acre Main Lake; Marina; Wildlife Areas; Disability Access; playgrounds and toilets. The park is home to many migratory birds including the nationally important population of wildfowl that are present during the winter. There is also an Open Water Swimming Centre from April to October each year. Open water swimming sessions are run by WholeHealth - for further details on sessions days and times and how to book please visit Wholly Healthy. For a map of the Country Park, visit: [Map - Colwick Country Park \(nottsbirders.net\)](http://nottsbirders.net).

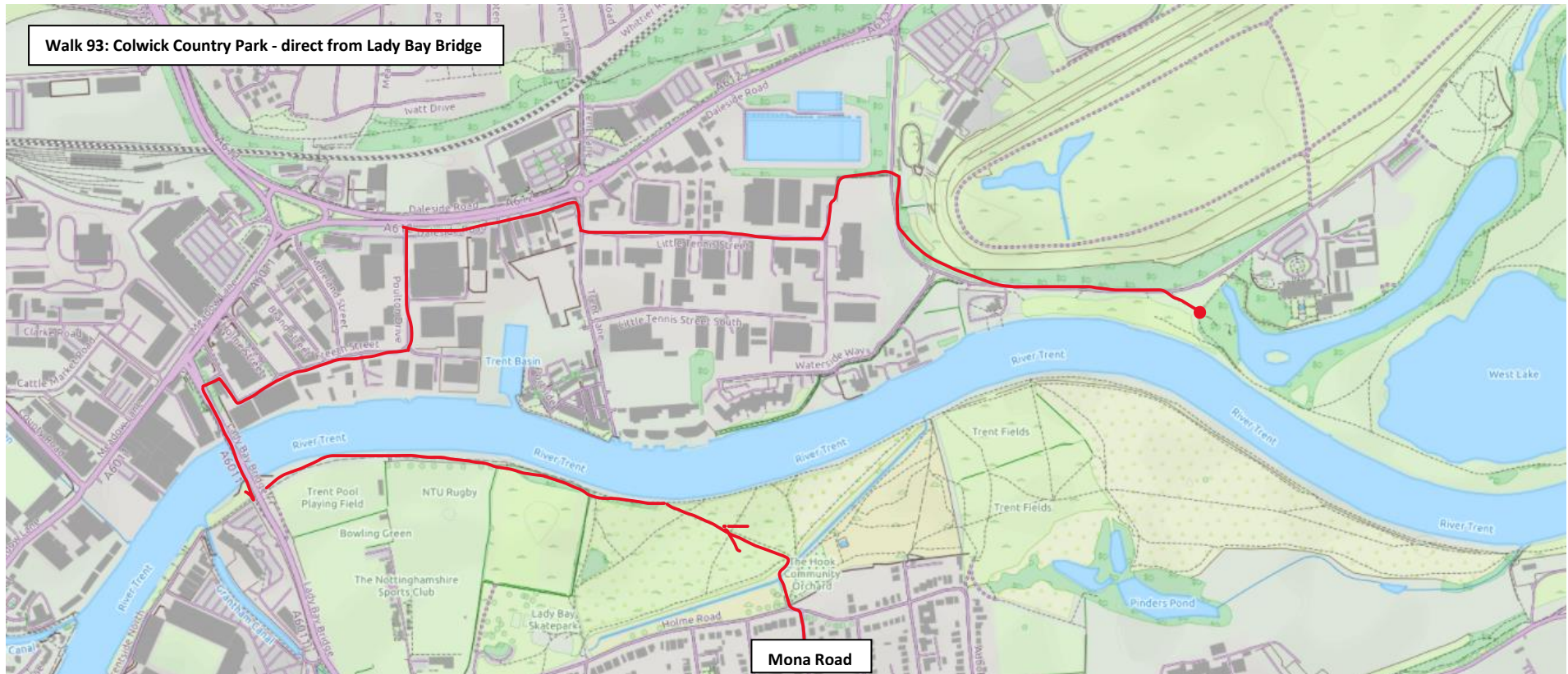
Clues

Make your way to Lady Bay bridge via the riverside path from The Hook. Walk underneath the bridge then climb up to the bridge by concrete steps on your left. Cross the bridge on the left side pavement. Immediately over the bridge and before the traffic lights, cross the road and look for some steps leading down to short road leading to Freeth Street. Walk along Freeth Street which continues after the first right turn. Walk further down Freeth Street to Poulton Drive. Turn right here and come to Daleside Road by the Cheesecake shop! Turn right onto Daleside Road. Come to the roundabout by the Daleside Café and turn right onto Trent Lane. Now look for blue cycleway signs to Colwick Country Park. Take the first left onto Little Tennis Street at the T junction, turn left, still on Little Tennis Street. To the right of 'Alan Tully Cars' is a signed jitty/path to Colwick Country Park. Take the jitty between two buildings. The path bends right and brings you straight onto Racecourse Road. Turn right onto Racecourse Road and walk along the road, past Waterside Way and Riverside Cruises. You will soon come to a green sign: Public Bridleway. Take this path right. You are now entering Colwick Country Park.

Once you have explored the park, retrace your steps on the pavements to get to Lady Bay Bridge. Drop down to the river path via the concrete steps and walk back to The Hook on the river path.

Distance: 8 kms

Walking Time: 2 hours



Walk 94: Colwick Country Park – via Sneinton Greenway ☸ 96 ☺

Description

A system of paths on the former Great Northern Railway takes you to the edge of Sneinton Woods and to Colwick Country Park. There are some fantastic opportunities to see a rich diverse wildlife including butterflies, dragonflies and many migratory birds. The Country Park has two main lakes: West Lake and Colwick Lake. This walk takes you to the nearest entrance to Colwick Park. For a map of the Country Park, visit: [Map - Colwick Country Park \(nottsbirders.net\)](http://nottsbirders.net)

Clues

Make your way to Lady Bay bridge via the riverside path from The Hook. Walk underneath the bridge then climb up to the bridge by concrete steps on your left. Cross the bridge on the left side pavement. Turn right at the traffic lights, then cross the main road so that you are on the pavement by the Lady Bay Retail Park. At the retail park roundabout, turn left and then immediately cross the road (A612) on the pedestrian crossing. Follow signs to the Sneinton Greenway. Head towards the right-hand side of the Harley-Davidson showroom and cross the railway line using the footbridge. Come down one level on the other side and take the elevated disused railway section right, signposted Sneinton Greenway. Keep on the path/disused railway line and come out at the Racecourse roundabout. Turn right onto the main road (A612) and cross to the other side and then head down Racecourse Road, past the racecourse entrance towards the river on the road to Colwick Hall. Keep on this road until you get to a green sign: Public Bridleway. Take this path right. You are now entering Colwick Country Park.

Once you have explored the park, retrace your steps on the pavements to get to Lady Bay Bridge. Drop down to the river path via the concrete steps and walk back to The Hook on the river path.

Distance: 10 kms **Walking Time: 2.5 hours**

Walk 94: Colwick Country Park – via Sneinton Greenway



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Walk 95: A Circuit of Colwick Country Park

Description

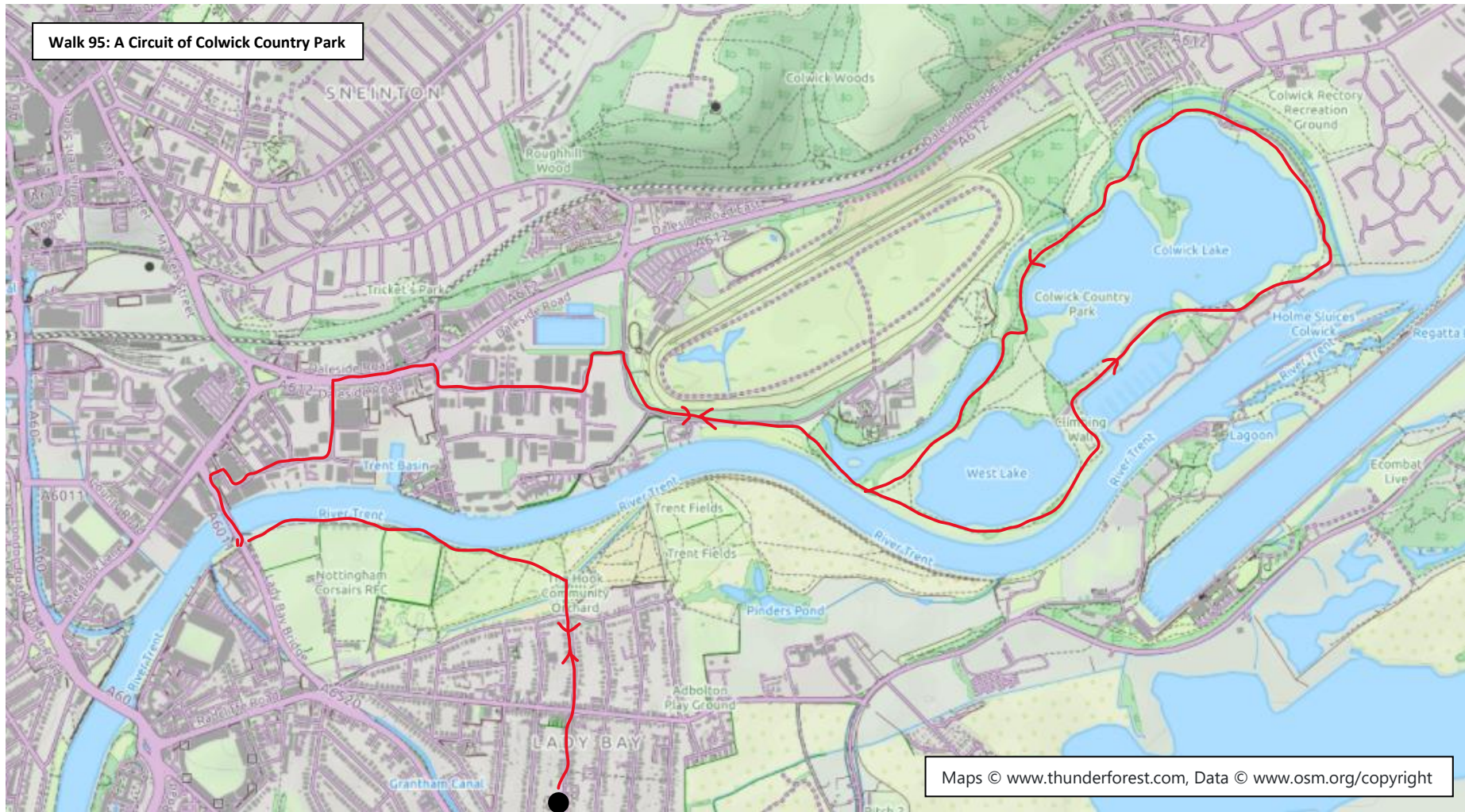
This walk takes you around the entire park encircling Colwick Lake and the West Lake bounded by the River Trent. Colwick Country Park is very special. Site Facilities include 24-acre West Lake; 65-acre Main Lake; Marina; Wildlife Areas; Disability Access; playgrounds and toilets. The park is home to many migratory birds including the nationally important population of wildfowl that are present during the winter. There is also an Open Water Swimming Centre from April to October each year. Open water swimming sessions are run by WholeHealth - for further details on sessions days and times and how to book please visit Wholly Healthy. For a map of the Country Park, visit: [Map - Colwick Country Park \(nottsbirders.net\)](http://Map - Colwick Country Park (nottsbirders.net)).

Clues:

Take Walk xx to the entrance to Colwick Country Park off Racecourse Road. Take the first footpath on the right along Racecourse Road marked with a green 'Public Bridleway' sign. Take the track eastwards to a metal gate. Go through the metal gate. The path takes you close to the River Trent. Follow this path alongside the Trent. Go through a wooden gate and continue straight ahead. The lake is close to the left of the path and the river is close to the right along this section. Pass a wind turbine and Adventure Centre. Come to a yellow metal gate and turn right. Keep on this path past the marina. Come to a public toilet and playground and turn left. Pass the Holme Sluices on your right. Continue on the path alongside the river. Eventually, the path bends to the left by a series of small bollards on the right-hand side. Continue along the main path to a car park with a green shipment container: offices and café. Just beyond there take the path straight ahead, marked 'Circular Woodland Walks' which is just past a white road bridge on the right. Follow the main path around Colwick Lake and then West Lake. At a marked junction for the circular walks, go straight on and then come to Y path junction. Take the right-hand path and continue with Colwick Lake on your left. Come to a tarmac path and carry on to a yellow metal gate. Turn right here and then right at the lake to start the circuit of West Lake with the lake still on your left. Continue straight ahead until you come to the main path that you started on when you entered Colwick Park. Turn right here and come to Racecourse Road. Walk along Racecourse Road, past Princess Cruises and Waterside Way. Just past the tarmac site on your left, look for the jitty, which is unmarked, leading to Little Tennis Street. Now retrace your steps back to Lady Bay.

Distance: 13 kms

Walking Time: 3.5 hours



Walk 96: To Colwick Country Park via Sneinton Greenway, Colwick Wood and Three Hills

Description

This is a great route to get you to the far (east) entrance to Colwick Country Park. The route takes you over Lady Bay Bridge, and along almost the whole length of the Sneinton Greenway, skirting underneath Colwick Woods and into Three Hills. Sneinton Greenway goes from Manvers Street in Sneinton to Nottingham Racecourse, following the alignment of one of the old railways. There are some fantastic views of Nottingham Racecourse and beyond on the outward leg followed by a great riverside and lakeside walk on the return leg.

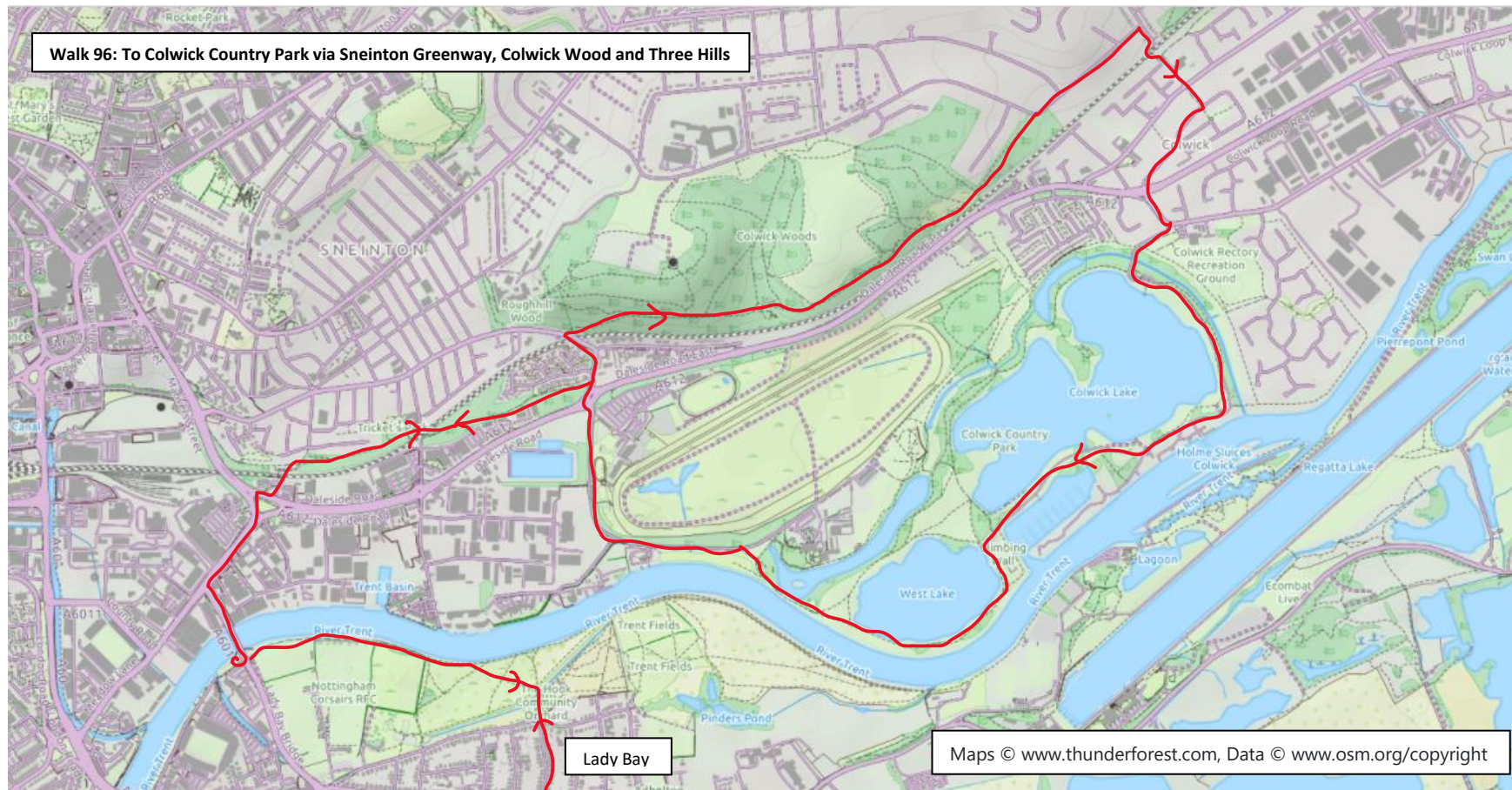
Colwick Wood is a Local Nature Reserve, and its sandstone cliff is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Covering 125 acres, it was once part of a large estate. Much of the present woodland is ancient semi-natural with remnants of parkland from Colwick Hall estate. This area of woodland and meadows, with views over the Trent Valley, is home to a wide range of wildlife and plants.

Clues

Make your way to Lady Bay bridge via the riverside path from The Hook. Walk underneath the bridge then climb up to the bridge by concrete steps on your left. Cross the bridge on the left side pavement. Turn right at the traffic lights, then cross the main road so that you are on the pavement by the Lady Bay Retail Park. At the retail park roundabout, turn left and then immediately cross the road (A612) on the pedestrian crossing. Follow signs to the Sneinton Greenway. Head towards the right-hand side of the Harley-Davidson showroom and cross the railway line using the footbridge. Come down one level on the other side and take the elevated disused railway section right, signposted Sneinton Greenway. Keep on the path/disused railway line and come out onto a road: Colwick Road. Turn left onto this road. The road bends to the left and over the railway at a level crossing. Immediately after the rather lovely stone mullioned railway cottage, enter the woods to the right by the Colwick Woods information board. Climb steadily up a path stepped with timbers. Continue straight ahead on this undulating path. AT ALL TIMES keep green metal fence or a wired fence on your right-hand side all the way to east exit of Colwick Wood and onto Greenwood Road. Follow green fingerposts to Greenwood Road (East) on the way. Occasionally, you will find steps down or up to help you on your way. Once out of Colwick Wood, walk along Greenwood Road to the end and then turn right onto Douglas Avenue, following the blue cycle signs to Colwick. At the end of Douglas Road cross the railway line by the pedestrian bridge and then turn right down an obvious track and past a primary school. Cross the road in front of you (Vale Road) and take the jitty path in front of you to Valeside Road. Turn right onto Valeside Road and follow the road round to First Avenue and then the main road (Colwick Loop Road). Cross the main road by the traffic lights and head up Mile End Road in front of you following the blue cycle signs to Colwick Park. Take the first right onto River Road and then enter Colwick Country Park. Continue on this road and over a bridge to a path junction on the right with a fingerpost: 'Circular Woodland Walks'. Ignore this path and continue on the tarmac road to a barrier and a green portacabin – café! Continue through the barriers and on the tarmac road around the main lake with the lake on your right. The road bends to the right and continues to the River Trent and the Sluice gates. At the circular toilet block, turn right and continue with the lake on your right, passing the marina on your left. Eventually, you will come to West Lake and the open swimming area. Turn left here, past the activities centre and continue straight ahead on clear

paths keeping the river on your left and the smaller lake on your right. Continue through a wooden gate and then a metal barrier and onto Racecourse Road. Turn left onto Racecourse Road and follow the road back to the main road (Daleside Road East). Cross this main road at the traffic lights and head up Colwick Road in front of you. Almost immediately take the path left and back onto the Sneinton Greenway which is clearly marked by a green fingerpost. Retrace your steps to the Harley-Davidson Showrooms, Lady Bay Bridge, Lady bay and back to the Poppy and Pint!

Distance: 13.5 kms Walking Time: 3.5 hours



Walk 97: The Trent Valley to Colwick and Netherfield

Description

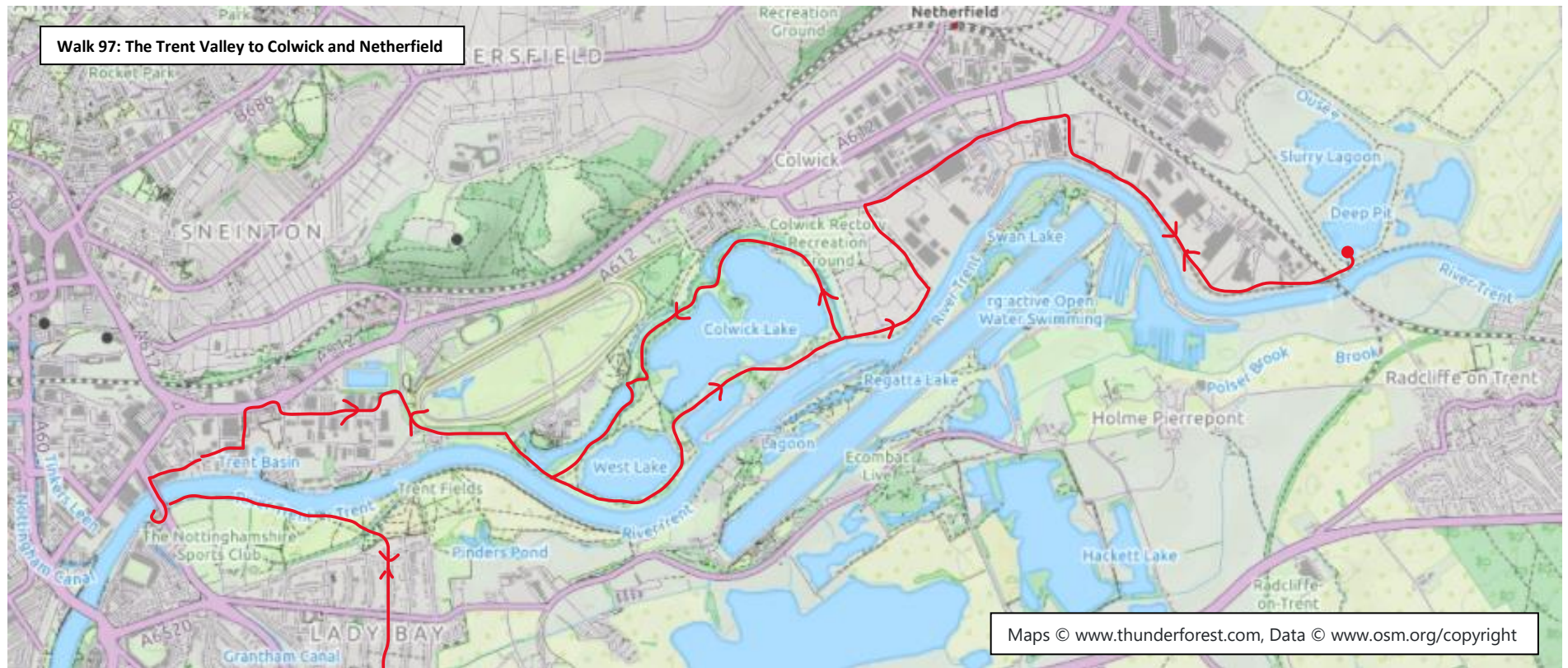
A superlative walk full of variety and contrasts: urban, rural, industrial, wild. The juxtaposition of all these makes for a unique experience! The final section to the Netherfield lagoons is the best with industrial units right next to the Trent embankment with all its wildlife to behold. If you keep looking over the river on your right on the outward leg, you will see the familiar sights of Lady Bay, the Sailing Club, the Rugby Club, the Canoe Slalom, the Regatta Lake, the back lane to Radcliffe, the railway line, and the Cliffs of Radcliffe. All from a different perspective. There is much of interest – even the section through Colwick Industrial Estate is intriguing! There is a plethora of birdlife: on the Colwick lakes, along the bushes on the riverside and at the Lagoon itself. There is so much to commend this walk – a local walk not to be missed!

Clues

Take Walk xx to the entrance to Colwick Country Park off Racecourse Road. Take the first footpath on the right along Racecourse Road marked with a green 'Public Bridleway' sign. Take the track eastwards to a metal gate. Go through the metal gate. The path takes you close to the River Trent. Follow this path alongside the Trent. Go through a wooden gate and continue straight ahead. The lake is close to the left of the path and the river is close to the right along this section. Pass a wind turbine and Adventure Centre. Come to a yellow metal gate and turn right. Keep on this path past the marina. Come to a public toilet and playground and turn left. Pass the Holme Sluices on your right. Continue on the path alongside the river. Eventually, the path bends to the left by a series of small bollards on the right-hand side. Take the path right off the main drive in the middle section of these bollards. Cross a bridge and climb up the embankment to a wide path on the top of the embankment. Turn right and continue with the river on your right and houses on your left. Just past a red public telephone box (in someone's garden), follow the path as it bends left and then take the narrow path right off the drive going alongside the houses. Take this path straight ahead, with house gardens and fences on the left, all the way to a road. Turn right at the road onto 'Crosslands Meadow' and then right again onto 'Colwick Estates Private Road No 2.' Continue on this road for about a kilometre past the industrial units. Pass a road on the left (to Nottingham), then a small roundabout keeping straight ahead throughout. At the roundabout, take the path on the right-hand side of the road past 'Truck and Bus Engineering'. Just after 'Armitage Pet Care' you will find a blue cycle way sign to Stoke Bardolph. Take this path on the right between two industrial units and back to the River Trent. Turn left at the river and follow this path all the way to a railway bridge. Go under the railway bridge, through a squeeze gate to a cross paths and a green path sign. You are now at the Netherfield Lagoons. Opposite the river here is the beginning of the Cliffs of Radcliffe. Continue a few more metres on the path towards Stoke Bardolph and you will find some steps on the left leading up to the Netherfield Lagoons. Explore the lagoons and then retrace your steps from this point back to Colwick. When you get to the small footbridge leading back into Colwick Park, turn right and continue along the main path to a car park with a green shipment container: offices and café. Just beyond there take the path straight ahead, marked 'Circular Woodland Walks' which is just past a white road bridge on the right. Follow the main path around Colwick Lake and then West Lake. At a marked junction for the circular walks, go straight on and then come to Y path junction. Take the right-hand path and continue with Colwick Lake on your left. Come to a tarmac path and carry on to a yellow metal gate. Turn right here and then right at the lake to start the circuit of West Lake with the lake still on your

left. Continue straight ahead until you come to the main path that you started on when you entered Colwick Park. Turn right here and come to Racecourse Road. Walk along Racecourse Road, past Princess Cruises and Waterside Way. Just past the tarmac site on your left, look for the jitty, which is unmarked, leading to Little Tennis Street. Now retrace your steps back to Lady Bay.

Distance: 22.5 kms **Walking Time: 5 hours**



F. The Tollerton Walks

Walk 98: Across country to Tollerton Lane and Edwalton – return by Grantham Canal

Description

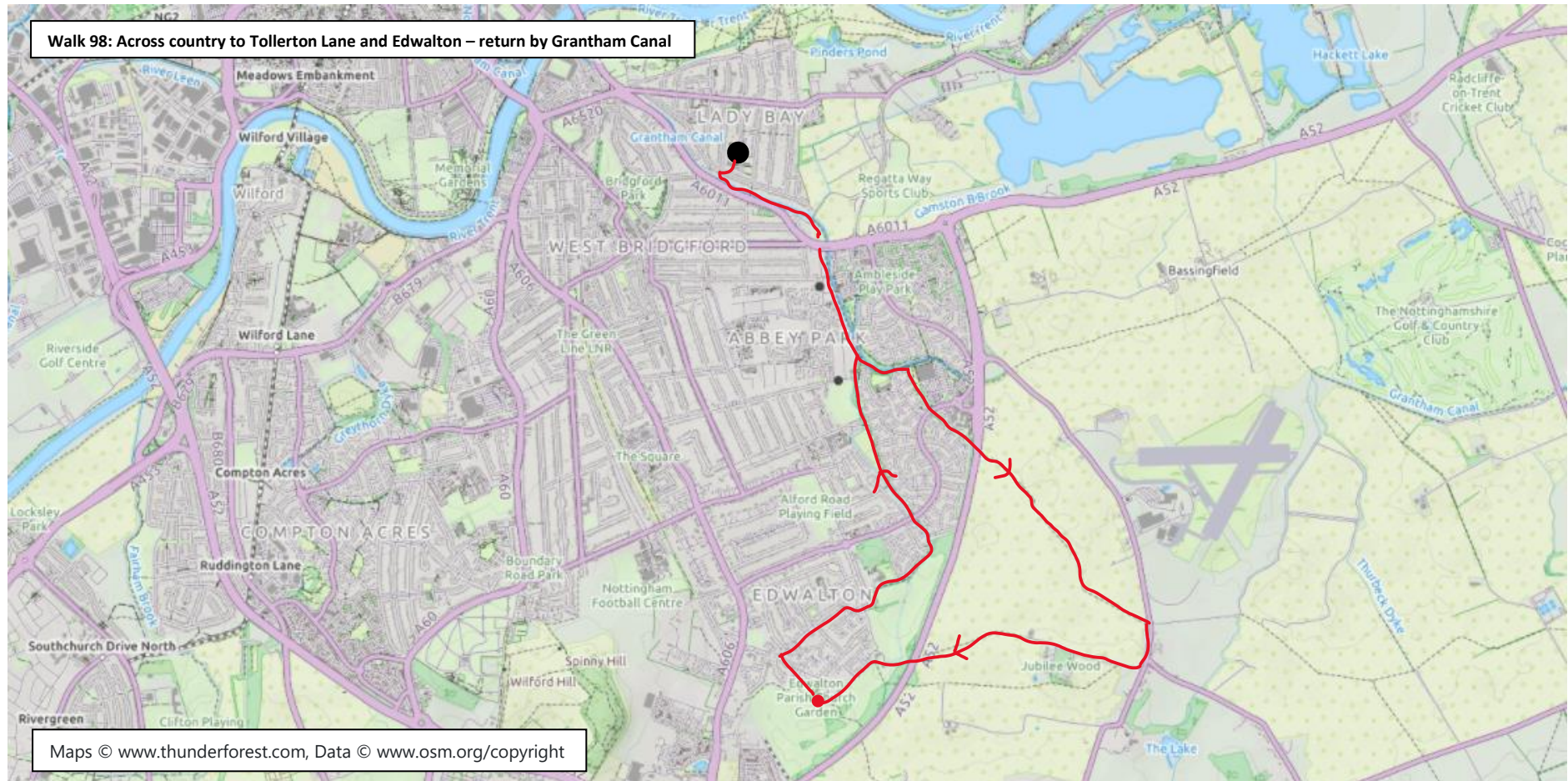
This is an amazing circular walk taking you to the wonderfully situated Edwallton Church, starting and finishing on the Grantham Canal. There is countryside and footpaths throughout. On the entire walk, there are only two roads to walk on. The church dates to the 12th century and is situated in Edwalton old village, overlooking the golf course. The church bells are recognised as one of the finest lightweight (5 cwt.) rings of six in the County of Nottinghamshire. One of the earliest mentions of Edwalton village is in the Domesday book where it is listed amongst the lands given to Hugh de Grandmesnil by the King. The land required more than three ploughs and consisted of 20 acres (8.1 ha) of meadow. Since the marriage of the heir to the Musters' family estate (West Bridgford's former landowners) into the Chaworth family, the areas of West Bridgford and Edwalton have been conjoined. This walk takes you through the old and newer parts of Edwalton village, mainly by footpath.

Clues

Follow the Grantham Canal out of Lady Bay until you reach the back of the Morrisons superstore where you follow the public footpath round to the right keeping Morrisons on your left. Follow this footpath across the road where a sign designates the end of the cycle route and follow it as it becomes a grassy path. Eventually, steps on your left take you down to the main A52 (Radcliffe Road). **CROSS WITH EXTREME CAUTION.** Pick up the footpath on the other side of the main road and continue in the same direction across a series of fields. There are one or two kinks in the path, but it maintains roughly the same direction as it heads towards the village of Tollerton. Ignore the path off to the left which leads to a farm building and keep going over a few small wooden footbridges until you reach another road (Tollerton Road) at the edge of Tollerton. Turn right onto Tollerton Road and walk towards Tollerton village for about 200m. Just past Cotgrave Lane, look for a green finger post pointing right indicating 'Public Bridleway' along Little Lane. Take this track right and follow it to its end where it converts to a field path alongside a hedge. Continue on this path which eventually leads to some steps down to the Gamston Lings Bar Road. **CROSS WITH EXTREME CAUTION** as there is no pedestrian crossing here. Take the path opposite which leads to a golf course via a small wooden bridge. Cross the fairway in front of you taking the obvious line to a small bridge lined by metal railings. Cross the bridge and follow the yellow waymarker posts to a gravelled path which later converts to tarmac. Ignore the path right, to the club house. Cross the next fairway, heading for a yellow waymarker post on the other side by a carpark. Turn left here and take the muddy path ahead to another yellow waymarker post at a T path junction. NB The way ahead is blocked off by tree branches. Turn right here, go through a gate, and come to a road (Village Street) by Edwalton Church. Walk past the church along Village Street. Turn right onto Wellin Lane. Walk along Wellin Lane, past the shops to a 'No through Road' sign. Go straight ahead here on the no through road and go past Edwalton Primary School. Just past the school is a footpath bounded by some railings. Take this path and follow it all the way

to a bridge (right) with railings. Cross the bridge and continue along the path to a road (Beckside). Cross the road and take the path opposite following the blue cycle signs to 'Gamston and Radcliffe Road'. Eventually, you will come to the towpath on the Grantham canal. Turn left and return along the canal towpath. Go under the road bridge and cross the Radcliffe Road once more. Take the canal towpath opposite and follow it all the way to Rutland Road and The Poppy and Pint.

Distance: 11 kms **Walking Time: 2.5 hours**



Walk 99: Across country to Tollerton Lane and Edwalton – return by Green Line

Description

This is an amazing circular walk taking you to the wonderfully situated Edwalton Church, starting on the Grantham Canal and finishing on the Green Line West Bridgford. There is countryside and footpaths throughout. On the entire walk, there is only one road to walk on before getting back to West Bridgford. Edwalton Church dates to the 12th century and is situated in Edwalton old village, overlooking the golf course. The church bells are recognised as one of the finest lightweight (5 cwt.) rings of six in the County of Nottinghamshire. One of the earliest mentions of Edwalton village is in the Domesday book where it is listed amongst the lands given to Hugh de Grandmesnil by the King. The land required more than three ploughs and consisted of 20 acres (8.1 ha) of meadow. Since the marriage of the heir to the Musters' family estate (West Bridgford's former landowners) into the Chaworth family, the areas of West Bridgford and Edwalton have been conjoined.

The Green Line runs from Edwalton to West Bridgford. The Green Line was part of the old Midland railway running from St Pancras, London to Nottingham Midland station via Lady Bay bridge. It was opened in 1897 as a faster route than the original line via Leicester and was also used by the prestigious Anglo Scottish Express. A brickworks (now the Ludlow Hill Industrial Estate) was served by a short spur from the main line. Although there was no station in West Bridgford, one was provided at Edwalton. This was closed to passengers in 1949 but remained open for horse boxes, cows, furniture and pigeons until 1965. The line was finally closed by Dr. Beeching in 1969. Despite running into central West Bridgford, the Green Line supports a surprising array of wildlife with over 180 plant, 20 bird and 11 butterfly and moth species which have been recorded. The diversity of plants and animals reflects the variety of habitats ranging from the damper sheltered cutting in the south with woodland and meadow, to the drier, sunnier areas of the embankment in the north. Many of the artifacts of the line remain, the most important being the skew arch design Devonshire Road Bridge. "Skew" is the term used by builders to describe how the bricks under the arch are placed at an angle. Why not have a look and see for yourself? The Devonshire Road Bridge is the last remaining railway bridge over a road in West Bridgford.

This walk takes you through the old and newer parts of Edwalton village, mainly by footpath.

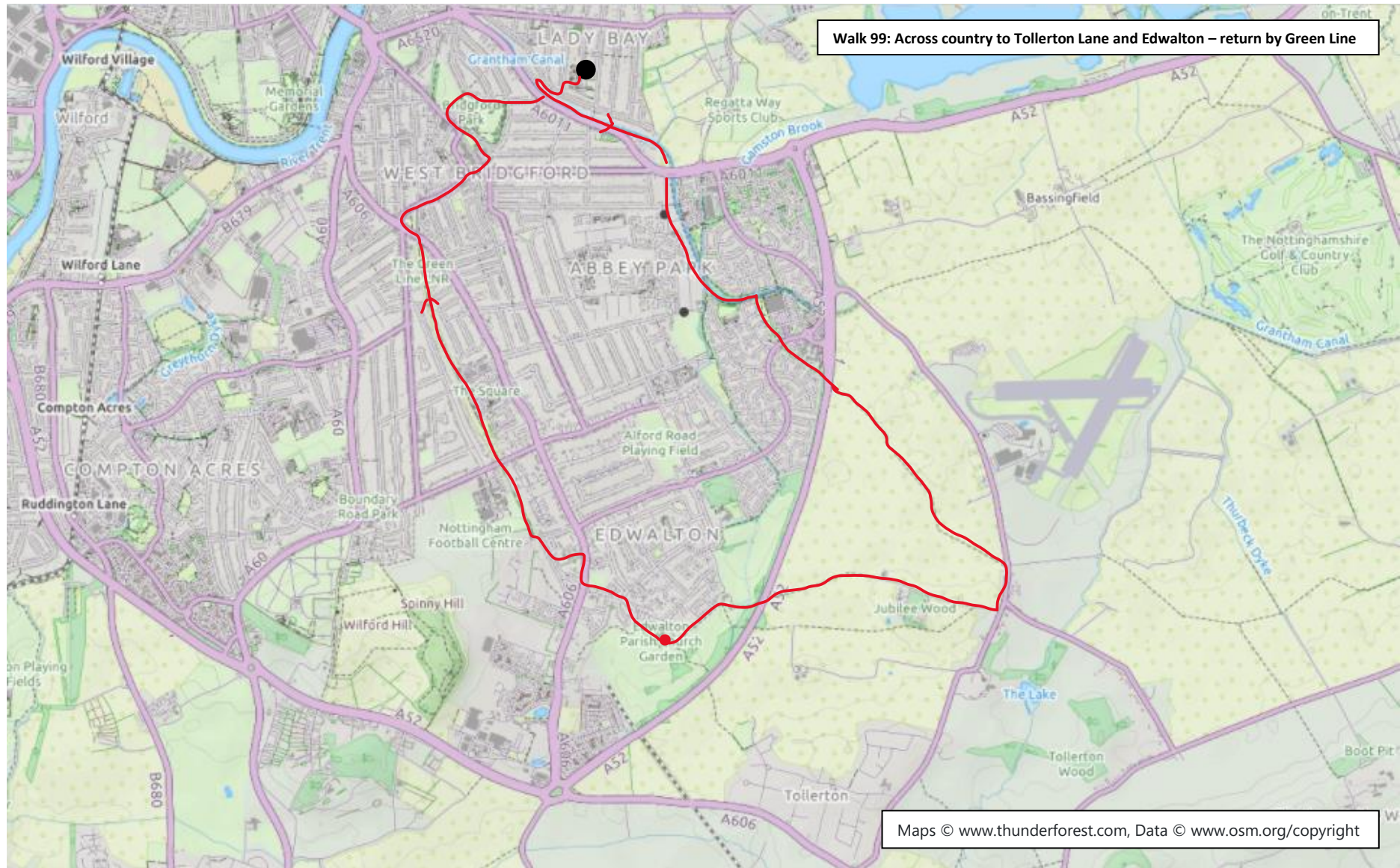
Clues

Follow the Grantham Canal out of Lady Bay until you reach the back of the Morrisons superstore where you follow the public footpath round to the right keeping Morrisons on your left. Follow this footpath across the road where a sign designates the end of the cycle route and follow it as it becomes a grassy path. Eventually, steps on your left take you down to the main A52 (Radcliffe Road). **CROSS WITH EXTREME CAUTION.** Pick up the footpath on the other side of the main road and continue in the same direction across a series of fields. There are one or two kinks in the path, but it maintains roughly the same direction as it heads towards the village of Tollerton. Ignore the path off to the left which leads to a farm building and keep going over a few small wooden footbridges until you reach another road (Tollerton Road) at the edge of Tollerton. Turn right onto Tollerton Road and walk towards Tollerton village for

about 200m. Just past Cotgrave Lane, look for a green finger post pointing right indicating 'Public Bridleway' along Little Lane. Take this track right and follow it to its end where it converts to a field path alongside a hedge. Continue on this path which eventually leads to some steps down to the Gamston Lings Bar Road. **CROSS WITH EXTREME CAUTION** as there is no pedestrian crossing here. Take the path opposite which leads to a golf course via a small wooden bridge. Cross the fairway in front of you taking the obvious line to a small bridge lined by metal railings. Cross the bridge and follow the yellow waymarker posts to a gravelled path which later converts to tarmac. Ignore the path right to the club house. Cross the next fairway, heading for a yellow waymarker post on the other side by a carpark. Turn left here and take the muddy path ahead to another yellow waymarker post at a T path junction. NB The way ahead is blocked off by tree branches. Turn right here, go through a gate, and come to a road (Village Street) by Edwalton Church. Walk past the church along Village Street. Pass Wellin Lane on the right and continue on Village Street to the main Melton Road passing Edwalton Hall on the way. Cross the Melton Road, turn right and look for a green fingerpost left on Machins Lane. Turn left here onto the tarmac lane, keeping right at a junction with bollards. Cross a brick bridge and then turn immediately right to join a gravel track which marks the beginning of the Green Line. Walk along this disused railway line all the way to its end in West Bridgford, passing Ruschcliffe Secondary School on the way. Cross Boundary Road and continue on the Green Line. This leads all the way back to Melton Road. At the end of the Green Line path, turn left onto Melton Road and then take the first right at the traffic lights onto Rectory Road. From here you can make your way back West Bridgford and to the Poppy and Pint via the West Bridgford park.

Distance: 11 kms

Walking Time: 2.5 hours



Walk 100: Across country to Tollerton Village and Edwalton – return by Grantham Canal

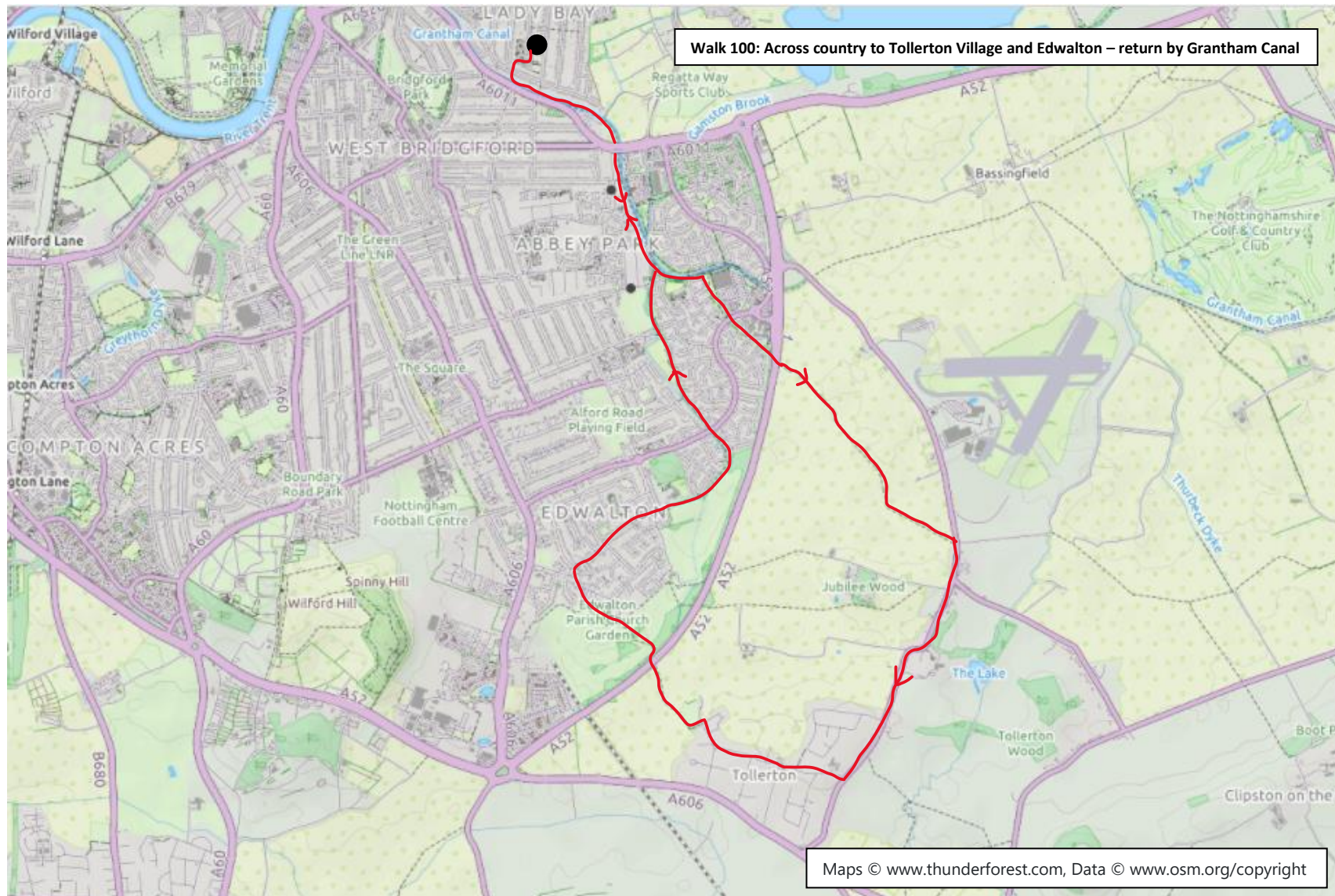
Description

This is a neat circular walk starting and finishing on the Grantham Canal. The walk takes you across fields to Tollerton returning via Edwalton Church. The fields to Tollerton provide a complete contrast to the environs of the canal. Once you are beyond the A52 Lings Bar Road there is a stark contrast – the countryside opens up, the birdlife changes, the paths quieten, and the views are magnificent. Tollerton Village holds a few surprises. Look out for the Pinfold on the main road. Explore the church next to Tollerton Hall. Enjoy the walled garden and churchyard and look out for the private corridor between the Hall and the church. Edwalton church is another good place to stop, to rest and to stare. Walk around the church and through a beautiful archway to the south facing garden of rest. Take a moment to rest on a bench and enjoy the sunshine and peace. All in half a day's walk!

Clues

Follow the Grantham Canal out of Lady Bay until you reach the back of the Morrisons superstore where you follow the public footpath round to the right keeping Morrisons on your left. Follow this footpath across the road where a sign designates the end of the cycle route and follow it as it becomes a grassy path. Eventually, steps on your left take you down to the main A52 (Radcliffe Road). **CROSS WITH EXTREME CAUTION.** Pick up the footpath on the other side of the main road and continue in the same direction across a series of fields. There are one or two kinks in the path, but it maintains roughly the same direction as it heads towards the village of Tollerton. Ignore the path off to the left which leads to a farm building and keep going over a few small wooden footbridges until you reach another road (Tollerton Road) at the edge of Tollerton. Turn right onto Tollerton Road and walk towards Tollerton Village. Pass then Pinfold, Tollerton Hall and Tollerton Church of St Peter's, all on your left. Continue on the road past a speed limit sign and take the second road on the right: Burnside Grove. Continue to the end of this road, past the Air Hostess Pub to a small roundabout and turn right along Lothian Road. Just before the 'Tollerton Open Space' playpark, turn left along a signed footpath. The path bends right around the playpark and then heads across the field to a wooden bridge. Once over the bridge, continue across the next field to a wooden gate in the hedge leading to some steps down to the Lings Bar Road. **CROSS WITH EXTREME CAUTION** as there is no pedestrian crossing here. Once across the road walk right briefly to a green fingerpost indicating a public footpath left, up some steps and through a hedge. You are now entering Tollerton Golf Club. Take the wide path in front of you and cross two fairways, following yellow waymarker posts and keeping in the same direction. Eventually, you will come to a clearer path heading for Edwalton Church. Go through a gate and come to a road (Village Street) by Edwalton Church. Walk past the church along Village Street. Turn right onto Wellin Lane. Walk along Wellin Lane, past the shops to a 'No through Road' sign. Go straight ahead here on the no through road and go past Edwalton Primary School. Just past the school is a footpath bounded by some railings. Take this path and follow it all the way to a bridge (right) with railings. Cross the bridge and continue along the path to a road (Beckside). Cross the road and take the path opposite following the blue cycle signs to 'Gamston and Radcliffe Road'. Eventually, you will come to the towpath on the Grantham canal. Turn left and return along the canal towpath back to Lady Bay and the Poppy and Pint.

Distance: 12.5 kms Walking Time: 3 hours



Walk 101: Across country to Tollerton Village and Edwalton – return by Green Line

Description

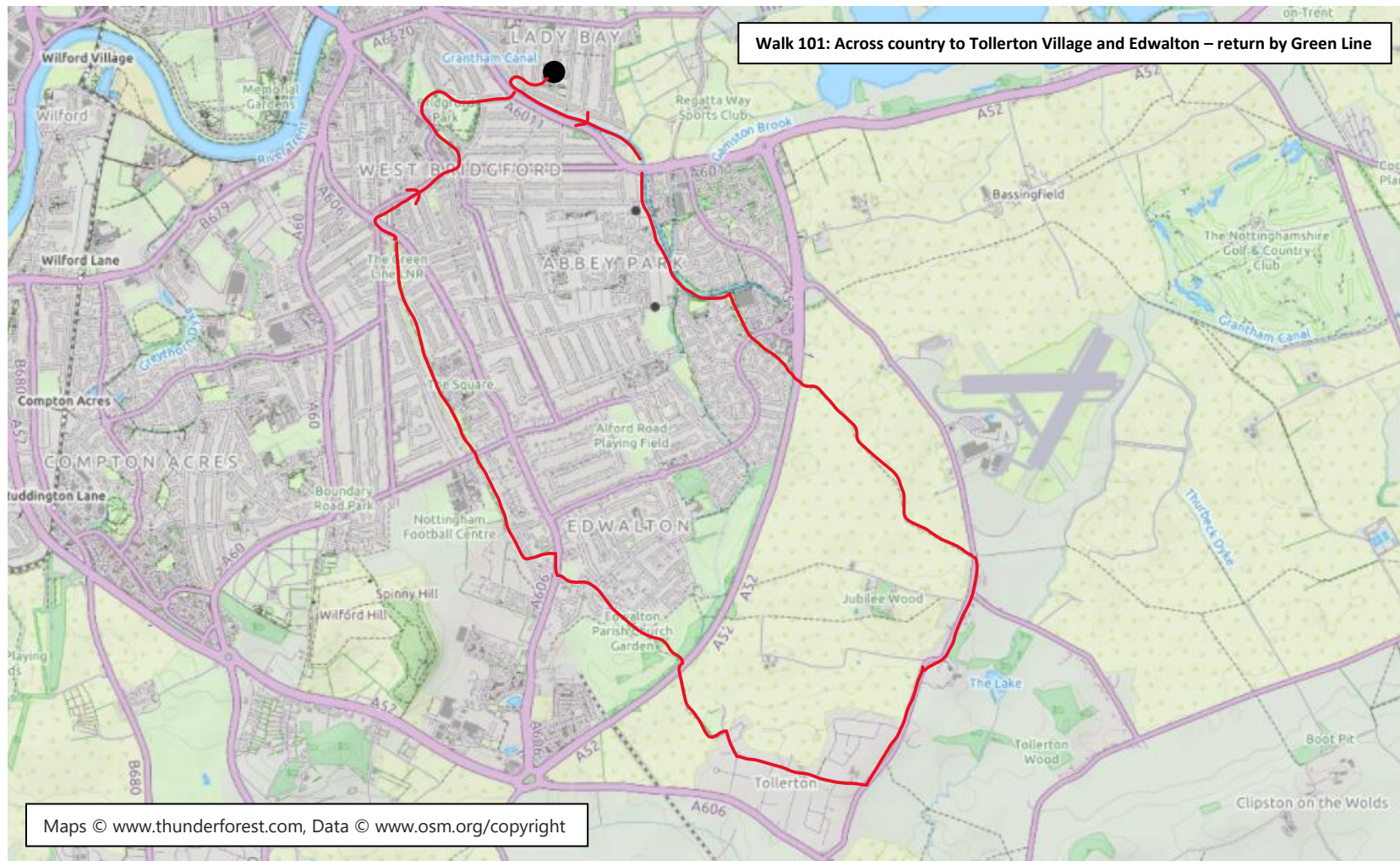
This is a neat circular walk starting on the Grantham Canal and finishing on the Green Line West Bridgford disused railway. The walk takes you across fields to Tollerton returning via Edwalton Church. The fields to Tollerton provide a complete contrast to the environs of the canal. Once you are beyond the A52 Lings Bar Road there is a stark contrast – the countryside opens up, the birdlife changes, the paths quieten, and the views are magnificent. Tollerton Village holds a few surprises. Look out for the Pinfold on the main road. Explore the church next to Tollerton Hall. Enjoy the walled garden and churchyard and look out for the private corridor between the Hall and the church. Edwalton church is another good place to stop, to rest and to stare. Walk around the church and through a beautiful archway to the south facing garden of rest. Take a moment to rest on a bench and enjoy the sunshine and peace. All in half a day's walk!

Clues

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Road and then take the first right at the traffic lights onto Rectory Road. From here you can make your way back West Bridgford and to the Poppy and Pint via the West Bridgford park.

Distance: 12.5 kms Walking Time: 3 hours



NB: Some of these walks are in country parks that may be closed. Similarly, some walks may not be on rights of way. In these cases, do get the landowners permission. This author cannot be held responsible in the case of accidents or problems occurring on these walks. These routes are provided in good faith. While every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the route directions, the author cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions, or for changes in details given. Also, paths that are easy to walk in fine conditions may become slippery, muddy, and difficult in wet weather. If you find an inaccuracy in either the text or maps, please let the author know.