



TRAILS

VICTORIA ART GALLERY AND PARKS CIRCLE

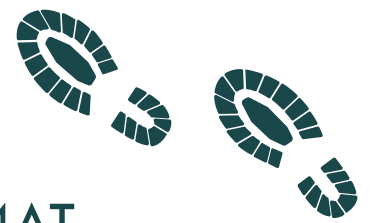
DISTANCE: 6km

TIME: 1.5-2 hours



START/FINISH

Victoria Art Gallery, Bridge Street, BA2 4AT



WALK INFORMATION AND ACCESSIBILITY:

This is a mainly flat walk on pavements and is suitable for buggies and wheelchairs.

It is accessible, but does include a grass section (optional) in Kensington Meadows and the path out of Sydney Gardens is quite steep. There are a couple of times you need to cross fairly busy roads and there's a short stretch along London Road. There are toilets along the route - in Henrietta Park, Sydney Gardens and Morrison's supermarket.

This walk was inspired by the Kurt Jackson exhibition at the Victoria Art Gallery in 2021 called 'Biodiversity'. The walk takes you from the Gallery through a small selection of Bath's parks, keeping to accessible routes and provides the opportunity to discover the local wildlife.

EXPECT TO SEE

- Beautifully maintained parks and urban biodiversity
- You might find kingfishers, cormorants or otters on the river and canal
- Peregrine falcons near St John's church tower
- Wildflower areas in the parks and hear the buzz of pollinators

THINGS TO DO

- Look out for dragonflies and damselflies along the canal
- Play at the small play area in Kensington Meadows
- Visit St Mary's Churchyard
- Use iNaturalist app to help identify and record plants and animals



ROUTFM

1

From Victoria Art Gallery, walk over Pulteney Bridge and continue to [Laura Place](#) where you'll see a fountain in the middle of the roundabout. Turn left into Henrietta Street. Henrietta Park is 200m along Henrietta Street, on the right.

2

Enjoy the park, there are toilets in the park (20p), a Garden of Remembrance with a pond and benches throughout. Leave the park opposite where you entered, onto the junction of Henrietta Gardens and Henrietta Mews and then take Sutton Street ahead - the Pulteney Arms should be on your left.

3

Turn right towards Great Pulteney Street and cross at the pelican crossing towards the Holburne Museum, there is an entrance to Sydney Gardens about 50m ahead of you on the left. There is a café and toilets in the Museum and public toilets (20p) further into the park. After enjoying the park, go up the sloped central path, across the canal bridge and take the path to the right below the tennis courts then head up and out of the park onto Sydney Road. Turn left onto Sydney Road and follow until you reach a crossing controlled by traffic lights.

4

Use the crossing to cross Beckford Road, ending up in front of Beckford Court. Turn left and walk down the hill, looking out for the gravel track of the canal path on your right. Once on the canal tow path, continue in the same direction with the canal on your right, you can see Little Solsbury Hill in the distance. Notice the bug hotels and you can listen to the Canal Stories.

5

Continue on the tow path for about 500m, ignore the first footpath with steps, and take the second sloped exit, this is a hard surfaced path down hill, passing Undercliff Urban Farm. Look up at the tree canopy to see what birds you can spot. Stay on the path as it goes under the railway then over the river. After the bridge, turn left into Kensington Meadows, through the wooden gate. This large park runs along the river, there is a path right by the river, but it's fairly narrow and difficult to access on wheels, though you can glimpse the river from the park. Half way along there's a small play area with a slide and a picnic table further along.

If you want to avoid the grass in Kensington Meadows which doesn't have a paved surface, after the bridge over the river, turn right into Grosvenor Bridge Road, and stay on this going slightly up hill until you reach the main London Road, and turn left. From here, you'll reach the Morrison's Supermarket entrance after half a mile.

6

Keep the river on your left and keep going all the way to the car park behind Morrison's Supermarket. There are toilets in the shop and a café. When you're ready, leave Morrison's through the main entrance onto London Road and turn left. Keep on the London Road (take care, as it's a busy road) till you reach the major junction with lights and turn left onto Bathwick Street and continue over Cleveland Bridge. Otters have been seen in the river nearby.

7

Cross the road when it's safe to do so - and take the second right turn into Henrietta Road - there's a crossing island near the turning. On the right you can visit the tranquil and atmospheric St Mary's Churchyard. Back on Henrietta Road, you will pass Henrietta Park again on your left, which you can revisit, or continue back to Laura Place, turning right over Pulteney Bridge.

8

Before returning to the Gallery, Parade Gardens is another park worth a visit, with views of the river and Pulteney Bridge, deck chairs and beautiful flower beds. Go a little further up Manvers Street to see if you can spot the peregrines that nest in the church spire of St John the Evangelist.

DISTANCE: 6km
TIME: 1.5/2 hours

MAP

