
Bristol Bridgewalk

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1. Start at Castle Park. Cross Bristol Bridge.
2. Follow Victoria Street to the corner of counterslip.
3. Follow Counterslip and cross Passage Street bridge on the left pavement.
4. Directly behind the bridge take the stairs to your left, walk the few meters back to the harbour, turn right and follow the harbour back toward castle park.
5. Cross King's Orchard Bridge then turn right.
6. Follow the path till you reach Queen Street, turn right and follow it back to Passage Street.
7. Turn left onto Passage Street and follow it to Temple Way.
8. Turn right onto Temple Way. Keep on the right side of Temple Way and follow it back to the harbour to cross Temple Bridge.
9. After the bridge there is a ramp on your right. Use it to walk down to the water level, then turn right and pass underneath Temple Bridge.
10. At the big brick column take the right (upper) path and follow it to Valentines Bridge.
11. Cross Valentines Bridge, then immediately turn right and continue along the harbour to Meads Reach Bridge.
12. We are now very close to Avon Street bridge, but the intricacies of the walk mean that it will still take quite some time till we cross it. Cross Meads Reach Bridge and continue straight.
13. Just when you reach the street called Friary turn left and walk towards Temple Meads Station.
14. Enter the station through the door with the sign 'booking offices' above, then walk straight to the main doors, turn right and leave through the main doors.
15. Walk on station approach to Temple Gate and cross it at the traffic lights.
16. After crossing Temple Gate turn left and follow it to Bath Bridge.
17. Cross the right bridge at Bath Bridge, then follow the loop of the roundabout back and cross the other (older, nicer) bridge.
18. Bath Road which starts here will be a frequent companion on the first part of the walk. The bridge you see ahead does not count, its only a railway crossing.
19. After crossing both sides of Bath bridge, we turn right and pass underneath the platforms of Temple Meads Station. They don't count as a bridge either.
20. On the other side of the platforms turn right onto the small path and follow it.
21. If there are two Arena bridges here use one to cross and the other to come back, if the arena bridges aren't open yet, they don't count and we can just continue to the blue Temple Meads Avoidance bridge.
22. Take the stairs up to Temple Meads Avoidance Bridge and then cross the bridge.
23. After crossing the Avoidance Bridge turn left onto the path and follow it to Bath Road.
24. Turn left onto Bath Road and follow it towards Bath (note the old sign showing the way).
25. Resist the temptation to cross Albert road bridge, we will need that one later, instead follow Bath road further. Also resist the temptation to wander into the paintworks area, your map may show a path that looks like a shortcut to the next bridge but this path does no longer exist.

26. We follow Bath Road up to the corner with Edward Road, you should see the “St. Phillips Greenway” sign at the corner.
27. Turn left onto Edward Road and follow the Greenway sign to the end of the road then step left onto the footpath and follow it to Sparke Evans Bridge.
28. Cross the bridge into Sparke Evans Park, take the ramp down and then turn 180 degrees to follow the path further upstream along the Avon.
29. We are now approaching St. Phillips Causeway with its two bridges named Avon Bridge. Our path passes underneath both bridges then we take the ramp and stairs up toward street level. We cross the bridge on this (upstream) side first.
30. We now have to get to the other Causeway bridge and this means crossing 3 busy roads as we go clockwise around the roundabout. After making your way around the roundabout cross the second Avon Bridge and then use the traffic lights to cross the 2 roads.
31. Most hiking maps show a footpath from here that leads directly to the next bridge, but unfortunately this path is now permanently closed. Instead we have to make our way to the St. Phillips shopping centre. Head towards McDonalds and from there follow along the Islands of shops that sit in the parking lot.
32. Continue carefully along the parking lot. Soon we see an elevated railway line to the left. We continue on its righthand side to the very tip of the shopping centre. Here we meet Cole Road. We turn left and walk through the underpass, then turn right and follow Cole Road to Feeder Road.
33. Follow Feeder Road upstream along the feeder canal up to the corner of Marsh Road where we find Marsh Bridge.
34. Cross Marsh Bridge and immediately turn right. Follow the footpath through the park to Netham Lock.
35. At the lock we cross both roads and then turn right to cross the far side of the bridge. Here we don't use the second half of the bridge immediately, instead stay on the left pavement and continue straight to New Brislington Bridge.
36. Cross New Brislington Bridge, then immediately turn left. Follow the gravel path upstream along the Avon. Soon the path leads us to an embankment which we follow to the next bridge.
37. Cross St. Anne's Ferry Bridge and then turn left to follow the small path back downstream along the river. We have just passed the eastmost point of the walk.
38. As we arrive back at Netham Lock cross both roads again and then turn left to cross the downstream bridge. After crossing the bridge it is very tempting to cross the traffic lights—don't do this, we don't need to cross, instead turn immediately right after few meters we are on the right hand pavement of Feeder Road which we follow down the feeder canal.
39. We follow Feeder Road for a long while, pass March Bridge, which we crossed earlier, pass under pipes, a railway bridge, and St. Phillips Causeway Bridge, all of which are not walkable and hence don't count.
40. Finally we reach a footbridge, Barton Hill Bridge, which we use to cross the feeder canal into Barton Hill. Follow the footpath that is the extension of the bridge to Silverthorne Lane.
41. Turn left onto Silverthorne Lane and follow it to the intersection. At the intersection we turn left, which in this case means that we stay on Silverthorne Lane.
42. Follow Silverthorne Lane to the intersection with Avon Street. Turn left onto Avon Street and follow it to Avon Street Bridge.
43. Now we are very close to Temple Meads again. Cross Avon Street Bridge and continue straight on Albert Rd. After a short while we see the blue Temple Meads Avoidance Bridge again, but it is not accessible from here and in any case we have already crossed it so we continue straight.
44. Follow Albert Road around the bend then turn right at the next intersection toward Albert Road Bridge.
45. Cross Albert Road Bridge and turn right onto Bath Road. We have already seen enough of Bath Road at this point, so its good that we are about to say goodbye for good.

46. Follow Bath Road a short stretch to the Intersection with Angers Road, then turn left onto Angers Road.
47. Follow Angers Road all the way to its end at the intersection with Wells Road.
48. As you reach Wells Road cross it immediately. Although it is not immediately obvious, on the other side of the road (a tiny bit to the right) there is a path on the side which widens and becomes Cheapside Street.
49. We follow Cheapside across Oxford street tight to its end at the next intersection.
50. At the end of Cheapside we turn right and immediately left again onto Windsor Terrace, which we follow along to its end at the intersection with St. Lukes Terrace.
51. We turn right onto St. Lukes Terrace and follow it along the edge of Victoria Park and through a railway underpass and on to its End where we find Langton Street bridge, which locally known as Banana Bridge.
52. We cross the Banana bridge and then turn left to walk downstream on the Avon to Bedminster Bridge.
53. We cross the first, newer side of Bedminster Bridge, then follow the roundabout around to the older side and cross the river again.
54. At this point we leave the river for a moment and instead follow Redcliffe Way in the extension from Bedminster Bridge and walk on the left pavement up to the start of Guinea Street.
55. Turn left into Guinea Street and follow it to Ostrich Bridge.
56. Cross Ostrich Bridge and turn left to walk along Bathhurst Basin to Bathhurst Basin Bridge.
57. Use the near side of Bathhurst Basin Bridge to cross the inlet, and then the far side to return.
58. Turn onto Cumberland Road and follow it further downstream.
59. We are now reunited with the Avon, which we will follow a good while. After a short stretch we reach Gaol Ferry Bridge.
60. Cross Gaol Ferry Bridge and turn right onto Coronation Road. Follow it to Vauxhall Bridge.
61. Cross Vauxhall bridge and turn left onto a footpath. Follow the footpath along the Avon to Ashton Avenue Bridge.
62. Cross Ashton Avenue Bridge and turn right to follow the Avon further downstream. This corner of Bristol is changing rapidly, but presently you may have to climb a small hill to use the overpass. Follow the path on the Avon downstream to another bridge called Avon bridge.
63. We pass underneath the road and then use the stairs or the ramp on the far side to climb up to road level.
64. Cross the Avon on the left-hand pavement of Avonbridge, which takes us onto an exit ramp. We follow the exit ramp down to its end where we find part of Brunel's other bridge.
65. Cross the bridge onto the small Island in the Harbour. Straight ahead are some lock gates, but these don't count as bridges. To your right you should see the giant joint on which Plimsoll Bridge rests. Although it looks intimidating you can actually walk clockwise around the joint which takes us to another little bridge, which we take back onto Spike Island.
66. Back on Spike Island walk over the grass by the fence onto Brunel Lock Road. Then turn right again and walk towards the huge Plimsoll Bridge. We pass beneath the bridge and only then use the stairs on the far side to climb up to the deck of the bridge.
67. We cross Plimsoll bridge, and on the other side take stairs down again.
68. At the bottom there are 4 little steps and an open gate through which we pass onto the pavement of Cumberland Basin Road.
69. We continue downriver along the locks, which leads us onto a footbridge. Following the right turn of the footbridge takes us across Hotwells Road and onto Granby Hill.

70. Follow Granby Hill up the hill until it finally becomes York Gardens and ends at the imposing foundations of the Royal York Crescent.
71. Granby Hill is a challenging road as it becomes progressively steeper as we climb it. If you need a break immediately, the Portcullis at the top is a good local pub.
72. We follow York Gardens up to the left which takes us onto Wellington Terrace. Follow Wellington Terrace, which soon becomes Sion Hill.
73. Here we get a nice view of Clifton Suspension Bridge. Follow Sion Hill around the bend and further where it joins a street called Beaufort Buildings. We pass the prominent Bridge House. Finally at the corner with the Mall we find the Mall pub.
74. The Mall Pub is another good place to take a break. Also if you want to break the walk into two parts the mall pub is probably the best point to split it. So if you want to do all the bridges in two walks you can skip ahead and follow the instructions from our second visit to the Mall (132) back down the Hill to castle park. You can then start from the Mall on another day to do the rest of the walk and this rest will take you back to the Mall. If you want to do the walk in one go just carry on.
75. From this point on we will be passing through residential / rural areas, so if you are running low on food and water this is the last chance to stock up for a while. You may want to take a little detour around the block at this point The Mall, Princess Victoria Street and Regent Street are home to a wide variety of food and drink options.
76. From the Mall Pub we take the small footpath that is the extension of the Mall road across the Clifton Downs.
77. On the other side we find Camp road, which we follow around its bend and immediately turn into Norland Street. At the end we turn right and then immediately left again into Canynge Road.
78. We follow Canynge Road all the way to its end where it meets Bridge Valley Road. The crossing in this place can be a little awkward. We want to cross the end of Canynge road (now called Clifton Down Rd.) and then the busy Bridge Valley road to reach the footpath on the other side.
79. The footpath leads us up a small incline, after which it soon joins the Ladies Mile. We follow the footpath which first hugs Ladies miles and then follows Circular Road.
80. Enjoy the view of the Durdham Downs on your right while you follow the path through a series of minor bends on the left we pass a small lookout point, locally known as Peregrin Point. True to its name you will find a Peregrine Falcon information board here.
81. Further along the path there is a major bend to the left. As the trees fall away we see the expanse of the Downs now in front of us, on the left there is a larger more popular lookout point and ahead you should see the first of the mansions along Rockleaze. At this point you can walk straight across the grass toward Rockleaze for a significant shortcut, but it is worthwhile to follow the path along the road to the lookout point for some fantastic views of the Avon gorge. Downstream you see Avonmouth bridge the westernmost point of the walk.
82. From the lookout point we continue along Rockleaze until the corner of Julian Road. Turn Left into Julian Road and follow it.
83. Julian Road is aptly named as we are now on the roman road between Bath and Avonmouth. Close to number 12, by the red telephone box, Julian Road bends left. At this point Pitch and Pay lane starts on the right, which we follow from now on.
84. Continue on pitch and Pay Lane to the intersection with Church Road. Cross Church Road and continue on the small path in the extension of Pitch and Pay lane.
85. The path starts out a bit rough, but quickly improves. We pass the impressive St. Mary's Church, with its fascinating churchyard keeping the stone wall to our left.
86. Finally we see the end of druid road on the right. If you are tired of the rocky path you can use the little gate in the stone wall to cross over to Mariners Drive, alternatively you can continue on the path. Mariners Drive and the path run parallel all the way to Old Sneed Park.

87. At the intersection with Old Sneed Park spot the wooden Footpath sign across the road and to your right and follow it. The footpath quickly joins Avon Way, which we follow all the way to the Green at Sea Mills.
88. At this intersection with Sea Mills Lane the name of the Road changes to Trym Cross Rd. Follow this road over Trym Cross bridge. After the bridge you see 8 steps on your left. Use these steps to walk onto the green. Then continue across the lawn downstream along the river Trym.
89. Our next target is the Portway Trym Viaduct, on this side the street level is reached via a tarmac path that can be seen from a good distance away. So we had directly to the point where it joins the Portway, for now ignoring the small bridge/weir on the left.
90. On the Portway we turn left and cross the Portway Trym Viaduct. The footpath on this side is narrow but the next lane is the bicycle lane so we are actually not too close to the car traffic.
91. There is no need to cross the Portway. Shortly after the bridge a gate appears on your left. This gate is easy to overlook, in all probability you will be within a meter of it when you spot it. Behind it lies a flight of steps that takes us back down to the river level.
92. Cross the small weir/bridge. On the other side leave the path and walk through the (dry) second arch of portway bridge on your left. A well-trodden path starts here that leads to the Railway Bridge across the Trym under which we pass. The railway bridge itself is not walkable, and underneath the path goes through a muddy patch that seems to defy all efforts at reinforcing it, but thankfully the mud ends after a few meters as we emerge onto the bank of the Avon.
93. We walk downstream along the Avon. We are now on the Bristol Link of the Severn Way, a sandy path leads us between tall grasses on the beach. You will likely lose the path pretty soon, if you do search a few meters higher up the beach to find it again. Walk downstream for a while, until a railway underpass appears on your right (it is easily visible).
94. Use the underpass, on the other side is a metal bar gate, but it is always open. Beyond the gate a small overgrown path starts, leading to your left. Follow it further downstream parallel to the Avon.
95. Already after about 20 meters the path improves significantly as we enter a small stripe of wood. When you enter the wood choose the lower of the two paths that start here (i.e. not the wooden steps leading up).
96. A recurrent theme on this part of the walk is stairs. Quickly we reach one flight of stairs leading down and then a second longer one immediately afterwards. We cross a little valley and then use an even longer flight of stairs to climb back up above the level of the nearby portway, which should be audible here.
97. The path then leads us onto a meadow. This looks like a good place to lose your way, but it isn't. Just continue left across the grass and follow the meadow into the downstream direction (essentially the same direction in which we have been walking for the past hour and a half). At the far end of the meadow the path starts again as we enter the woods once more. It leads us to more stairs leading a long way down.
98. The stairs take us down to the level of the road after a short path and a cattle gate we meet the Portway at a small lookout point that overlooks to Horseshoe bend in the Avon.
99. At the far end of the lookout point the path continues, back in the woods we quickly encounter the last flight of stairs that takes us back above the level of the Portway. Enjoy great views of the Avon as you walk farther downstream. After a short while the path widens and the fence of the Shirehampton Allotments starts to your right. We follow this fence until the path meets Woodwell road.
100. At this point the Severn Way turns left, but we continue straight on Woodwell Road. Woodwell Road bends right and takes us back to the Portway which we cross at the traffic lights.
101. On the other side of the Portway we rejoin Woodwell Road and follow it to the green in the town centre of Shirehampton.
102. Some local shops and pubs here provide a chance to refill supplies. At the green we keep left and turn onto High Street.

103. We follow High Street for a good while through Shirehampton. It changes its name to Lower High Street and then to Avonmouth Rd. Eventually we reach the point where the M5 crosses the street. Although it does not look like much from here this is the start of the mighty Avonmouth bridge.
104. Before the Motorway we turn left onto a footpath that takes us onto Avonmouth Bridge.
105. The bridge offers some fantastic views, from the top you should be able to see the towers of Clifton suspension bridge and both Severn bridges.
106. After crossing Avonmouth Bridge we follow the left turn of the path down to street level. This bend is the eastmost point of the walk.
107. As we continue the path splits into two parallel lanes. We pass a sculpture named "Stronghold" and walk through a railway underpass.
108. At the end of the path we turn left onto Avon Road and then immediately right again to follow Avon Road into Pill. We stay on Avon Road until Marine Parade starts on our left.
109. Turn left into Marine Parade and follow it back to the Avon.
110. For some minutes we walk along the seawall on Marine Parade and enjoy the views of the Avon. At the boathouse we follow the bends of Marine Parade at which becomes first Myrtle Hill, then Pump Square and then Underbanks.
111. Walk on the path at the seawall that runs slightly above Underbank. Just before we reach Pill library the path leaves the road and leads across the green on the left toward the railway arches.
112. Star Inn in Pill is an excellent pub and the last chance for a break before we once again enter the wilderness along the Avon. Instead of crossing under the arches we turn left and walk a few meters across the grass to Watchhouse Road. We arrive roughly at a point where path starts which is marked by an information board.
113. Follow the path and keep to the right as it goes through a 180 degree turn to climb Watchhouse Hill. Follow the path further to the top of the Hill which is marked by a mound of earth with a circular bench on top and a circular path around it.
114. Round the Hill and continue on the path at the far side. The views open up as we reach a street called "The Green". From here on we follow the cycle route 41 which is well signposted in this area.
115. We stay on the green only for a few meters before continuing on a path that is the extension of the one that took us to the green. At this point withstand the temptation to turn back to the Avon (its a dead end). Instead we follow the path diagonally until we reach the intersection of Macrae Road and Hart Close with its prominent bus shelter.
116. Continuing on route 41 we follow Hart Close for a few meters and then turn left onto Chapel Pill Lane, which we follow a good way down to a fish pond.
117. Continue on Chapel Pill Lane across the dike/weir at the bottom of the fish pond. Follow the road through the bend to the left to reach an intersection.
118. At the cattle gate a footpath starts, which we follow. The path is straight at first and then takes us through a series of bends after which we rejoin the Avon.
119. We follow the path upstream along the Avon for a good while. It takes us around the horseshoe bend that we saw earlier and back past the railway bridge at Sea Mills.
120. Not far after Sea Mills it is time to leave the Avon again and start the climb up to Clifton Suspension bridge through Leigh woods. The challenge is to find the right point to turn off the path. Look for a place where the path crosses a little stream which is also bridged by impressive railway arches. (It is a very nice place). There are also two information boards here and a third not a little bit further along. The place at which we leave the path is approximately 40 metres further. After crossing the stream the path goes through two quick bends and climbs up a little. At the second bend there is a navigation light in the trees on the left and a stone wall starts on the right. After it has started there is almost immediately a break in the wall. Stepping through this break you find another information board (Welcome to Leigh Woods) and the start of the path up the side of the gorge.

121. Follow the path upwards through the forest until you reach a T intersection.
122. Here the bicycle route leads in both directions but we turn left. As we follow this path for about 10 minutes until we reach the Park ranger's house in the woods.
123. The path becomes a small road on which we continue. Eventually the road widens and bends right. There are also some parking places here. On your left you should see a cluster of information boards.
124. At the information boards a small paths starts. When the path splits take the right branch, then continue on the path for a while.
125. We are now following the path to the corner of the national trust area (which may be marked on your map) and then further along its edge. At some point the main path turns 90 degree to the right, but we continue straight on a smaller path. Shortly thereafter we pass the remains of an old overgrown wall.
126. After another 100m we reach another wall with a gate through which we step.
127. At this point the Leigh Woods iron age fort is almost directly ahead of us, but we don't go there. After the gate turn immediately right and follow the path until you reach a fence with another gate.
128. From the second gate follow the path to a small picknick area with toilets a national trust outpost (with impressive carved benches)
129. From the picnic site we follow Valley Road for some meters before turning on another footpath on the left.
130. The path takes us down to North Road where we turn left. Unfortunately the pavement on north road is blocked by parking cars so you will likely have to walk on the street. At the next intersection we turn right into Church Road and follow it to its end where it meets Bridge Road.
131. Turn left onto Bridge Road and follow it to the Clifton Suspension Bridge.
132. Cross Clifton Suspension Bridge and continue straight until you are once again at the Mall Pub.
133. Turn right onto the Mall and follow it to its end at Princess Victoria Street.
134. Turn left onto Princess Victoria street and follow it to its end.
135. Turn right onto Regent Street, we follow it to its intersection with Hensman's Hill and Saville place where it becomes Clifton Hill.
136. After a few meters on Clifton Hill a small path starts on the right which leads steeply down the hill.
137. The path leads us to Goldney Avenue where we turn right and then immediately left (and down) again onto Goldney Road.
138. We follow Goldney Road to its end, which looks like a dead end, but isn't. At the very end we find Goldney Lane and turn right onto the lane to go further down the Hill.
139. The lane ends on Ambra Vale where we continue straight and follow it down to Hotwells Road.
140. We turn left onto left onto Hotwells Roads and follow it for a few meters and then cross and take Rownham Mead for a few meters to Pooles Wharf Crescent.
141. We follow the Crescent to its end and then continue straight on a footpath.
142. After passing through a gate, find ourselves on the harbour and turn right. We follow the harbour across Pooles Wharf Bridge and past the lock to Cumberland Basin Bridge.
143. Turn left to cross Cumberland Basin Bridge and its extension Merchants Bridge.
144. After crossing the bridges we continue straight into Avon Crescent. After a few meters the gate to the Underfall Yard opens up on our left.
145. We enter the Underfall Yard then turn right to walk past the slipway and left again to reach the far gate by the Harbourmaster's office.

146. Continue straight along the Harbour until the path makes a right turn to wind around Bristol Marina. Follow the path around the marina onto Hanover Place.
147. On Hanover Place turn immediately left and follow the path to Gas Ferry Road.
148. Turn left onto Gas Ferry Road and follow it to the harbour. Turn right again and continue on the harbour a good bit to Prince Street Bridge.
149. Turn left to cross Prince Street Bridge then turn left again to follow the harbor back downstream for a few meters.
150. At the corner of the basin turn right and follow the harbour further to Pero's bridge.
151. Turn left to cross Pero's bridge then immediately turn right and follow the Harbour further upstream to the point where it disappears beneath the pavement.
152. Turn right and walk over to Broad Quay. On broad Quay turn right and follow it to the corner of King Street.
153. At this intersection there is a little square called Thunderbolt Square, we cross it diagonally to the larger Queen Square which we cross diagonally as well.
154. On the other side of Queen Square we turn right 45 degrees to walk past the Hole in the Wall and onto Redcliffe Bridge.
155. Cross Redcliffe Bridge then turn left onto Redcliff Backs.
156. Follow Redcliffe Backs and its extension Ferry Street to Redcliffe Street.
157. Turn left onto Redcliffe Street and at the next intersection right onto Thomas Lane.
158. We follow Thomas Lane past the Seven Stars, and turn left onto St. Thomas Street which immediately ends on Victoria Street.
159. We turn right onto Victoria Street, then immediately left into Counterslip, which we already walked very early in the walk.
160. Instead of following Counterslip to its end, we turn left onto Hawkes Lane this time.
161. Following Hawkes lane takes us to a small square. Following a small path around the building straight ahead we reach Castle Bridge, the final bridge in the walk.
162. We cross Castle Bridge back into Castle Park.