



River Tyne Bankside Stroll

A short walk through the town and riverside in Haddington. A flat, paved and traffic-free route with lovely spots to discover along the way.

Distance 2.1 kilometers / 1.3 miles

Duration 30 minutes



Wheel friendly



Water feature



Public loos



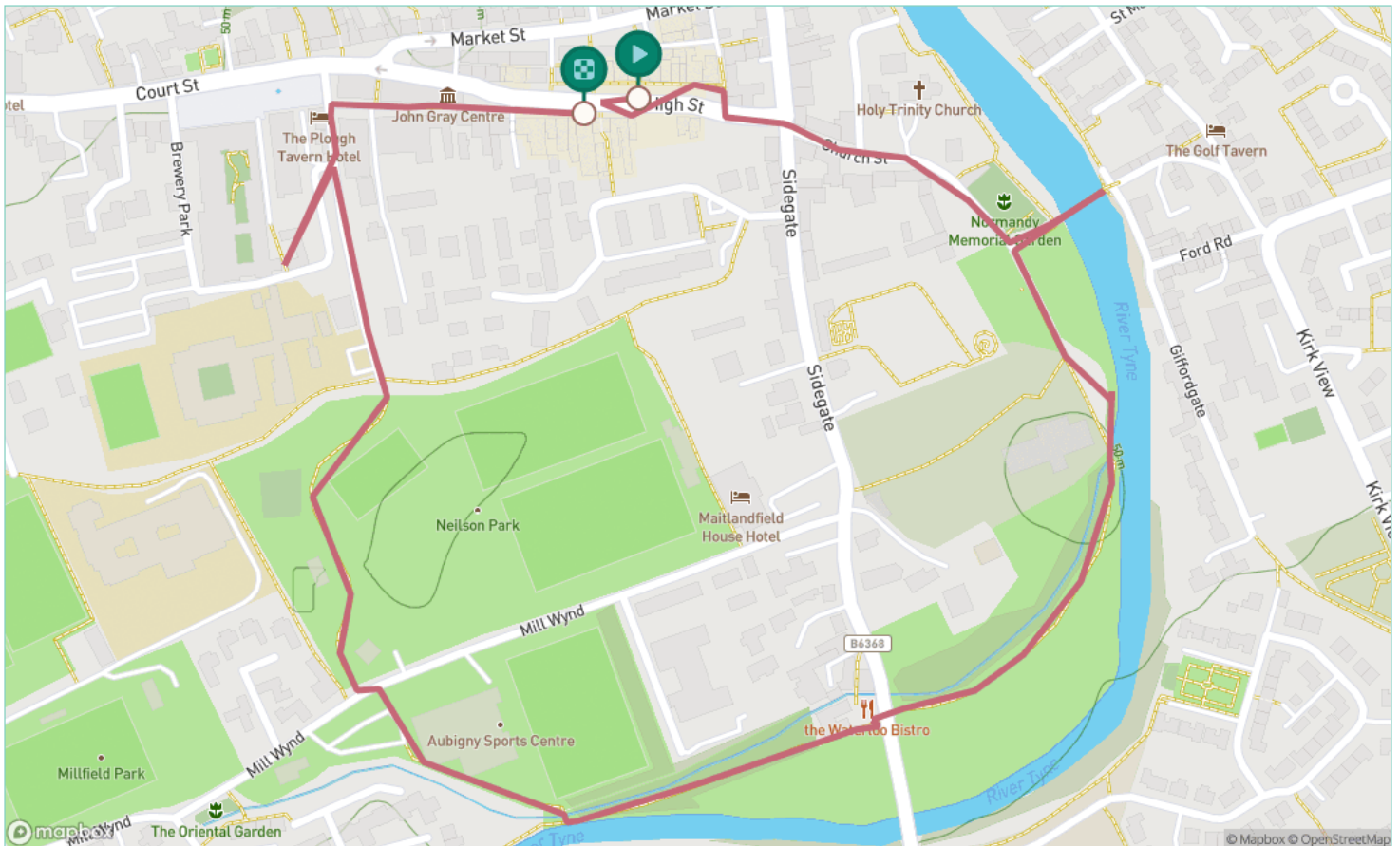
Refreshments



Picnic spot

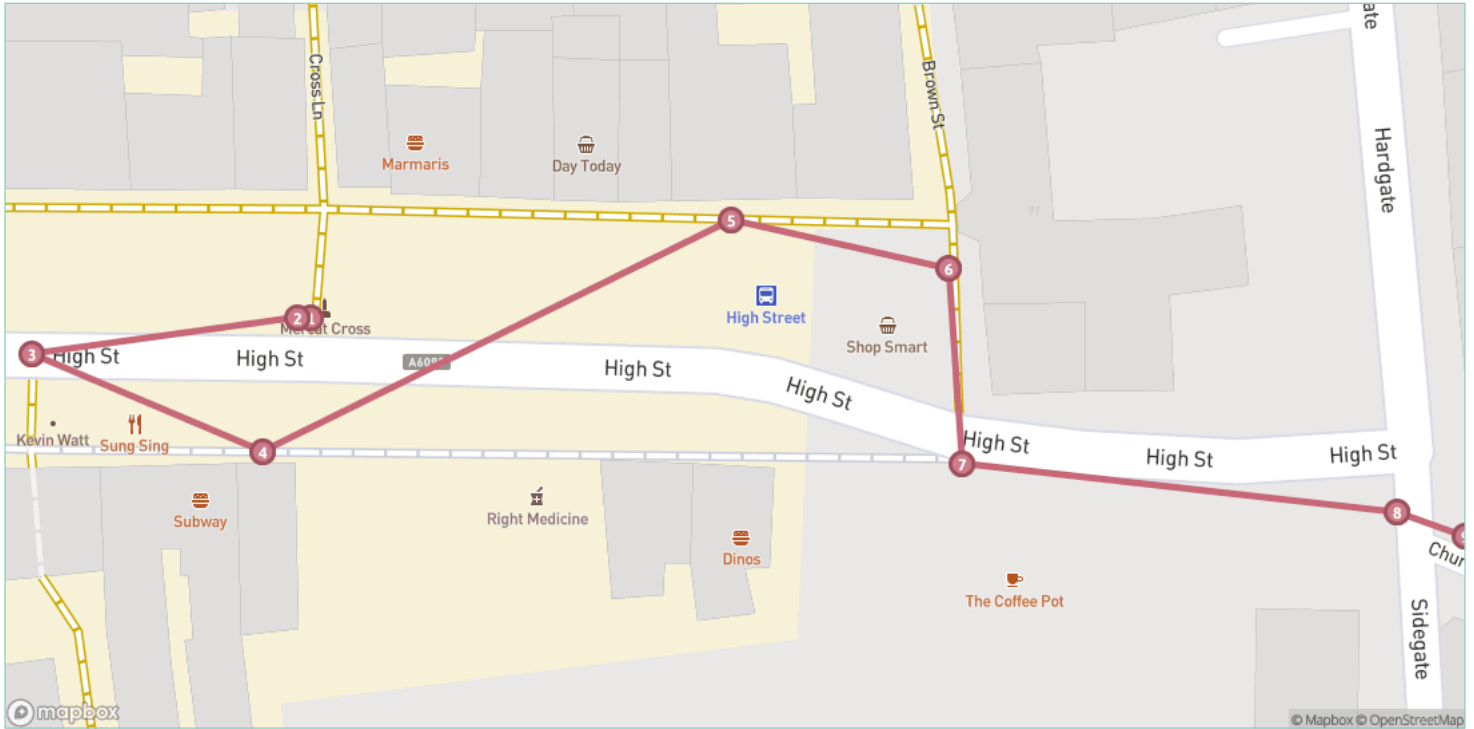


Botanics



Disclaimer: Directions are provided as guidance only. Weather, construction, closures or other factors may affect routes. Please take care when crossing roads and avoid private land. Always follow local signage and use common sense.

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Step 1: Welcome to Haddington! Today, we'll show you a short step-free loop along the River Tyne. Begin at the Mercat Cross on High Street.

Step 2: Did you know that the Mercat Cross indicates where the right to hold a market was granted by the monarch centuries ago?

Step 3: The start of the route is very near the central bus stop, with services to Edinburgh, Dunbar, and North Berwick.

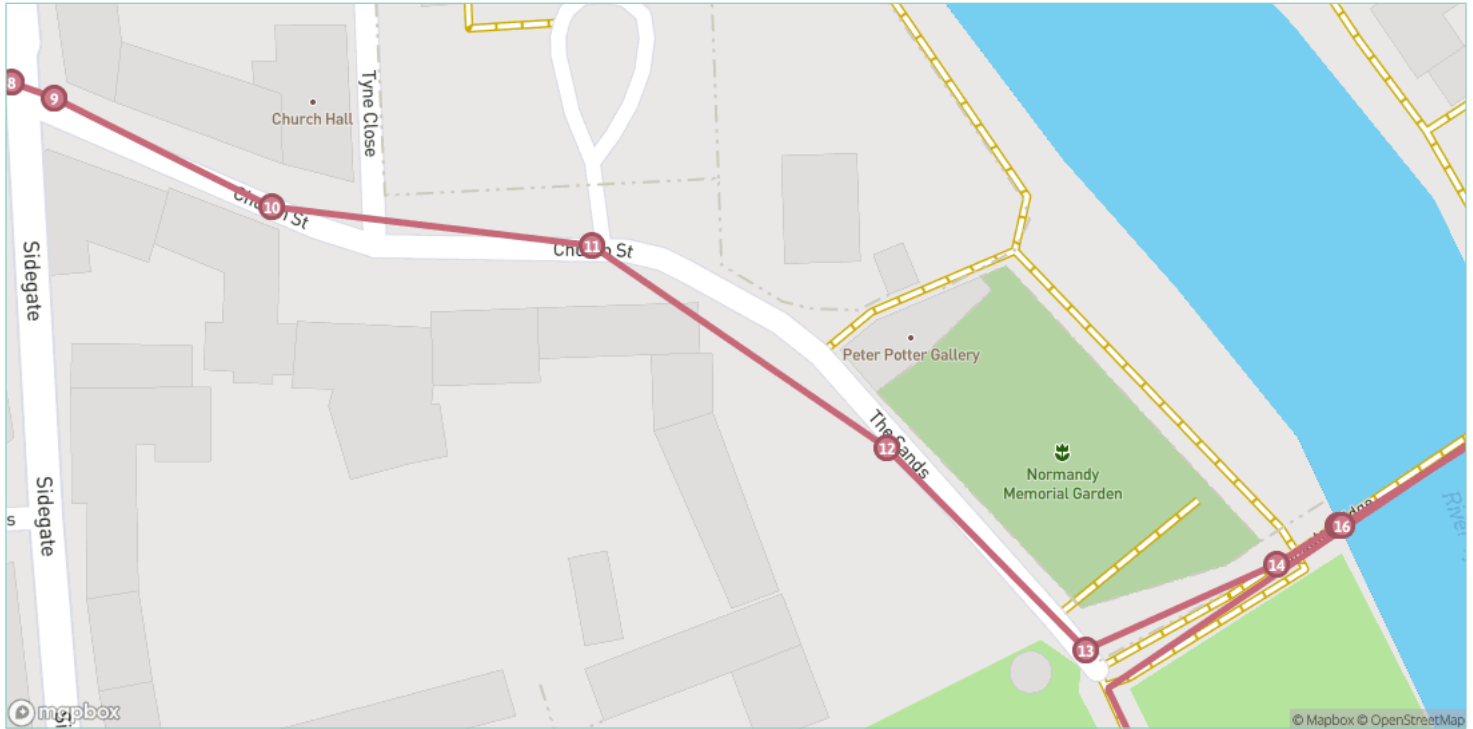
Step 4: Start walking down the High Street towards the Falko building with the turret. There are many indie shops here to pop in along the way.

Step 5: We loved the flower display outside of J.S. Main & Sons.

Step 6: Falko is a craft German bakery, known for using only traditional methods and ingredients.

Step 7: Lil encourages everyone to move towards low impact and sustainable living in a judgement-free and welcoming way.

Step 8: At the junction with Sidegate road, head straight across and continue following the pavement on Church Street.



Step 9: Can you spot the signs directing you to the Riverside Walk as you enter Church Street?

Step 10: Notice the whimsical colours of the neighbourhood as you walk along which are so cheering.

Step 11: On your left is the Holy Trinity Church, with its gorgeous front yard and stone entrance. Continue as Church Street becomes The Sands.

Step 12: Keep following the pavement as the road bends to the right. Cross to the right side of the street when it's clear as we near the River Tyne.

Step 13: Be sure to check out the cool tower on your right in front of the green space.

Step 14: On your left is Nungate Bridge, dating from the 16th century. For great views, why not turn left to have a wee look over it.

Step 15: Along the riverside are nine lime trees. These were planted around 1900 to represent the nine trade guilds of Haddington.

Step 16: The trade guilds are the Masons, Wrights, Wabsters, Hammermen, Skinners, Cordiners, Baxters, Fleshers, and Tailors.



Step 17: Across the bridge is the Waterside Bistro, a lovely riverside restaurant serving modern Scottish dishes with great park views!

Step 18: The walk continues back on the other side of the bridge, so when you're ready, turn around and head back towards the tower.

Step 19: Once you're off the bridge, turn left onto the tarmac path to walk towards the church. This is St Mary's, which dates from the 14th century.

Step 20: If you'd like, feel free to explore the churchyard, then come on back through the gate when you're ready to continue on.

Step 21: The route continues around the outer wall of the church by the River Tyne. There is a tarmac path here.

Step 22: Look back to enjoy another view of the historic Nungate Bridge. There's a bench here if you fancy a rest.

Step 23: Head over the wooden and metal footbridge to cross a little stream as you continue on ahead.

Step 24: The path here is a mid track. It can be a bit wet, especially during rainy seasons. Keep going as it bends to the right.



Step 25: We've emerged into another gorgeous riverfront park which hosts part of the Tyne Riverside Walk.

Step 26: Can you hear any birds or see any other wildlife along the way?

Step 27: Keep straight towards the building. The little stream is to your right, and the Tyne is on the other side of the park to your left.

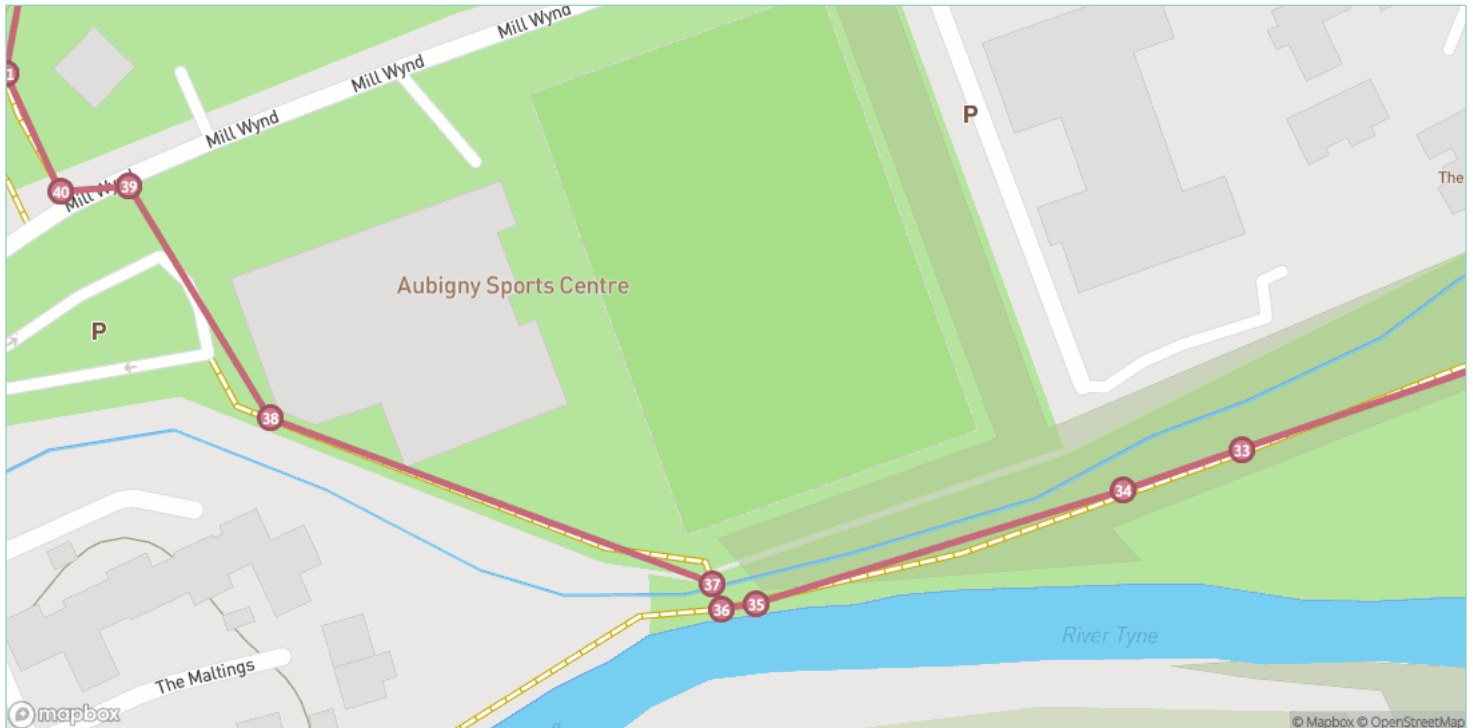
Step 28: Pass through the wide gates and head straight across the Poldrate road when it's clear.

Step 29: If you're looking for a bite to eat, the lovely Tynehouse Kitchen is another great option on the other side of Poldrate.

Step 30: Many of the trees in this park were planted to celebrate coronations.

Step 31: This one close to the road was planted in 1903, to honour King Edward and Queen Alexandra.

Step 32: The next ones are for King George and Queen Mary in 1911. Continue ahead on the path through the park as you admire the trees.



Step 33: Look out for the Queen Victoria tree, planted in 1838.

Step 34: Can you spot and identify any flowers blooming as you walk along? In early spring you'll see crocuses in all colours.

Step 35: Continue on the tarmac path. Prepare to turn right up ahead shortly.

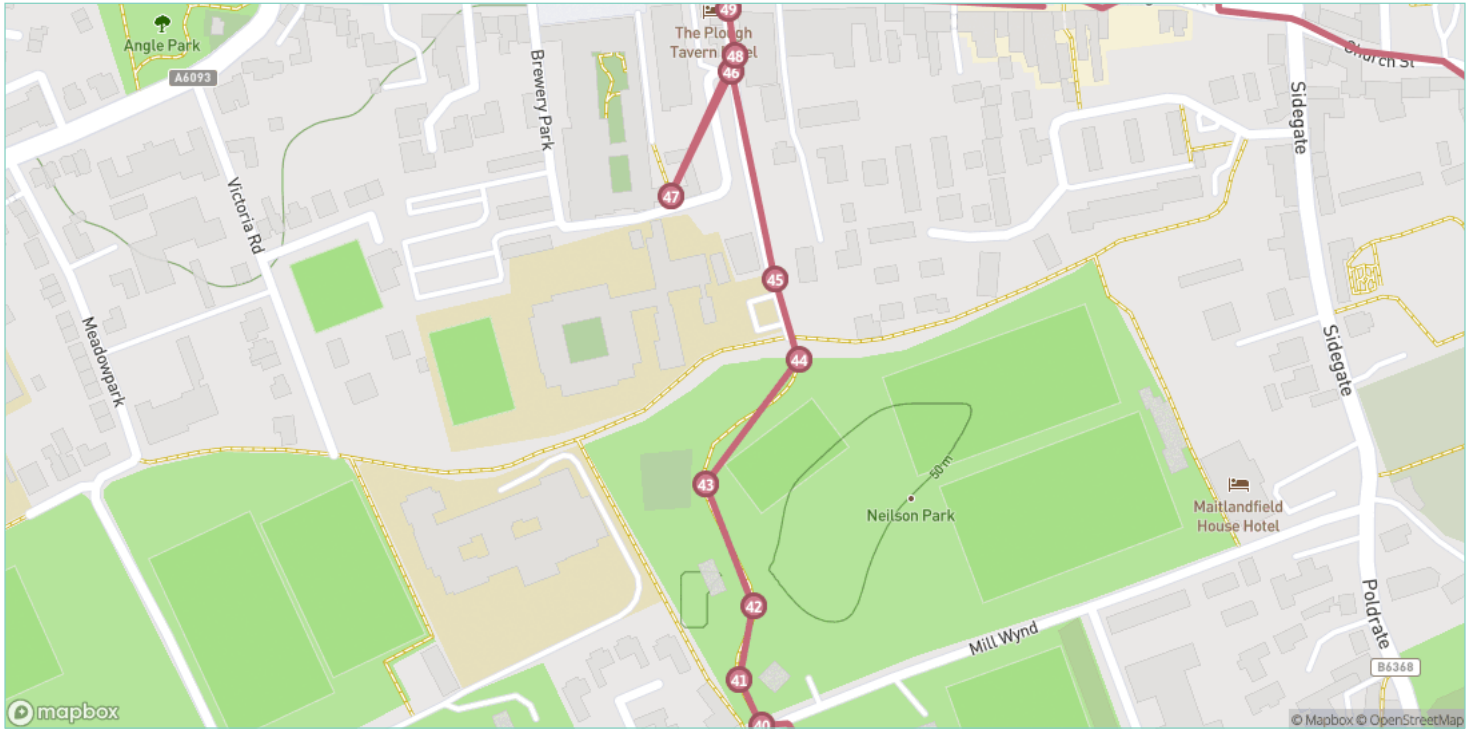
Step 36: If you'd like, you can walk along the river a bit further. You can usually spot moorhens, swans, ducks and herons along the next stretch.

Step 37: When you're ready, turn right across the footbridge away from the river. Head left to follow it on the other side.

Step 38: Follow the cobbled pavement around to the front of the Aubigny Sports Centre. Head through the parking area towards the road ahead.

Step 39: Use the zebra crossing to head over Mill Wynd and turn left on the other side.

Step 40: Turn right to pass through the gate and enter Neilson Park.



Step 41: The route follows the nice wide path as it snakes along.

Step 42: Yet another lovely park on this great walk!

Step 43: Keep to the path as it bends to the right. There's a playground to the left here and tennis courts on the right.

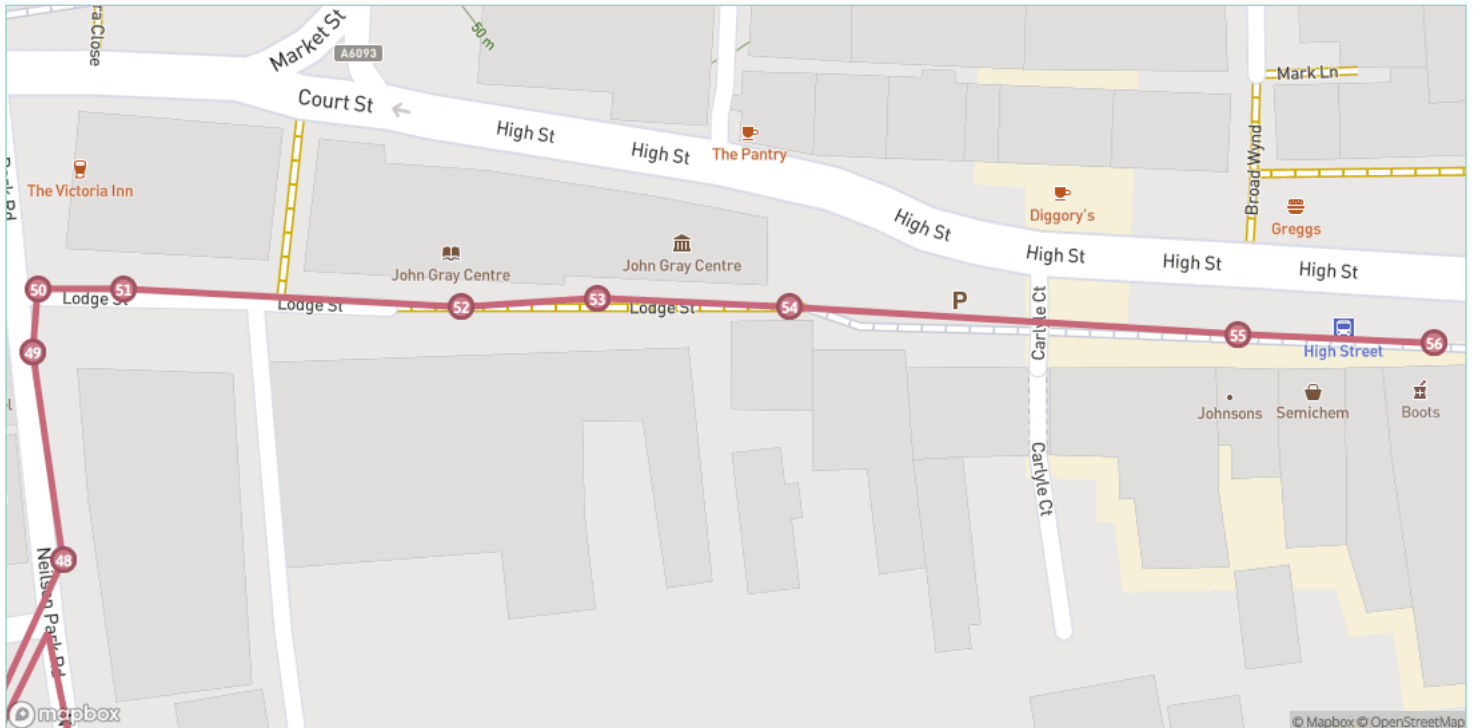
Step 44: Exit Neilson Park through the gate and follow the pavement straight ahead on Neilson Park Road.

Step 45: When clear, cross to the left-hand side of the street and continue along the pavement.

Step 46: If you'd like another snack break, the Loft Café and Bakery is lovely. To get there head left through the parking area along Brewery Park.

Step 47: Ta-da!

Step 48: When you're ready, come on back to the Neilson Park Road. There are loos here if you need them.



Step 49: As we approach the High Street again there are lots of shops and eateries to explore. Take your time enjoying all Haddington has to offer.

Step 50: Turn right at the Victoria Inn into Lodge Street.

Step 51: Walk down the very instagrammable cobbled street! Continue ahead as the road turns into a pathway.

Step 52: The Jabberwocky is a soft play centre for children to explore and solve puzzles, while parents can relax in the cafe.

Step 53: The John Gray Centre is a museum, library, and archives of the history of East Lothian. Its glass front reflects on the building across it.

Step 54: There's so many fun little details and passageways to admire as we return to our starting point along the path.

Step 55: Back on the High Street head past Bayne's Bakery. Yet another great place for a snack.

Step 56: A few steps more and we're back where we started! We hope you enjoyed this route. Why not check out some of our other walks in East Lothian?