



# Saltwell Park Blooming Trail

A lovely wee step-free circular walk around pretty Saltwell Park. Great for families and those on wheels. Some small inclines and declines.

**Distance** 2 kilometers / 1.2 miles

**Duration** 50 minutes



Wildlife



Wheel friendly



Public loos



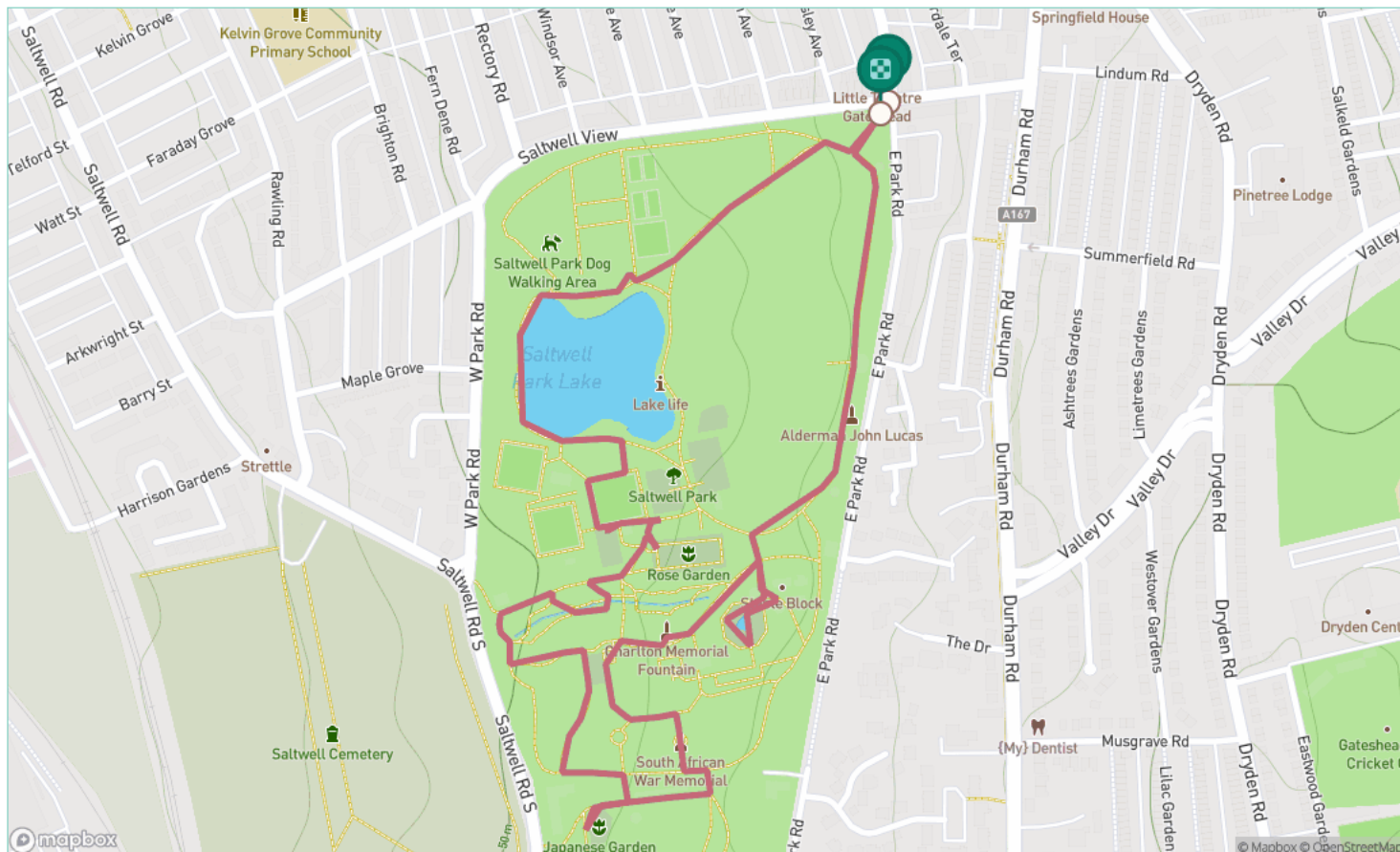
Public transport



Dog friendly

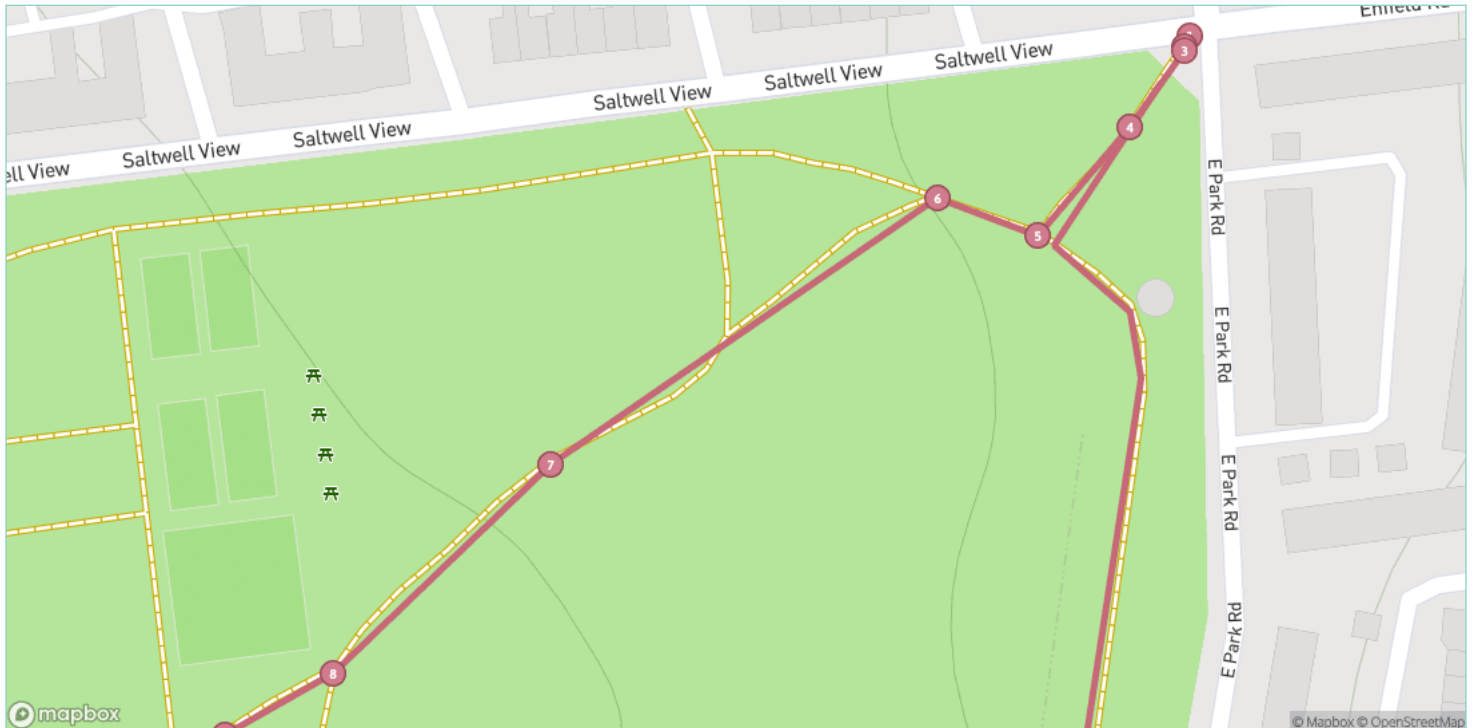


Child friendly



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.

Created by Go Jauntly Ltd © 2026. Last Updated: 17 April 2026.



**Step 1:** Welcome to the Big Blooming Walks. We've teamed up with the National Trust to bring you a series of special spring walks celebrating the most beautiful time of year. Get ready to stop and smell the blooms! Let's go.

**Step 2:** This walk is step-free and starts at Little Theatre entrance to Saltwell Park. Nearest bus stop is Saltwell Park on Rodsley Ave (bus: 54, 865). A free car park is available at the south side at Low Fell (NE9 6DT). Dogs on a lead.

**Step 3:** The park is open from dawn until dusk. Start the walk at the Little Theatre entrance to Saltwell Park. Head through the metal gate.

**Step 4:** Continue straight down the tarmac path with this spectacular view over the park. Get ready to take the path to the right.

**Step 5:** Follow the path around to the right and get ready to take the next left.

**Step 6:** Take the left hand path in between these trees.

**Step 7:** Continue down towards the park's lake. At the fork, get ready to bear right.

**Step 8:** Follow the path around to the right.



**Step 9:** The lake's edge should now be on your left hand side. Follow the path ahead.

**Step 10:** For a small detour, to the right is a small path that leads to a newly planted orchard.

**Step 11:** Have a wander around the new Apple Bee Orchard. In spring enjoy the blossom (and bees!). 🐝

**Step 12:** Head back to the lakeside and continue ahead. Up ahead and to your right is an off-leash area for dogs.

**Step 13:** Opened in 1876 as The People's Park, Saltwell Park was built on a Victorian stained glass manufacturer's estate and welcomes 2 million visitors a year!

**Step 14:** Continue around the lake as the view opens up. What water birds can you see today?

**Step 15:** Soak up the beautiful views across the lake and up through the park. The lake has been here since 1880 and once had a bandstand on...

**Step 16:** ...the island. Performers had to arrive by boat to play their concerts! Continue following the path around to the right.



**Step 17:** Now head towards the boat house.

---

**Step 18:** Continue past the model boat club on the left as well as the boat house.

---

**Step 19:** In summer, you can hire a pedalo or rowing boat from the boat house.

---

**Step 20:** Behind the boat house take the path away from the lake.

---

**Step 21:** Turn right and walk around the bowling green.

---

**Step 22:** Follow the path left.

---

**Step 23:** And left again at the other side of the green.

---

**Step 24:** Just to the right, around the back of the hedge, is this small path.

---



**Step 25:** Which includes these small screen bird hides.

---

**Step 26:** Take a moment to look at, or listen to the birds, in the Wildlife Garden.

---

**Step 27:** Return to the bowling green and go directly ahead.

---

**Step 28:** In front is a playground and beyond that, the public toilets.

---

**Step 29:** Turn right and head down the path before the playground.

---

**Step 30:** Then take the small path under the trees on the left for a small detour to the rose garden.

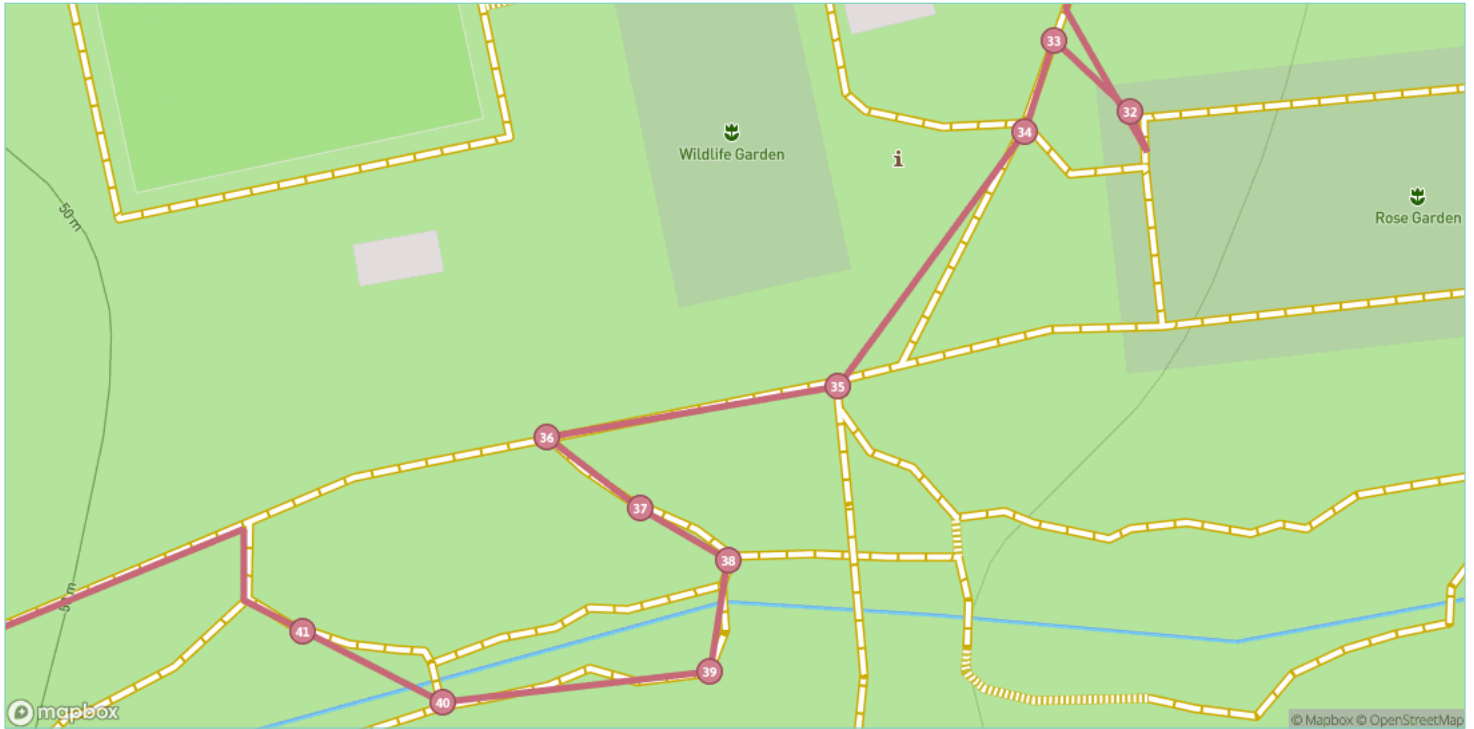
---

**Step 31:** Here is the rose garden, which will be spectacular in the summer.

---

**Step 32:** Now turn and go back the way we came.

---



**Step 33:** Then turn left.

**Step 34:** Continue down this path directly ahead. There is a slight decline.

**Step 35:** Then follow the path to the right that curves left and continues down a slope.

**Step 36:** Look for the small path on the left.

**Step 37:** These side paths take you down to a lovely lower garden and wooded ravine known as the Dene with a wee burn in the middle.

**Step 38:** At the bottom of this side path, cross over the small wooden bridge and turn right.

**Step 39:** Continue down the path with the stream on the right.

**Step 40:** Further down, take the bridge on the right, cross over the stream.



**Step 41:** Continue up the path. Don't forget to stop and enjoy the gardens and the nature all around.

**Step 42:** Keep right to head back to the main path.

**Step 43:** Once on the main path turn left and go downhill.

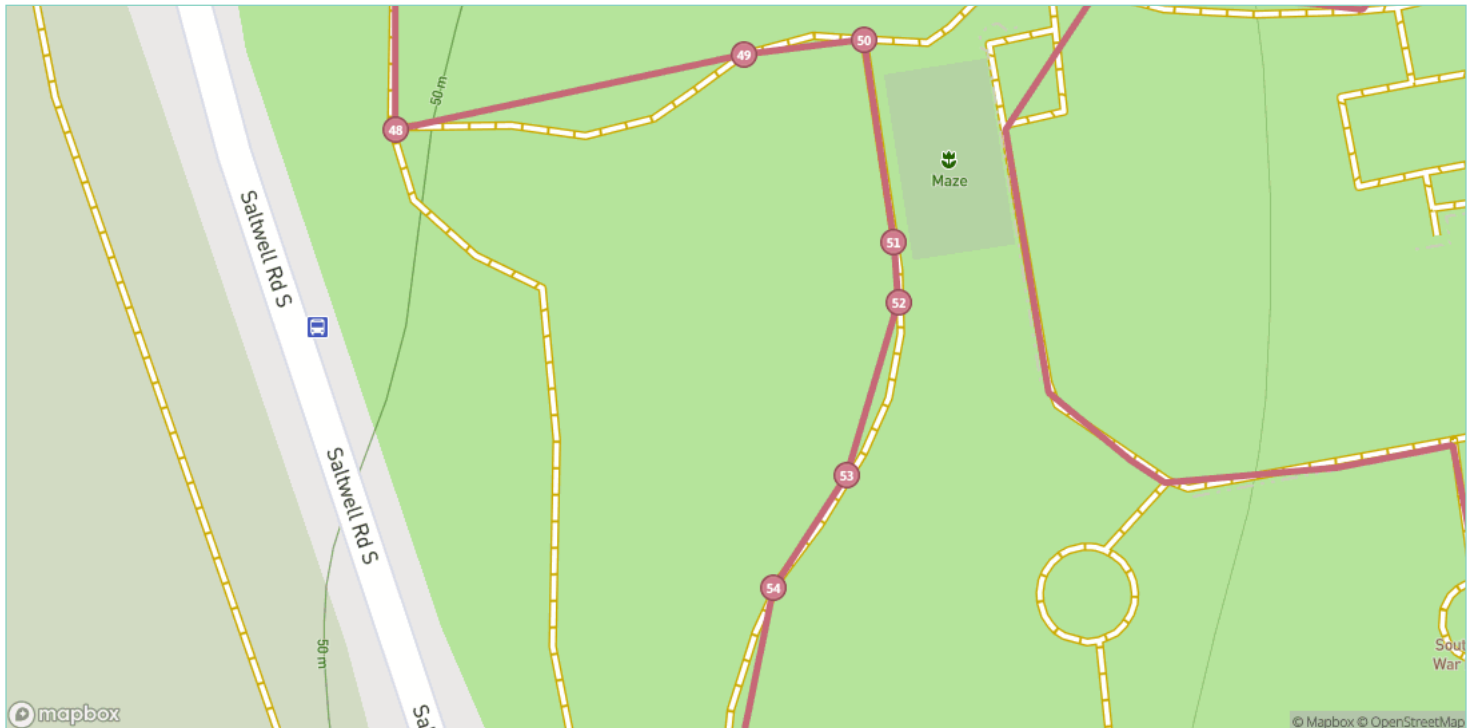
**Step 44:** At the bottom of the hill, turn left.

**Step 45:** Take note of this Grade II listed drinking fountain known as Salte Well which gives the park its name. It is a roadside well from 1872!

**Step 46:** After the water fountain, continue left along the path.

**Step 47:** At this fork, keep to the right.

**Step 48:** Then at the next fork, turn to the path on the left.



**Step 49:** Continue uphill.

**Step 50:** Turn right just before the maze, which is now on the left.

**Step 51:** There are entrances to the maze along the left hand side of this path. Nip in if you like.

**Step 52:** Continue ahead and look out for the sculptures in this section of the park. This one is called Wriggle by local artist Colin Rose.

**Step 53:** Walk through this avenue of cherry trees, which should fully blossom in spring. 🌸

**Step 54:** Would you like to try a 5 minute blossom meditation? Take a seat on the grass or nearby bench and tap 'Read More' below to listen. 🌸🎧

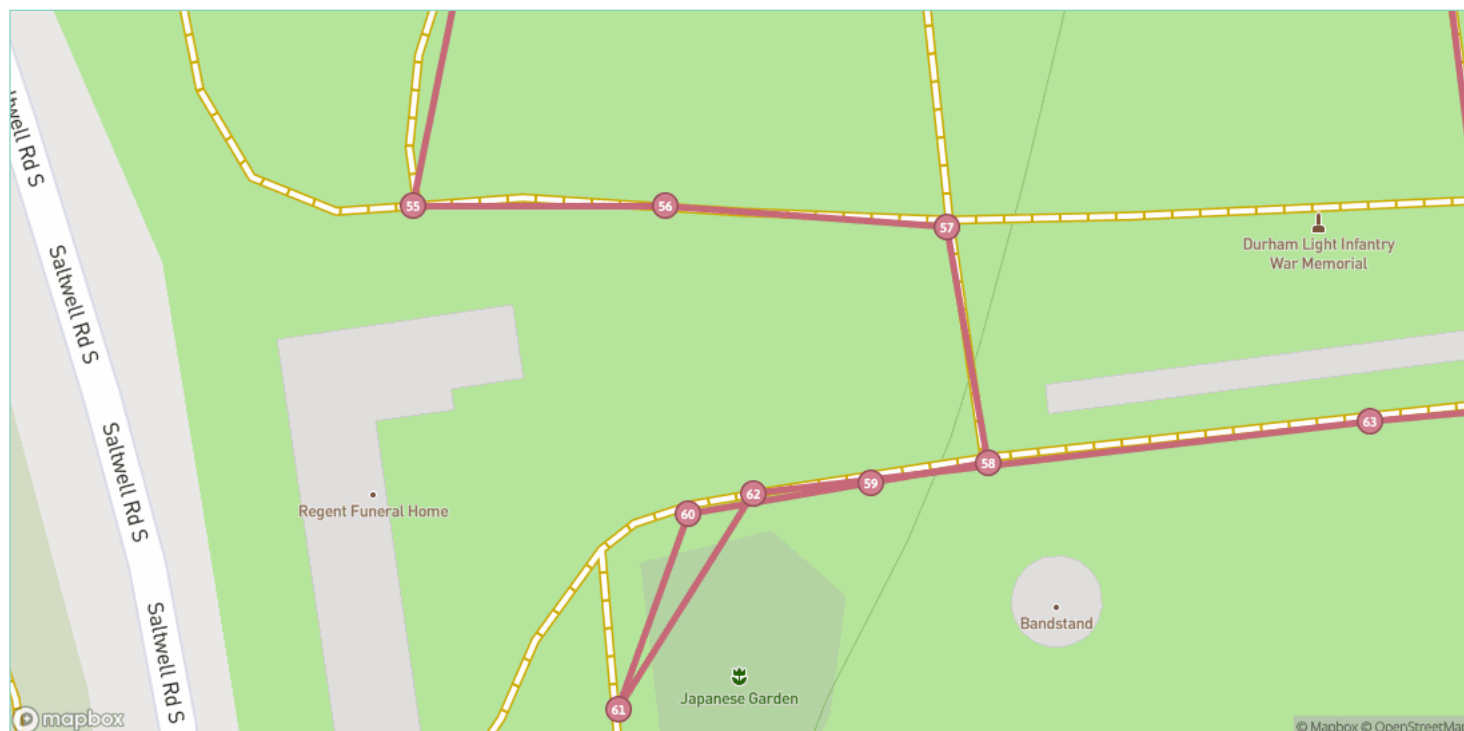
### Take a breather in blossom

Take a seat on a bench or sit on the grass and enjoy a little breather amidst the blossom. Grab your headphones and try this short guided 5 minute blossom meditation.

If you've never tried meditation before, this is the perfect way to start. Adding just 5 minutes of mindfulness to your day can help slow things down and boost your mood.

### Blossom Meditation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=shared&v=fKmb7a4YNEU>



**Step 55:** At the bottom of the avenue, turn left and head uphill.

### Take a breather in blossom

Take a seat on a bench or sit on the grass and enjoy a little breather amidst the blossom. Grab your headphones and try this short guided 5 minute blossom meditation.

If you've never tried meditation before, this is the perfect way to start. Adding just 5 minutes of mindfulness to your day can help slow things down and boost your mood.

#### Blossom Meditation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=shared&v=fKmb7a4YNEU>

**Step 56:** Look left for the replica of the Tyne bridge by Alan Smith OBE. It was originally built to exhibit at the Chelsea Flower Show in 2010.

**Step 57:** Further uphill, turn right and head through the arched walls.

**Step 58:** The bandstand is directly ahead. Turn right here.

**Step 59:** Head down the path for a little detour to the Japanese Garden which was a gift from the people of Komatsu City in Japan.

**Step 60:** Down on the left you'll find the garden which was made by 10 Japanese gardeners in 2009 to mark 20 years of friendship.

**Step 61:** Can you spot this beautiful blossom tree central to the garden, with a stone bridge on its left? 🌸

**Step 62:** When you're ready, head back up the same path we came down to continue our walk.



**Step 63:** Continue past the bandstand on the right and keep straight.

**Step 64:** At the top of the path, turn left and head through this next set of archways. Get ready to turn left.

**Step 65:** Continue left after the arches.

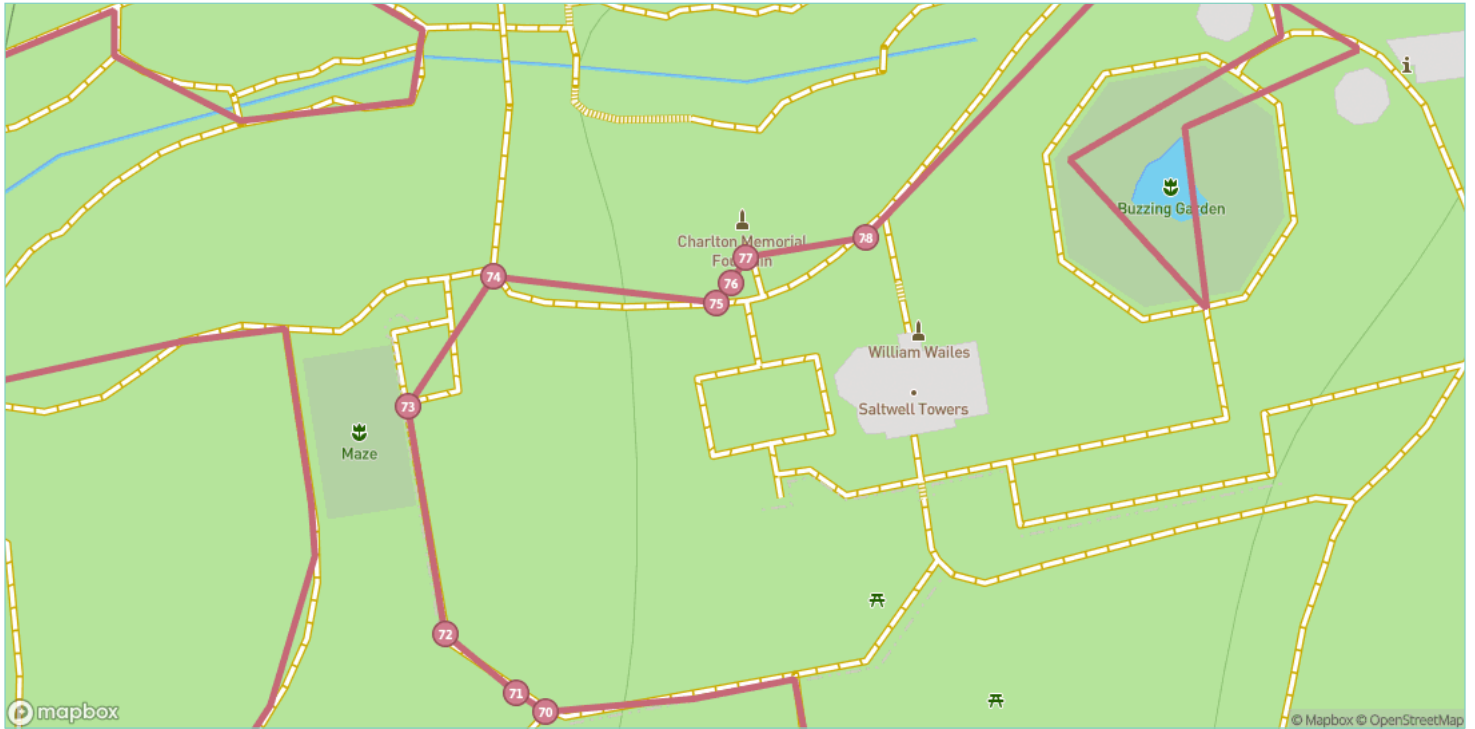
**Step 66:** Now turn right and head towards the South African War Memorial, also flanked by blossom trees.

**Step 67:** After the memorial, cross over this bridge with the Saltwell Towers on the right.

**Step 68:** Turn left and continue along the path. This is the step-free route, but if you go to the right, you can get to the towers via the steps.

**Step 69:** As you continue left, look back towards the towers with this huge monkey puzzle tree in front.

**Step 70:** Continue past the wee Tyne Bridge on the left.



**Step 71:** Follow the path as it bends around to the right.

**Step 72:** Continue past the maze on your left.

**Step 73:** At the maze, turn right to walk around the turret.

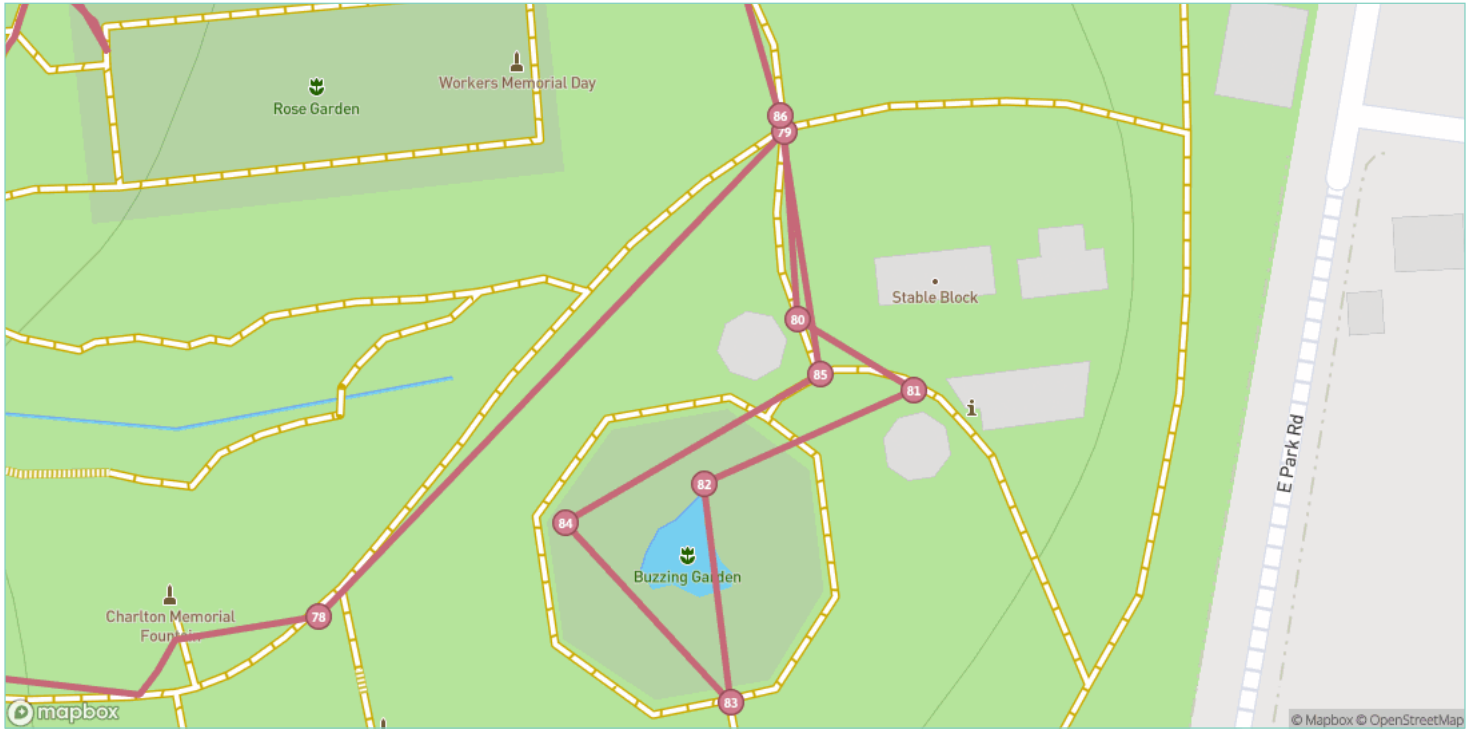
**Step 74:** Continue right at the next junction.

**Step 75:** Head towards Saltwell Towers, on your right. This fairytale mansion was built by William Wailes, a Newcastle grocer in 1871.

**Step 76:** Although Wailes was a grocer, he taught himself stained glass and then went to Germany to study the craft. He ended up employing 76 people and built himself this magnificent Gothic, Elizabethan and French style pad!

**Step 77:** On the left is the Grade II listed, Charlton Memorial Drinking Fountain.

**Step 78:** The mansion was sold to Gateshead Council when Wailes fell into debt. And that's how you get to enjoy it today. Continue directly ahead.



**Step 79:** A little further along, take the path on the right to head to Pets Corner.

**Step 86:** At the bottom of the path, continue straight ahead at the cross paths.

**Step 80:** Can you spot the two aviaries in Pets Corner?

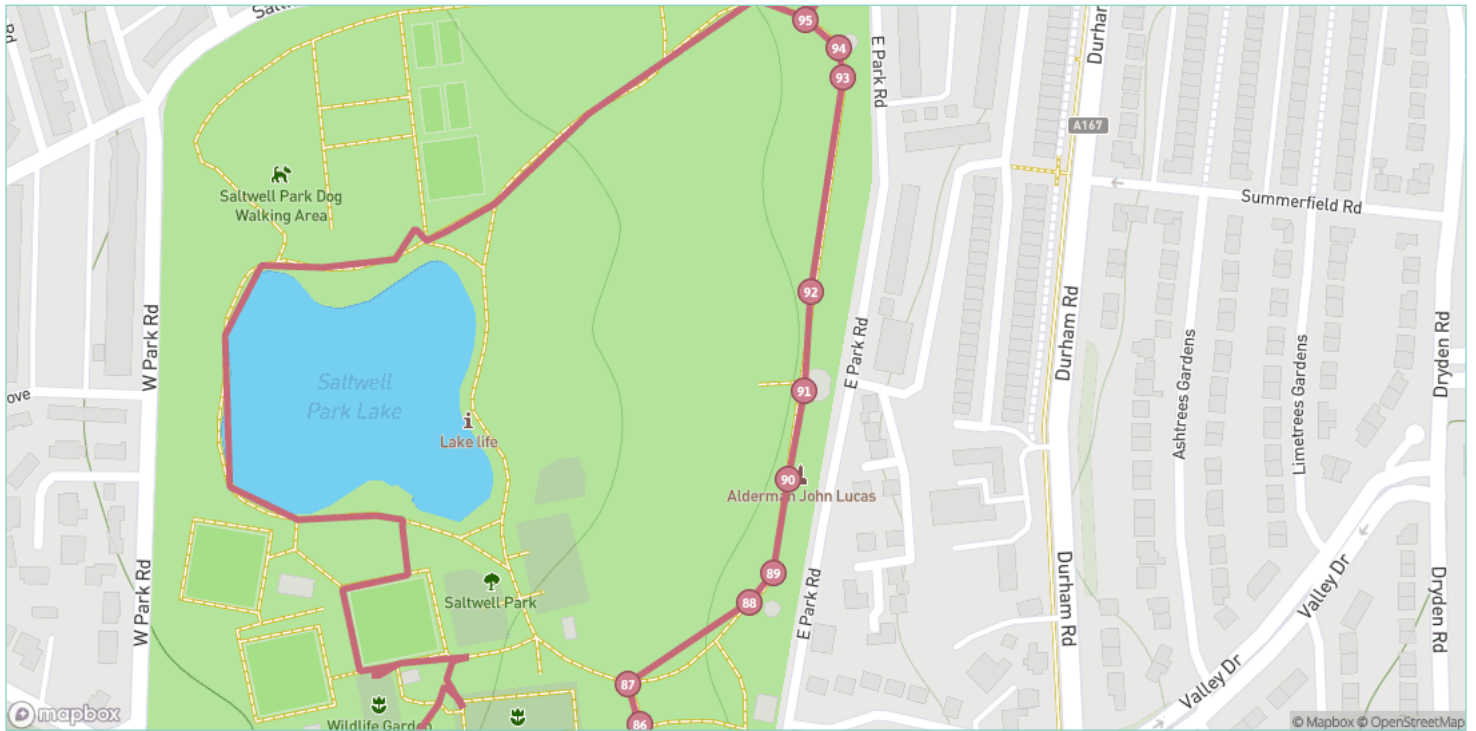
**Step 81:** You'll see chickens and peacocks as well as other birds.

**Step 82:** To the right, enter the lovely Buzzing Gardens.

**Step 83:** Follow the circular path around a central pond and tune into the sights and sounds of nature as you go. What good things can you see?

**Step 84:** Take notice of the beautiful planting creating a haven for bees and other pollinating insects.

**Step 85:** When you're ready, head back down the same path we used to enter the gardens.



**Step 87:** With the rose gardens on the left, take the path on the right.

**Step 88:** Continue past this wooden pavilion on the right.

**Step 89:** Head along the main path. You're walking on the right hand side of the park now.

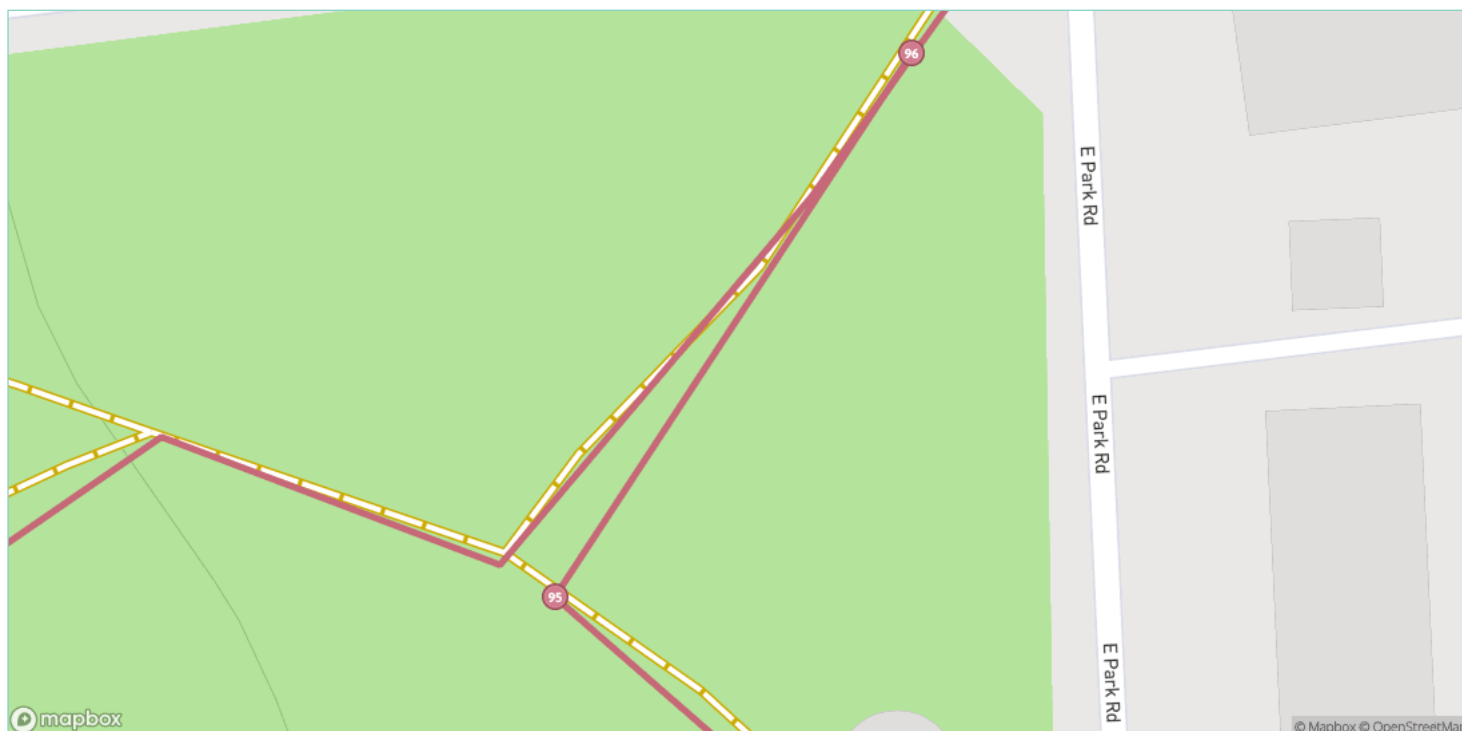
**Step 90:** This statue is of Alderman John Lucas (1837-1900), a former local council member aka "Alderman" or "ealdorman" - Anglo-Saxon for elder man.

**Step 91:** Up ahead is the Almond Pavilion and coffee shop.

**Step 92:** To the left, enjoy stunning views across the northern fields with the lake at the bottom.

**Step 93:** Continue past another wooden pavilion on the right.

**Step 94:** Follow the path as it bends off to the left and then turn right.



**Step 95:** Continue towards the park gates from earlier. This is where we end this lovely wee walk.

---

**Step 96:** We hope you enjoyed this walk as much as we did! Tap the 3 dots to share with friends or come back for your next walk. 🌸

---