



Mersey Views at Otterspool Prom

Follow along the line of the River Mersey. Take in the river views, local wildlife, with plenty of benches to stop and relax on this walk.

Distance 3 kilometers / 1.9 miles

Duration 40 minutes



Wildlife



Wheel friendly



Water feature



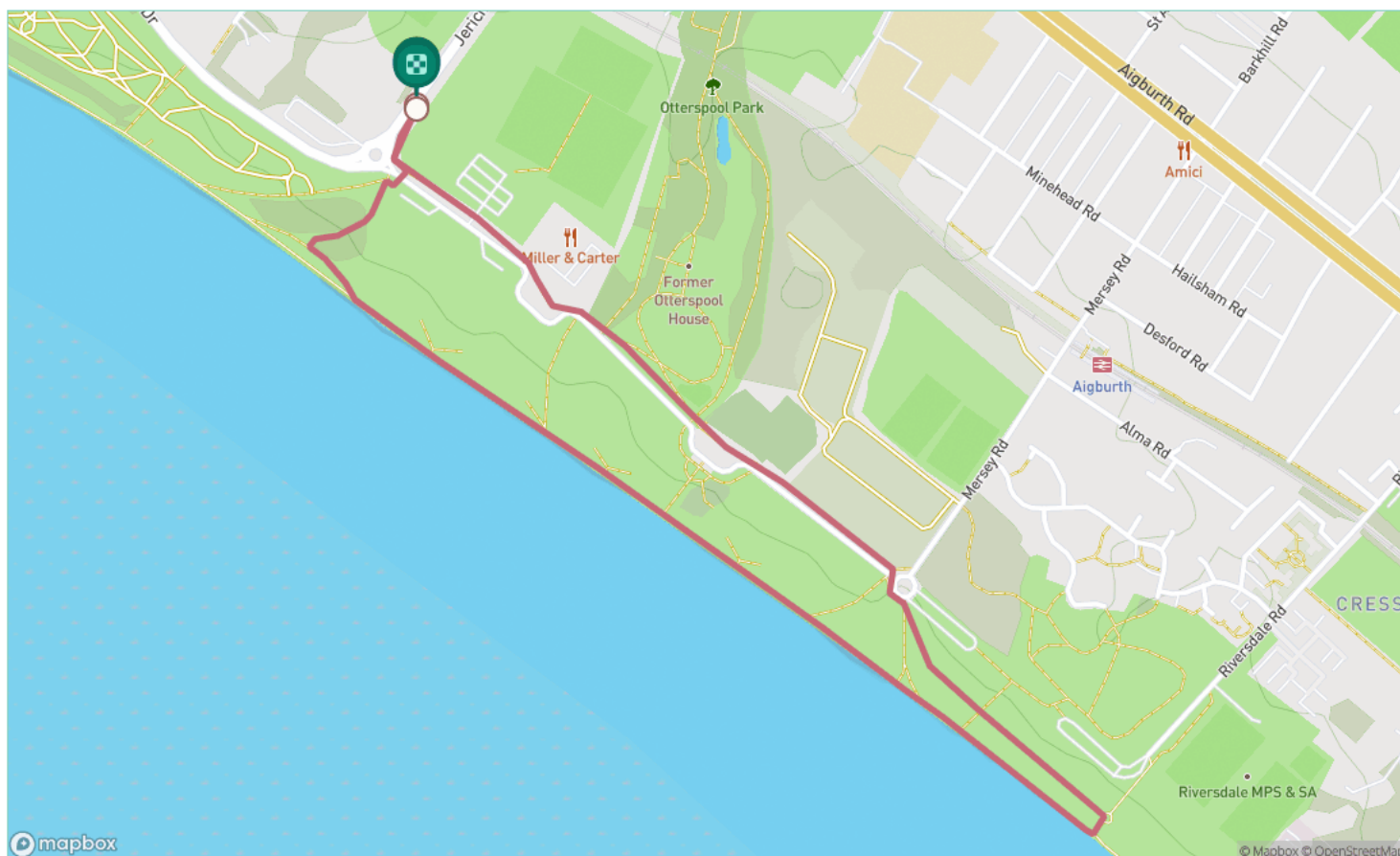
Great views

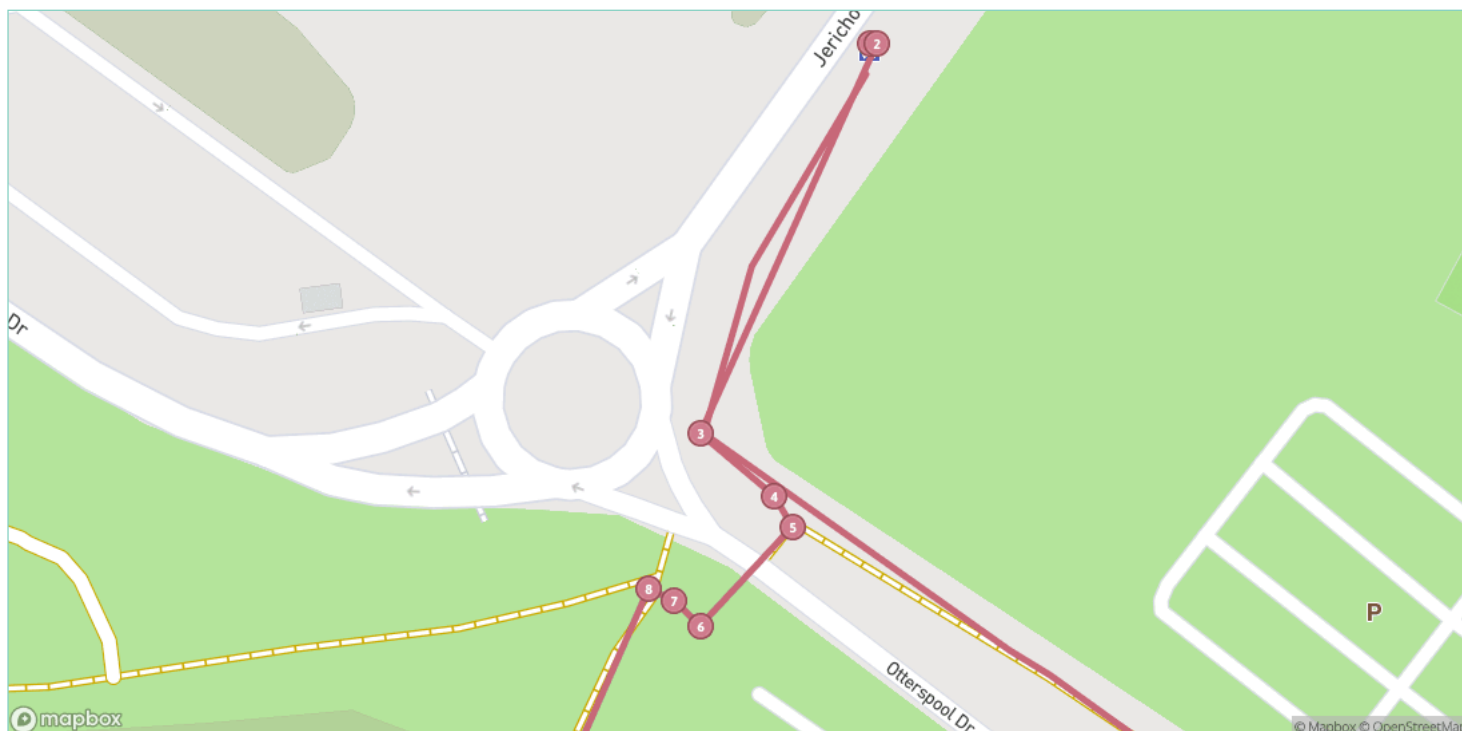


Refreshments



Parking





Step 1: From the bus stop on Jericho Lane for the 500 bus, turn to your left and start walking towards the water.

Step 2: Follow the pavement beneath the trees.

Step 3: At the bottom, turn to your left. You'll see the big stone sign to let you know that you've reached Otterspool Promenade.

Step 4: Continue along the pavement for a short while.

Step 5: When you get to the dropped kerb to your right, cross over Otterspool Drive to make your way to the promenade.

Step 6: Once you reach the other side, turn to your right to make your way through the pillars.

Step 7: Pass by the concrete benches to make your way to the path on the other side.

Step 8: Join the path heading down to the waters edge.



Step 9: Follow the winding path down the hill.

Step 10: You'll start to see glimpses of the Mersey river through the trees as you make your way down.

Step 11: Can you spot the 'helicopter' seeds on the sycamore trees? If they're on the ground, throw them into the air to watch them spin!

Step 12: Follow the curve of the path to the right towards the building.

Step 13: At the bottom, take the oath to your left to make your way down the main promenade.

Step 14: This pink fluffy plant is a Tamarix, or salt cedar. They are very hardy plants which is why they cope so well with coastal winds.

Step 15: Continue down the path.

Step 16: Once at the bottom, take a moment to take in the view over to the Wirral. Listen to the water and the birds.



Step 17: Turn to your left to join the main promenade.

Step 18: The site was originally landfill from household waste and the soil dug out from the construction of Queensway Tunnel in the 1920s.

Step 19: After years of excavation and landscaping, the promenade was opened to the public in 1950 as leisure solace along the Mersey.

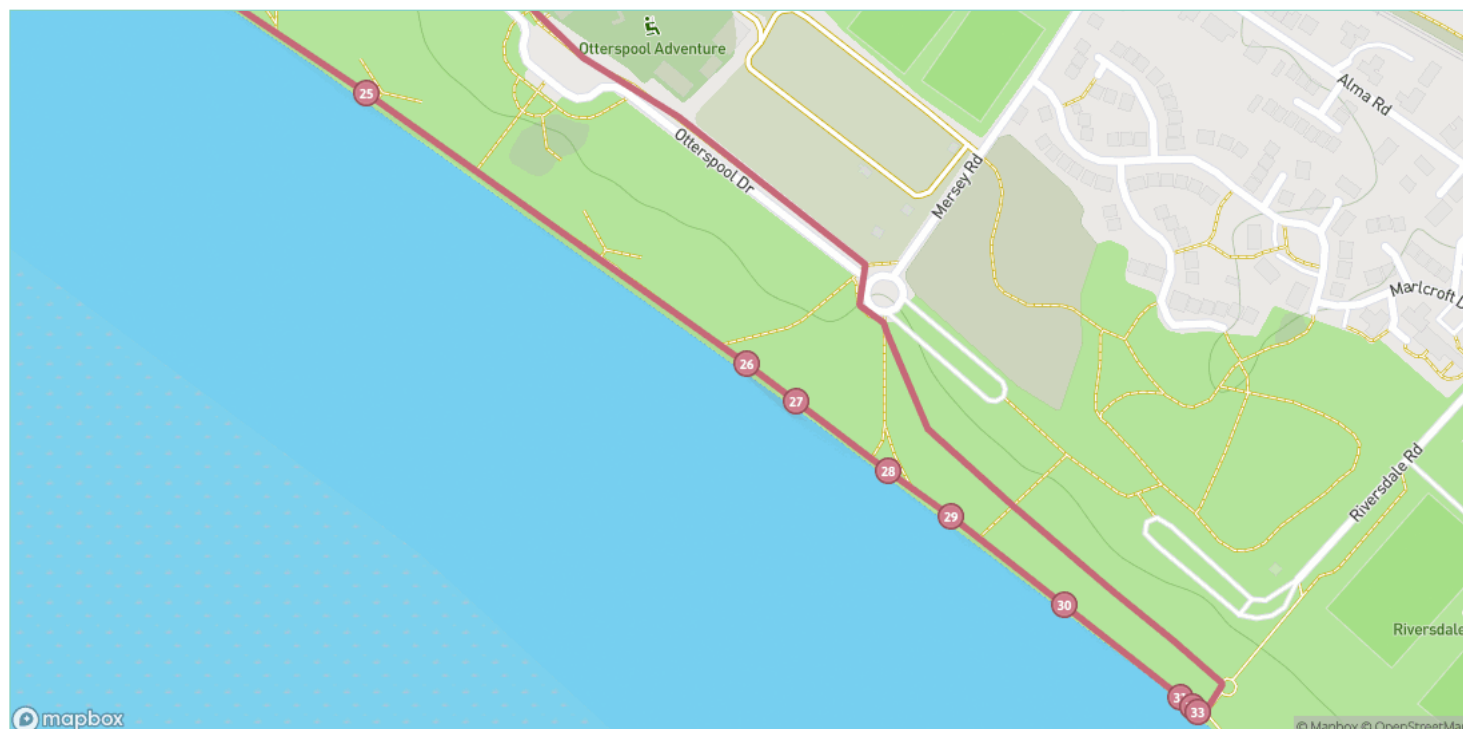
Step 20: The park famously hosted the 1980s children's TV show 'Why Don't You?' Which encouraged children to play outside and learn new skills.

Step 21: The full title of the BBC show was 'Why don't you just switch off your television set and go and do something less boring instead', which is why Otterspool Promenade was a great location for them to share ideas.

Step 22: It is a great place for bird spotting. Not only do you get an array of gulls, you can spot visiting birds like this ruddy turnstone.

Step 23: They enjoy sunning themselves alongside the railings.

Step 24: There are also lots of lovely flowers and plants thriving in the cracks. See what you can spot as you make your way along the prom.



Step 25: Continue walking along the waters edge.

Step 26: The name 'Otterspool' is derived from Oritpul. Otir meant otter and was named after the otters that lived in the tidal creek here.

Step 27: It's a great place for people watching. You can spot runners, cyclists, wanderers and fishers along the length of the promenade.

Step 28: Keep wandering down the prom.

Step 29: The big tower you can see across the Mersey is Fiddler's Ferry Power Station. It was a coal-fired station that was closed in 2020.

Step 30: Continue making your way along the promenade.

Step 31: From a distance you'll spot a red bull! It caused some controversy where people thought it was a Trojan horse or a "super cow potato"!

Step 32: The sculpture as created by Indian sculptor Dhruva Misrry for the Liverpool Festival Gardens in 1984 and moved in 2006. The sculpture was inspired by a sitting bull because of its strength and virile form.



Step 33: The 'super cow potato' is a nod to the city's iconic superlambanana, a sculpture created by Japanese artist Taro Chiezo and used to celebrate Liverpool as the European Capital of Culture on 2008.

Step 40: Join the hard standing path when you reach it. Follow it to your right.

Step 34: Walk up to the bull. We will be walking along the grass path to the left.

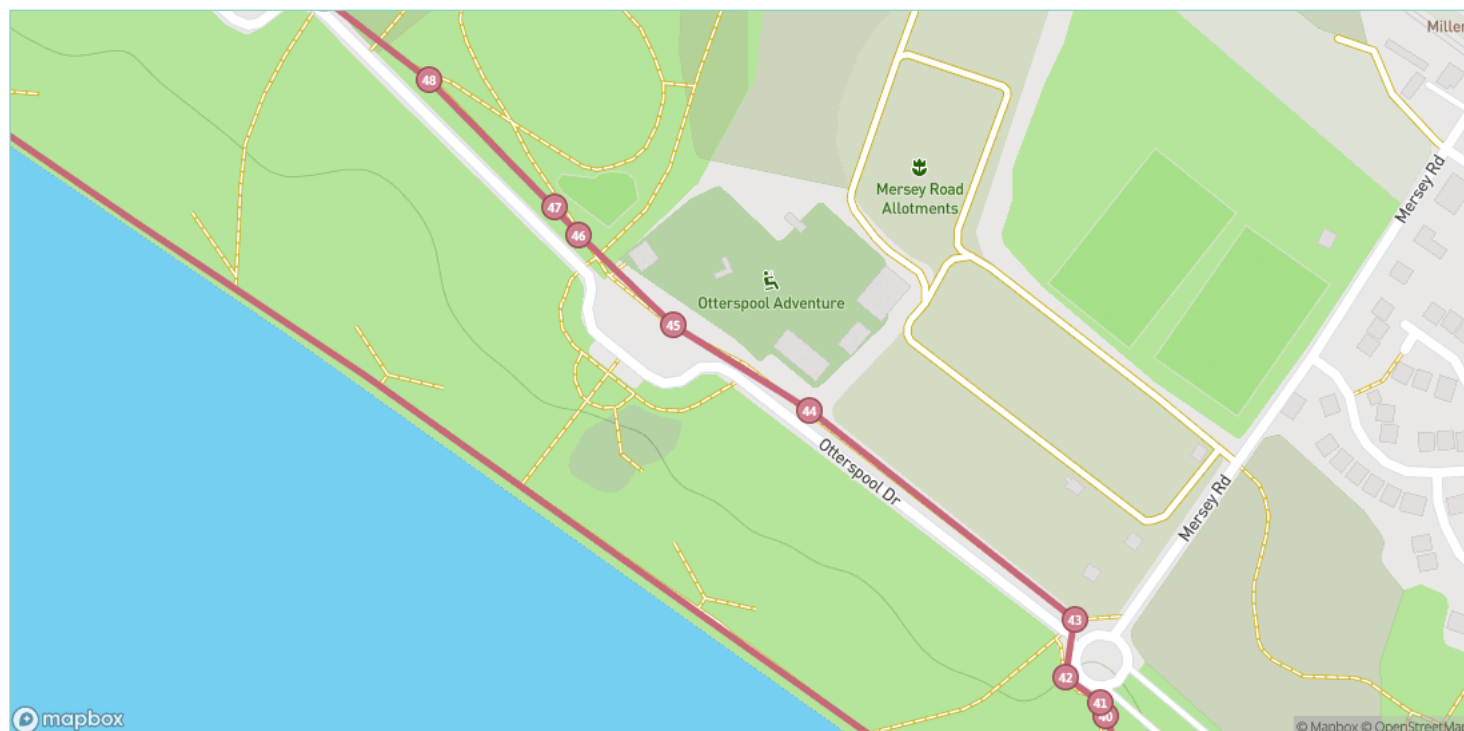
Step 35: Turn to your left and walk along the grass path.

Step 36: You'll recognise the path with the shorter grass. It runs parallel to the promenade.

Step 37: Take moments to stop as watch the water gently moving in the distance.

Step 38: Continue along the path.

Step 39: Follow the grass path as it begins to run gently to your right.



Step 41: Follow the curve to your left.

Step 42: Now make your way to the path on the left.

Step 43: Join the main pavement and follow it along.

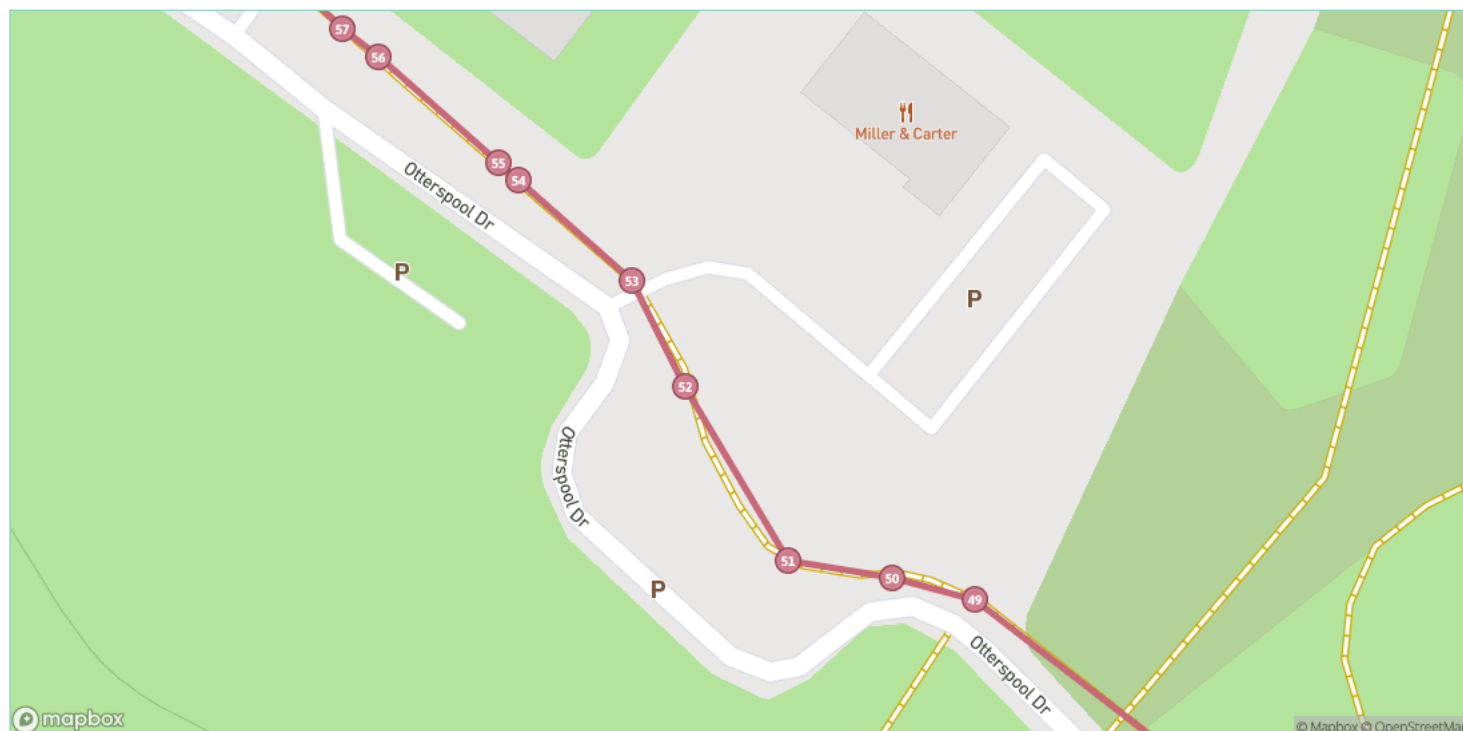
Step 44: There a lovey cafe and playground along the way if you fancy a break or some playtime for the little ones.

Step 45: Keep winding along the path beneath the trees.

Step 46: Look out for the exercise equipment to your left. This is part of a 'trim trail', a number of pieces of outdoor fitness equipment.

Step 47: Maybe have a go on a piece or two. There are instruction boards, so you can find out how to use them.

Step 48: Look up at the towering trees and watch the sunlight dancing between the branches and leaves.



Step 49: Keep to the path as it curves around the trees and shrubs.

Step 56: Keep going along the pavement.

Step 50: As you walk by the woodland, you might spot some of the bright green ring-necked parakeets. There is a growing population here.

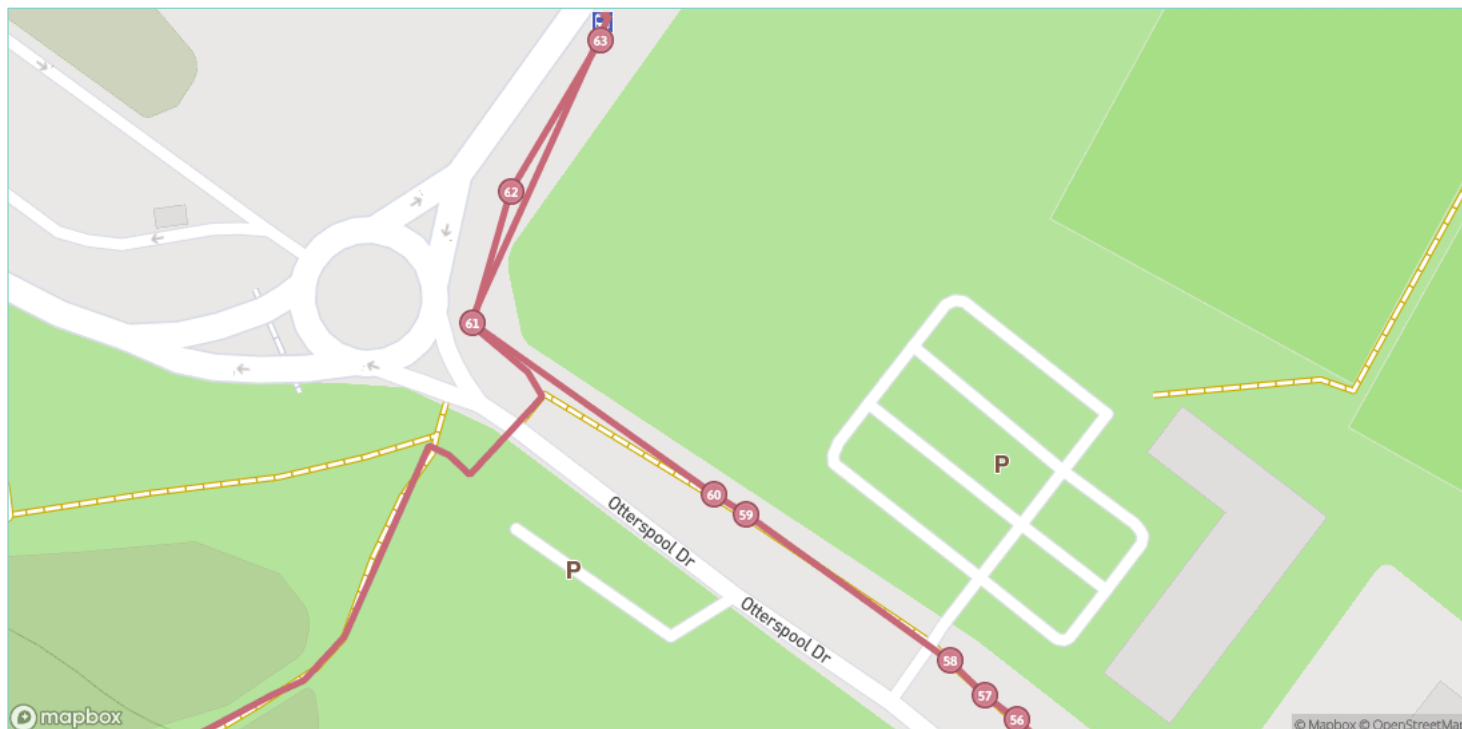
Step 51: Continue along the path. Listen out for the birds you hear above.

Step 52: At the entrance to the pub, use the dropped kerb to cross over to rejoin the pavement.

Step 53: Keep an eye out for the pops of pink flowers of the Willowherb as you explore the hedgerows as you follow the pavement.

Step 54: Continue along the pavement.

Step 55: The bright red berries of the Rowan tree will catch your eye. These berries are a favourite for blackbirds and song thrushes.



Step 57: Look over to the water to see the birds swooping over the prom and the people enjoying their day.

Step 58: Cross over at the dropped kerb.

Step 59: You'll spot a pine tree to your left. This is the pinus nigra and has some surprising fluffy flowers amongst the pines.

Step 60: Keep following the pavement alongside the procession of trees to your left.

Step 61: At the corner of the road, follow the curve to your right to return to Jericho Lane. We are almost back to the start.

Step 62: Follow the trees up the road.

Step 63: You've arrived back at the bus stop. We hope you enjoyed your promenade at Otterspool. Come back for your next walk soon.