



Northfield Nature Discovery Trail

A linear and low-traffic walk through nature between Northfield and Kings Norton stations. Refreshments options near the end of the walk.

Distance 5.1 kilometers / 3.2 miles

Duration 1 hour and 30 minutes



Wildlife



Water feature



Great views



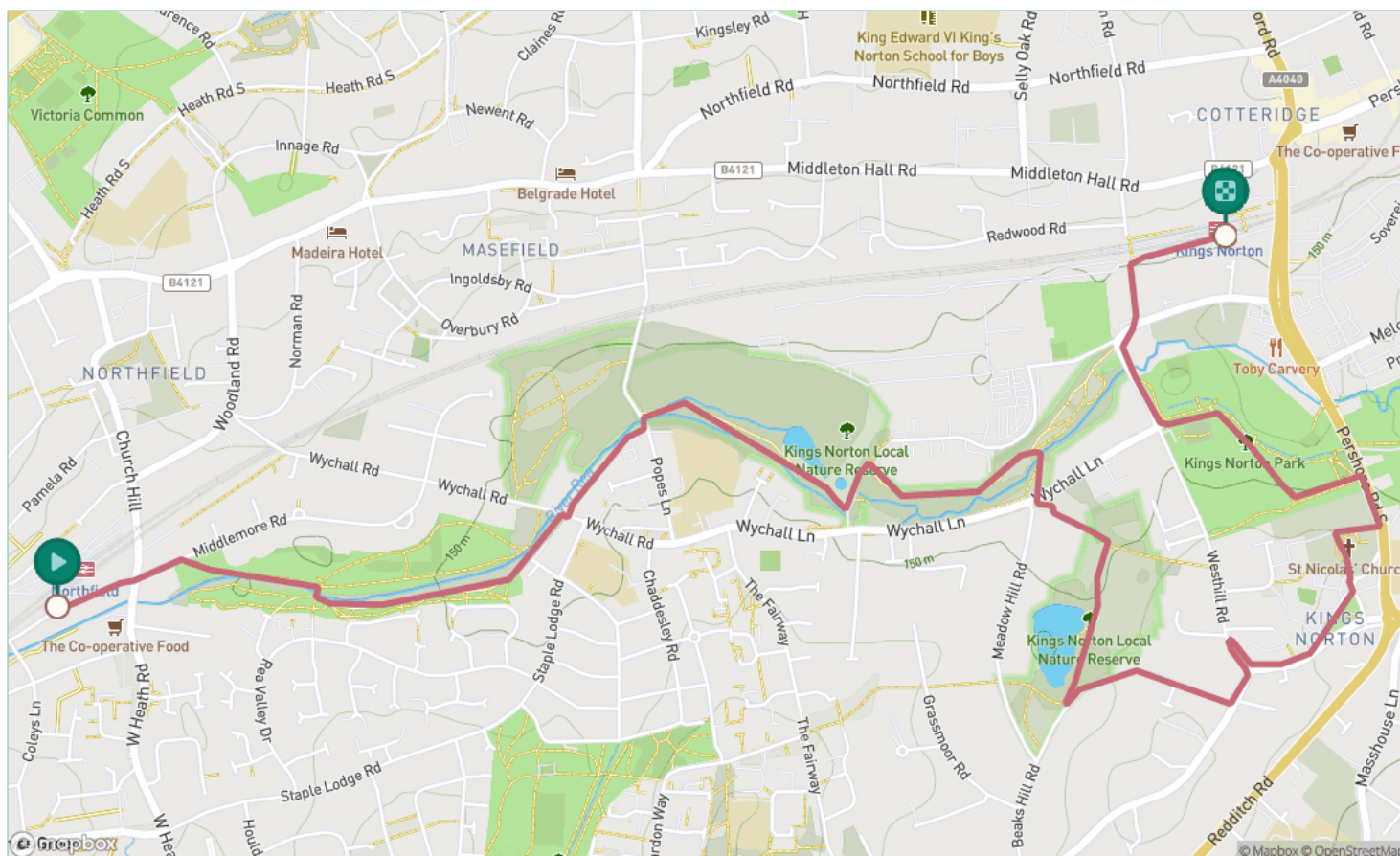
Picnic spot

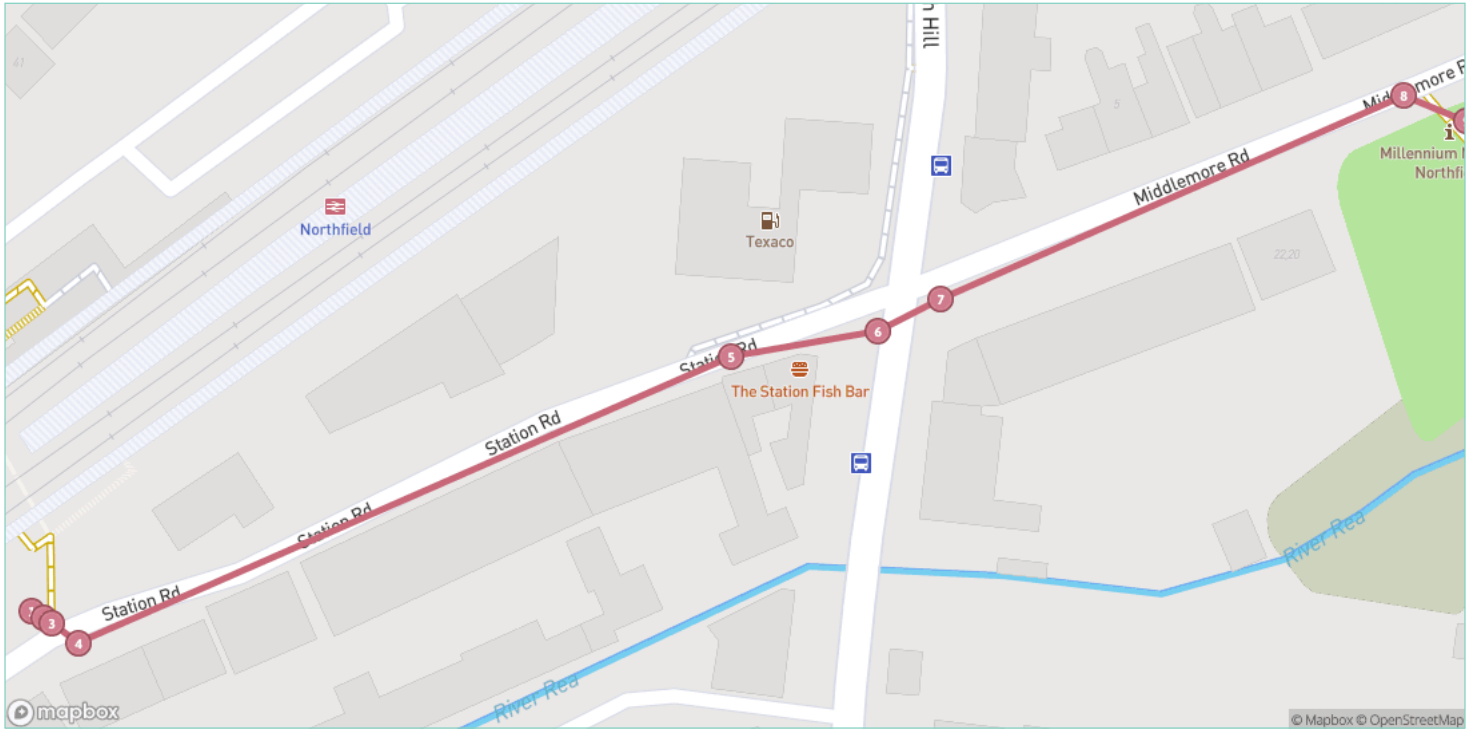


History



Dog friendly





Step 1: Start from Northfield rail station by the entrance/exit on Station Road on the Platform 2 side of the station (lifts are available).

Step 2: Please note that some sections of the walk might be muddy in wet or wintry weather. There's also some uphill section. 😊

Step 3: Cross over Station Road and turn left - you will see signs for the Rea Valley route throughout the walk.

Step 4: Head down Station Road to the junction with West Heath Road and Church Hill.

Step 5: You need to cross over West Heath Rd here. On your right you'll see a zebra crossing...

Step 6: The zebra crossing is on West Heath Road by the Co-op or there is a traffic light pedestrian crossing on Church Hill.

Step 7: Once you have crossed the road continue along the pavement on Middlemore Road

Step 8: You will soon reach the start of the Rea Valley route - take the path on your right hand side.



Step 9: Follow the path in front of you, past a bench and continue straight ahead.

Step 16: You will soon reach a chicane gate onto Wychall Road.

Step 10: Rea Valley is a largely traffic free green corridor on National Cycle Network Route 5 connecting the city centre with South West Birmingham.

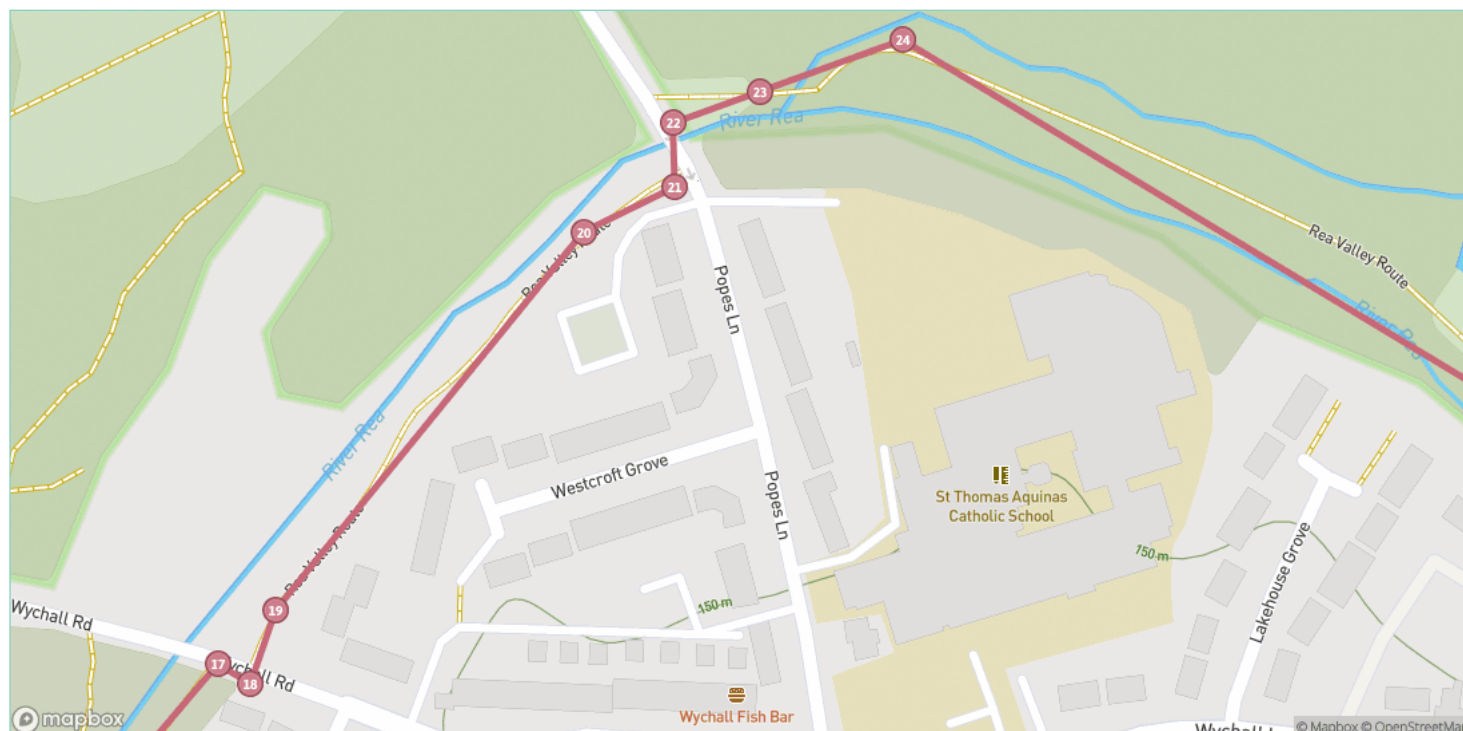
Step 11: Turn right when you reach a bridge and cross over then turn left.

Step 12: Continue along the Rea Valley route.

Step 13: When you reach this fork in the path, stay on the main path to the left hand side.

Step 14: Keep to the path and keep your senses peeled for all the good things in nature that you can see today.

Step 15: Continue straight ahead as the path becomes covered by trees. Enjoy the dappled light and the sounds of the leaves or branches.



Step 17: Carefully cross Wychall Road by the signpost to your right.

Step 18: And rejoin the Rea Valley route straight ahead of you on the other side of the road.

Step 19: Rejoin the Rea Valley route and continue straight ahead.

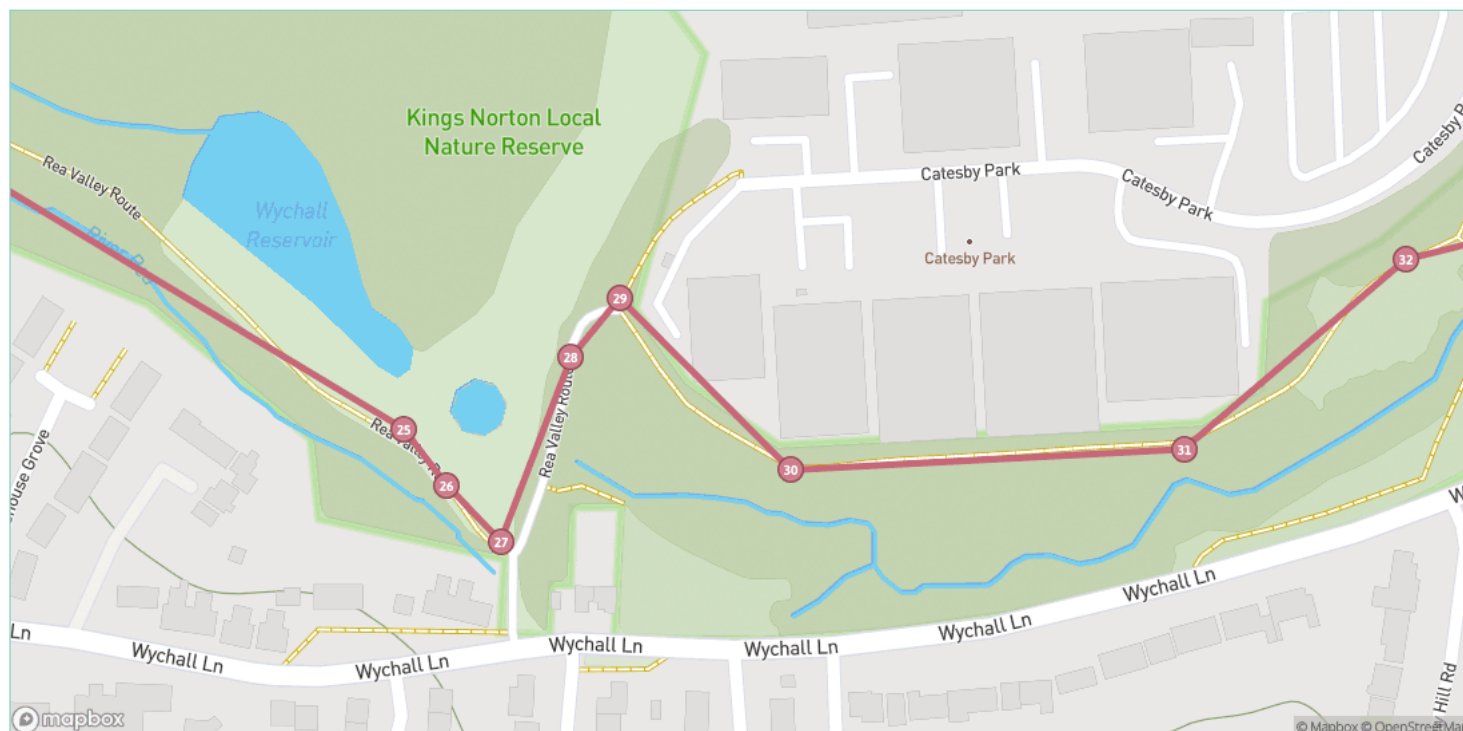
Step 20: You will soon reach Popes Lane.

Step 21: Cross over Popes Lane and turn left.

Step 22: Rejoin the Rea Valley route by the signpost and information board.

Step 23: Cross over the bridge.

Step 24: And continue following the Rea Valley route straight ahead.



Step 25: There are a few information boards along the way with details of things to look out for such as wildlife and natural features.

Step 26: With Wychall reservoir on your left continue straight ahead up a slope.

Step 27: On the other side, follow the driveway to the left.

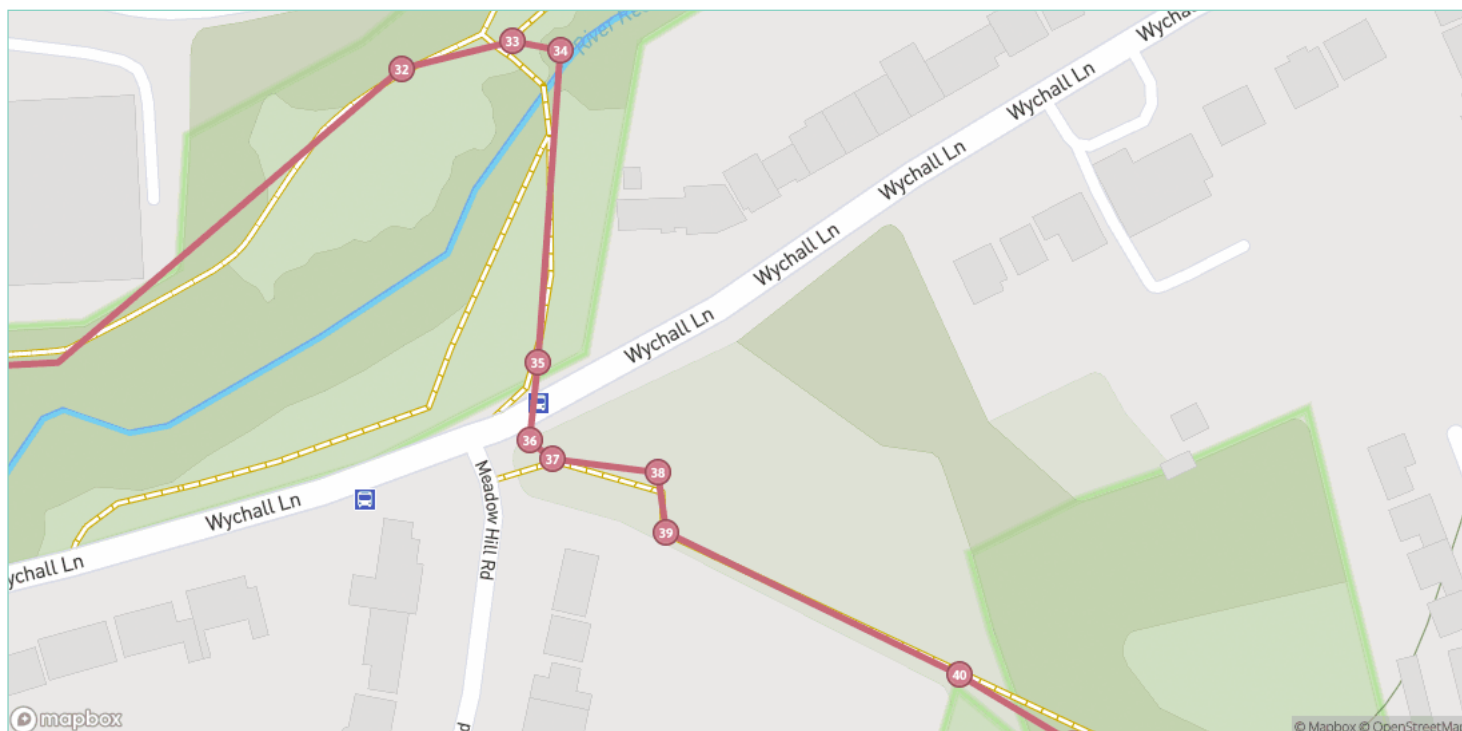
Step 28: Follow the path as it bends round to the right.

Step 29: Continue straight ahead on a tree-covered section of the route.

Step 30: And breathe! It's nice to be amongst the trees.

Step 31: The Rea Valley route is a popular walking and cycling path suitable for all users and fitness levels.

Step 32: The path reaches a T-junction by another information board. If you'd like to cut short this walk...



Step 33: Turn left here and follow the path to Camp Lane and onto Kings Norton rail station otherwise continue along with us.

Step 40: In medieval times this meadow land was part of a large grange belonging to the estate of Bordesley Abbey near Redditch.

Step 34: Follow the path ahead up to Wychall Lane.

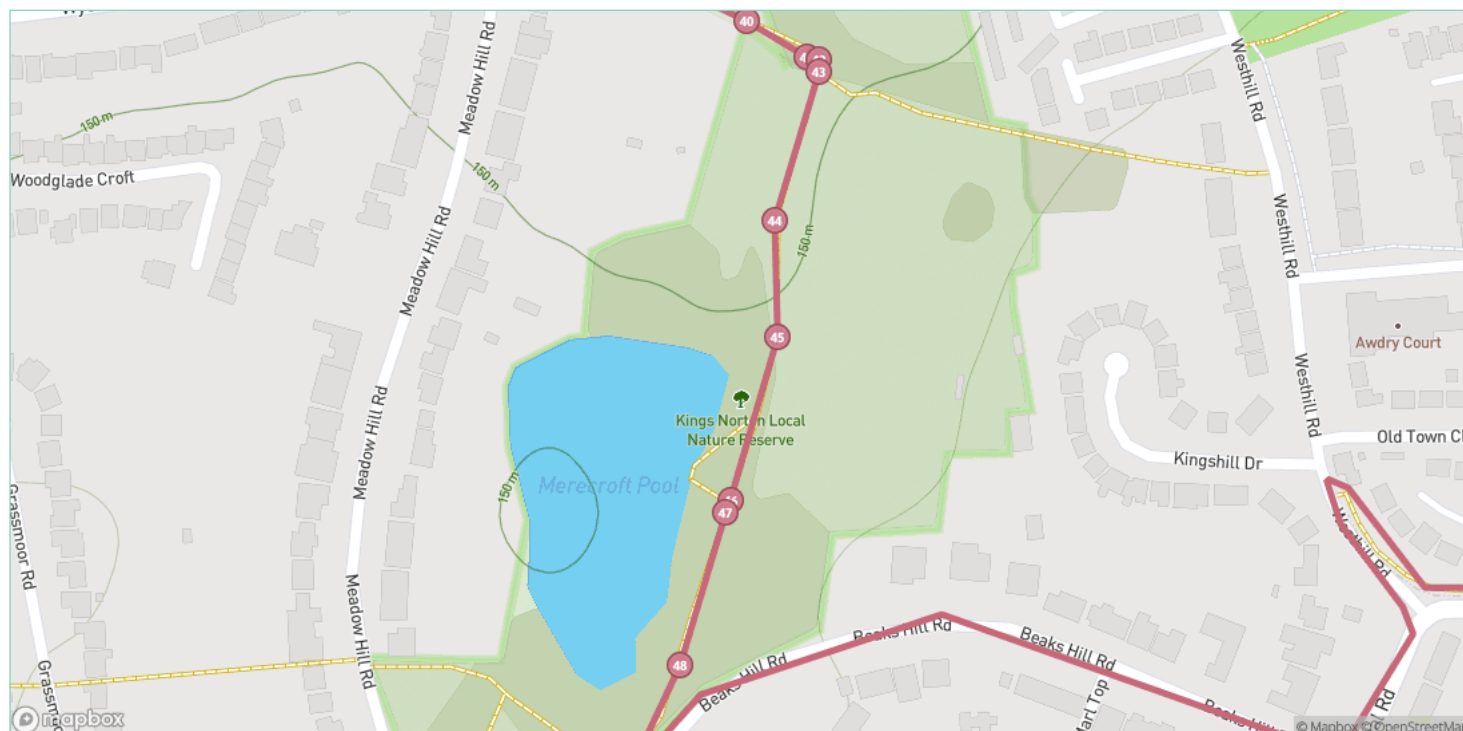
Step 35: Cross Wychall Road by the bus stop - watching for traffic in both directions.

Step 36: Almost immediately on the left hand side of Meadow Hill Road there is an entrance to Kings Norton Local Nature Reserve.

Step 37: Take the path ahead as it gradually bends round to the right

Step 38: Continue on the path through the nature reserve.

Step 39: Follow the path as it winds ahead, gradually climbing uphill.



Step 41: Continue straight ahead past other pathways on both your left and right...

Step 42: ...until you reach a gap in the metal fence on your right hand side - head through here.

Step 43: Continue along the path - can you spot any horses in the field on your left?

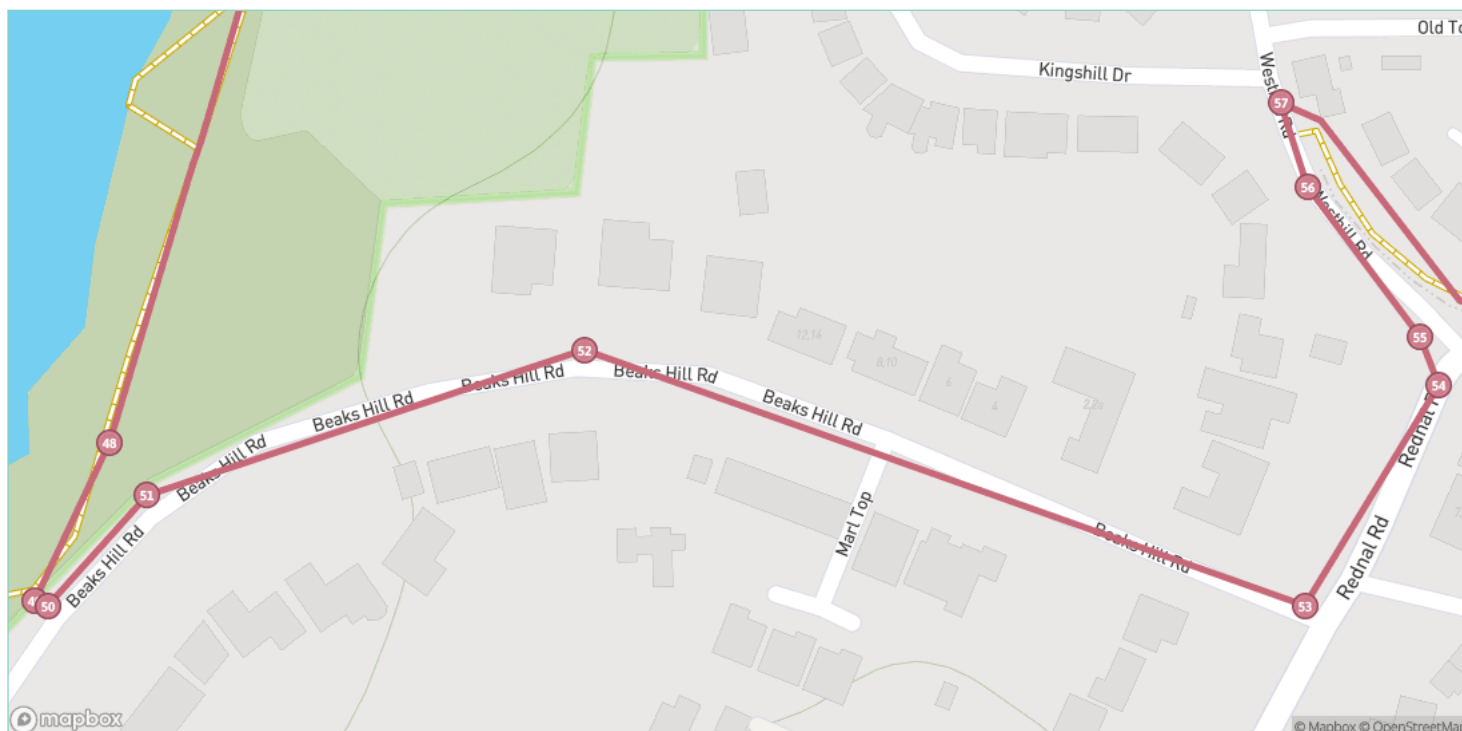
Step 44: Follow the path ahead.

Step 45: Merecroft Pool will soon appear through gaps in the trees on your right hand side.

Step 46: There is a bench here where you can take a break

Step 47: And enjoy the view across Merecroft Pool

Step 48: Now continue on the path ahead.



Step 49: You'll soon reach an exit from the local nature reserve on the left.

Step 50: It takes you out onto Beaks Hill Road where you need to turn left.

Step 51: Follow the footpath along Beaks Hill Road.

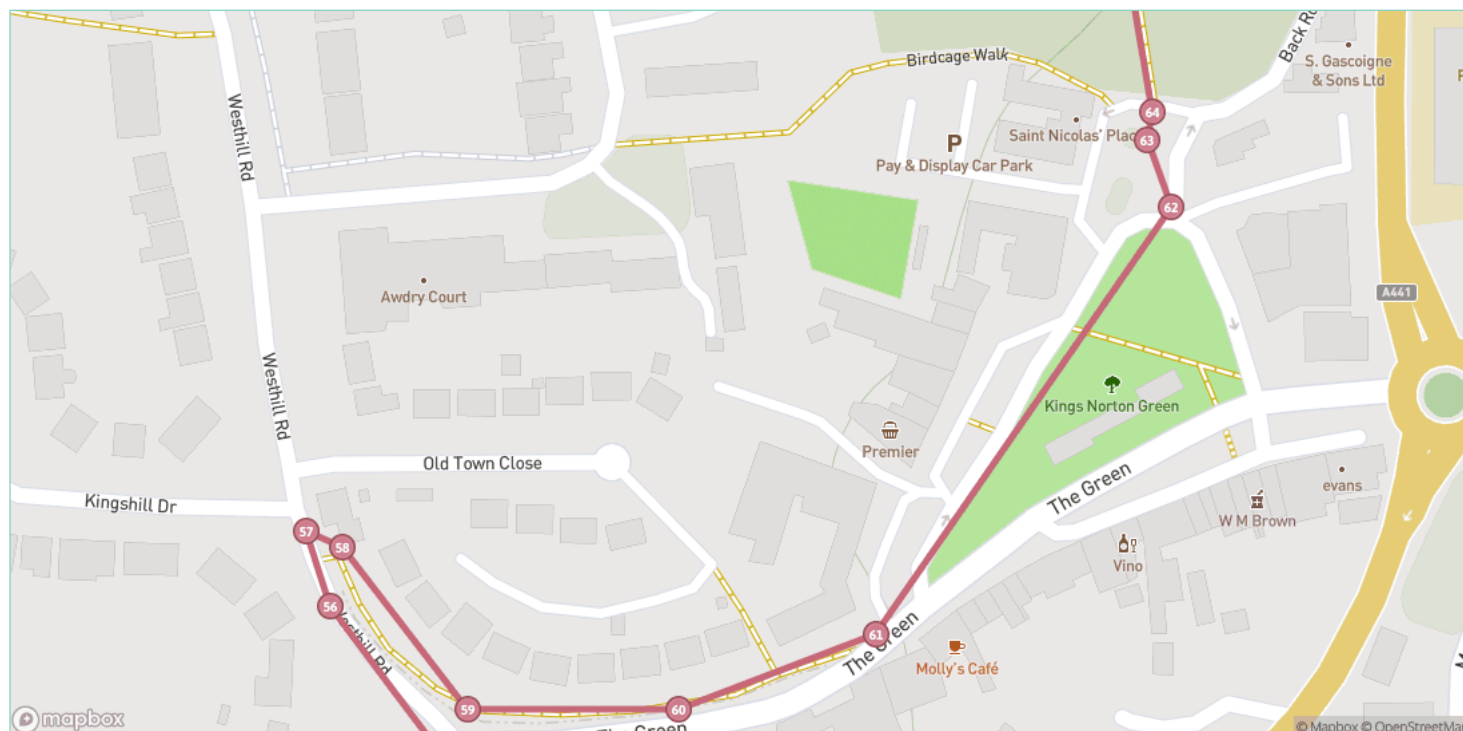
Step 52: It is a bit of a climb up Beaks Hill Road but you can take it steady

Step 53: You will soon reach the junction of Rednal Road where you turn left.

Step 54: The road bends round to the right on the approach to Kings Norton Village Green - be mindful of traffic.

Step 55: We suggest turning left onto Westhill Road and walking a short distance up here.

Step 56: You can then cross Westhill Road by the lamppost on your left



Step 57: And join a footpath on the other side of the road.

Step 58: Where you will then retrace your steps back down Westhill Road.

Step 59: Follow the path until you reach Kings Norton Village Green.

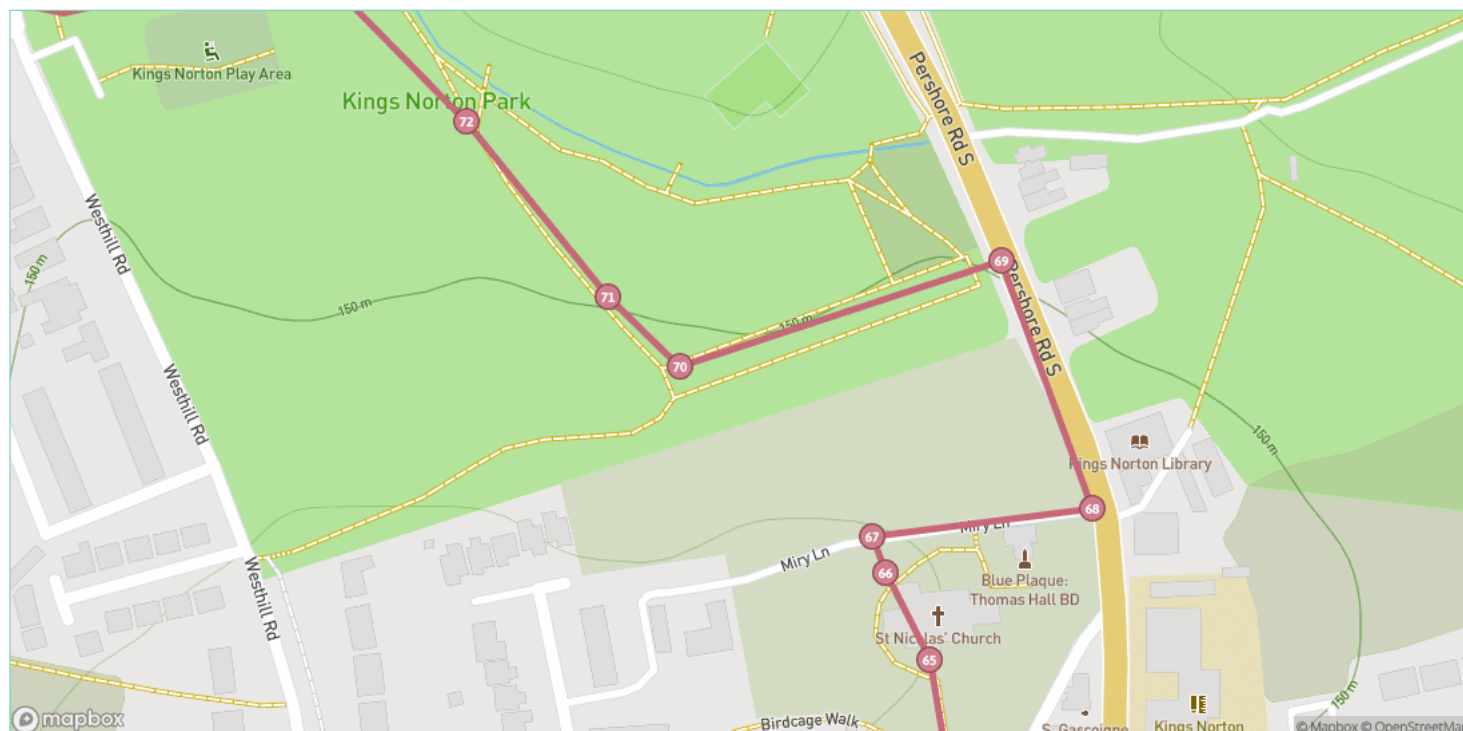
Step 60: Keep to the footway as you continue ahead.

Step 61: There are various shops, cafes, pub and restaurants around The Green. Why not take a look around?

Step 62: There is also a popular Farmers Market which takes place here on the second Saturday of each month

Step 63: You can also find St Nicolas Place - the largest complex of medieval buildings in Birmingham.

Step 64: Enter the churchyard of St Nicolas Church and follow the path ahead



Step 65: Follow the path round the left hand side of the church

Step 66: Continue straight ahead through a graveyard to a driveway at the back of the church and turn right.

Step 67: Follow the drive, with the church on your right, down to the Pershore Road.

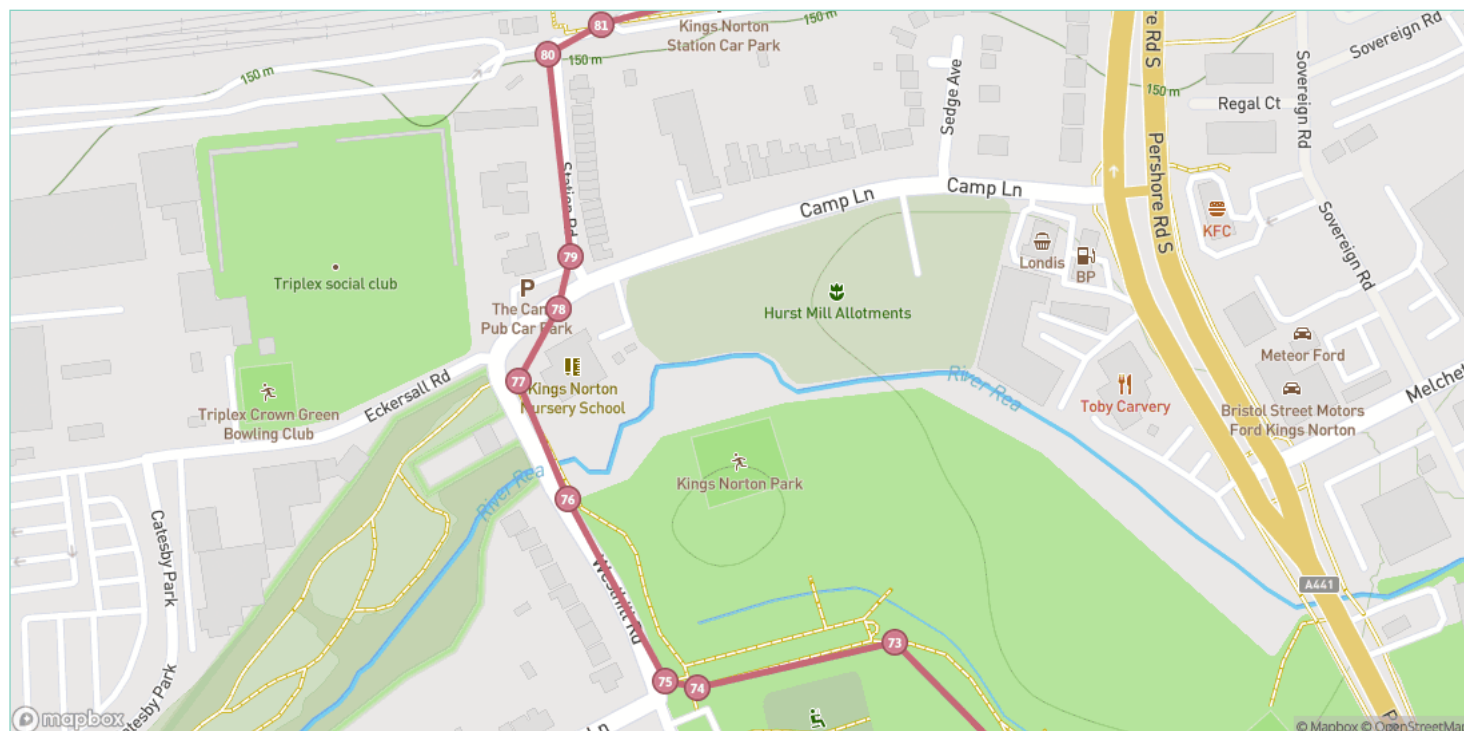
Step 68: Turn left and head along a short section of footway next to Pershore Road South.

Step 69: Until you reach the entrance to Kings Norton Park on your left.

Step 70: Turn right and head down through the park

Step 71: There is a heritage trail at various locations around the park if you fancy some further exploring.

Step 72: As a number of paths meet, go to the left of the tree in the middle and turn left.



Step 73: Continue along the path, with a children's play area on your left.

Step 74: At the exit to Kings Norton Park on Westhill Road, turn right.

Step 75: And follow the path downhill.

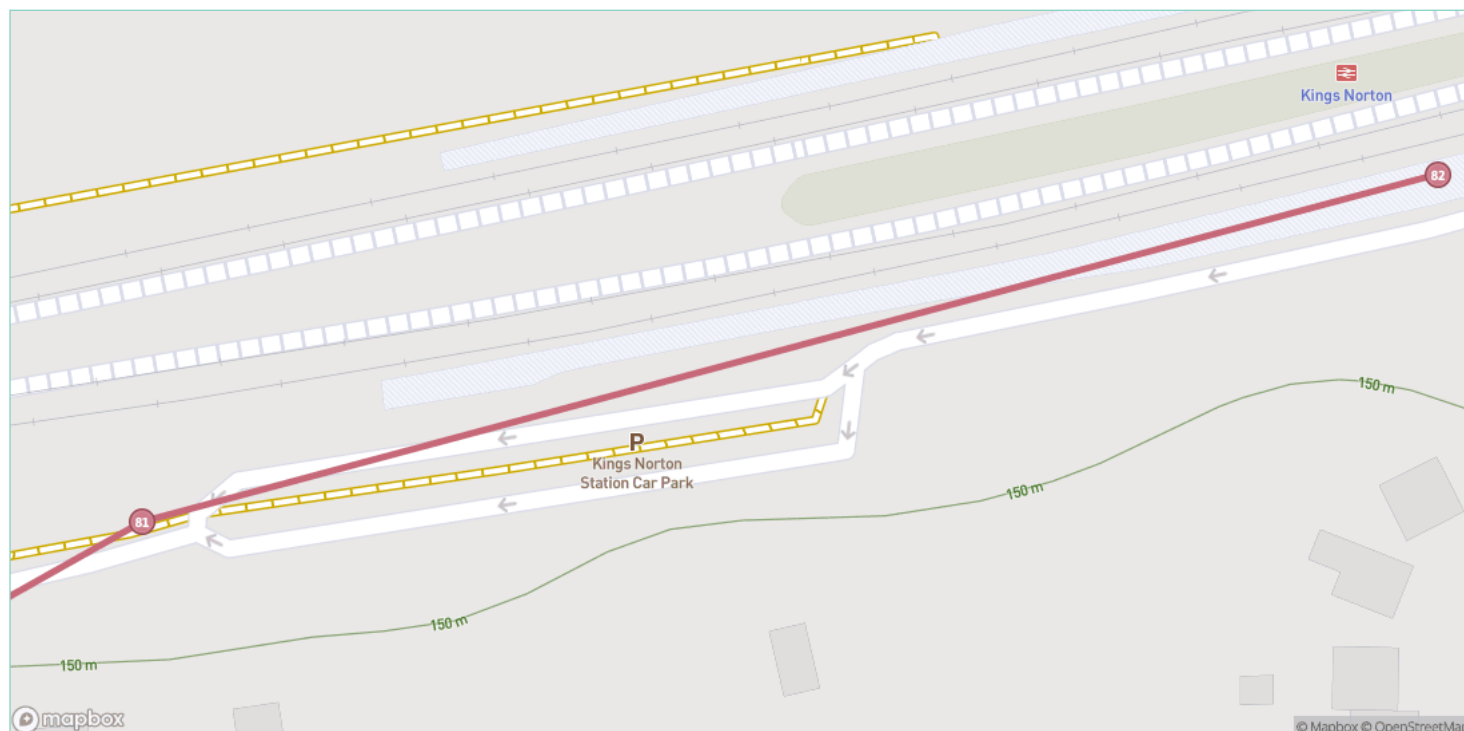
Step 76: Cross over a footbridge, mind the bollards as you go.

Step 77: Pass by the pedestrian crossing or if you want a longer walk, rejoin the Rea Valley route back to Northfield here.

Step 78: To continue with us bear right along Camp Lane until the junction with Station Road.

Step 79: Watch out for traffic and cross over Camp Lane and head up Station Road.

Step 80: You will reach the car park for Kings Norton rail station.



Step 81: Head through the car park and...

Step 82: ...it will bring you to Platform 4, where you can catch a train back to Northfield. We hope you enjoyed this jaunt! We've got more like this.