



The Kidlington Big Bear Trail

Follow the large pink animal footprints on the ground, and signposts along the way, to walk this step-free circular trail.

Distance 1.7 kilometers / 1.1 miles

Duration 45 minutes



Wheel friendly



Water feature



Public transport



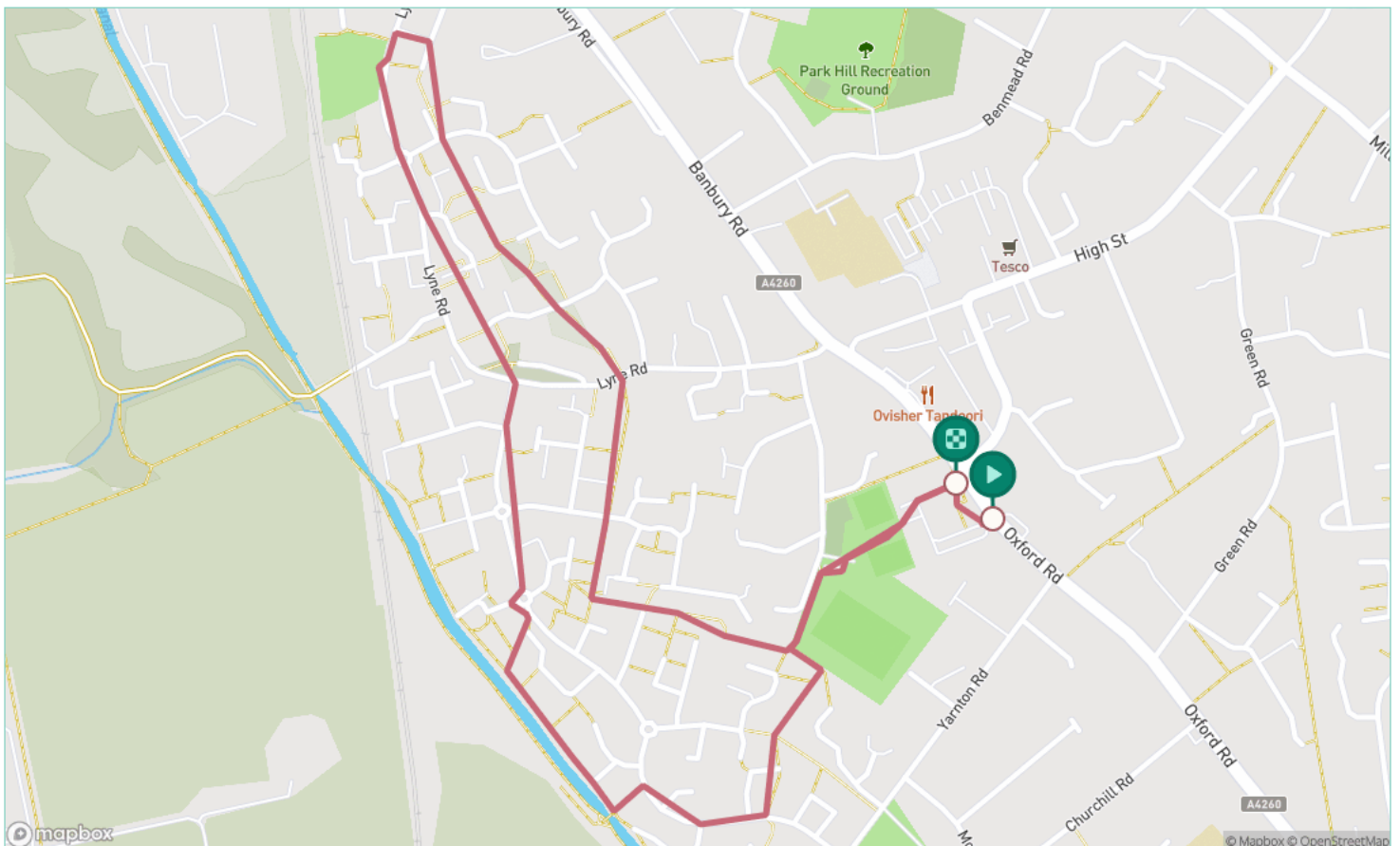
Parking



Dog friendly

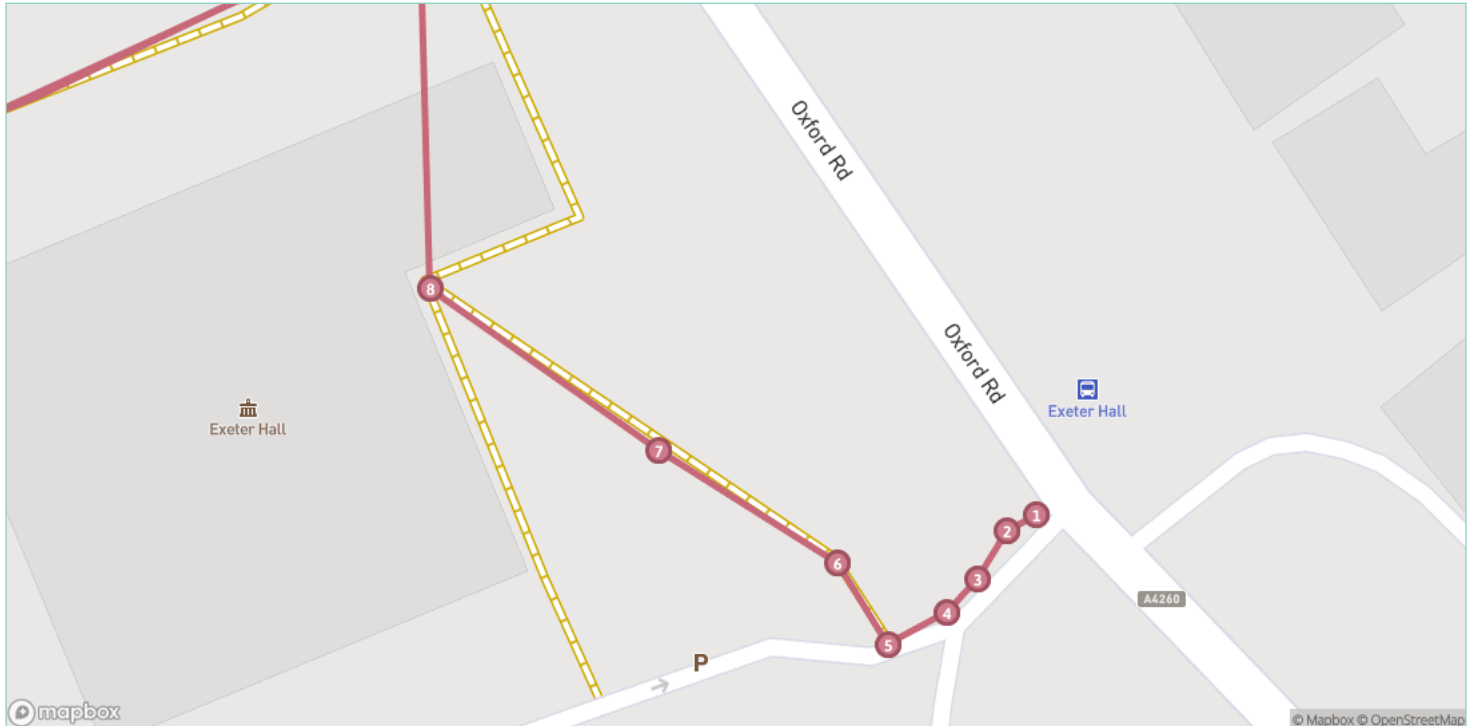


Child friendly



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 © 2023. Last Updated: 27 October 2023.



Step 1: This walk was created in partnership with Cherwell District Council. Enjoy over 30 walks across North Oxfordshire and experience the sights and sounds of nature as you go.

Step 2: A great way to get children involved in finding their way as well as connecting with nature in green spaces along the route.

Step 3: This is one of five family friendly accessible walking trails based on zoo animals exploring Kidlington and Gosford.

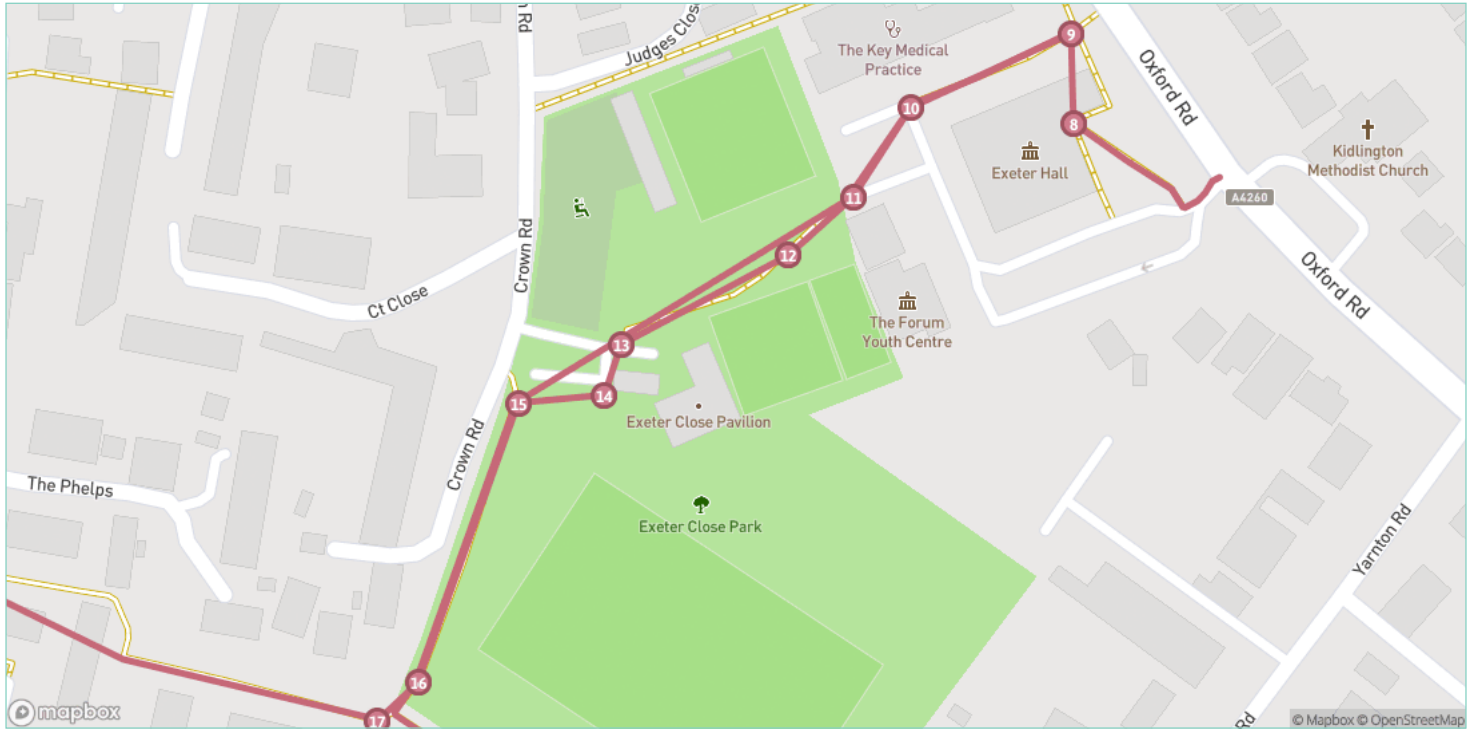
Step 4: See if you can find the three adventurous wolves!

Step 5: This walk begins at Exeter Hall near the village centre (OX5 1AB). Buses stop near here and parking is available.

Step 6: Although we've started and ended this walk at Exeter Hall, you can pick the route up from any point!

Step 7: Walk from the car park towards Exeter Hall and follow the path around it signed to the Health Centre.

Step 8: Turn left at the junction with Exeter Close. Notice the attractive entrance to the Close to your right.



Step 9: Pass two large trees and a bench.

Step 10: Pass through a set of bicycle-shaped barriers. Turn left and then right to walk around the car park.

Step 11: Head towards and pass through another set of bicycle-shaped barriers.

Step 12: You're now in Exeter Close Park. There is a small zip-wire on the right. Follow the gravel path passing benches as you go.

Step 13: On reaching a third set of bicycle-shaped barriers, follow the pink footprints and head across a parking area towards the green space.

Step 14: Exeter Close Park is a great green space to bring a dog, a picnic and some friends.

Step 15: You could even have a go on the outdoor gym if you like?

Step 16: Use the path to the right of Exeter Close Park.



Step 17: Walk past the concrete bollards and then turn right, following the pink paw prints as you go.

Step 18: The Big Bear and Bear Cub trails follow the same route to start.

Step 19: Follow the alleyway to the right and then what do you see!

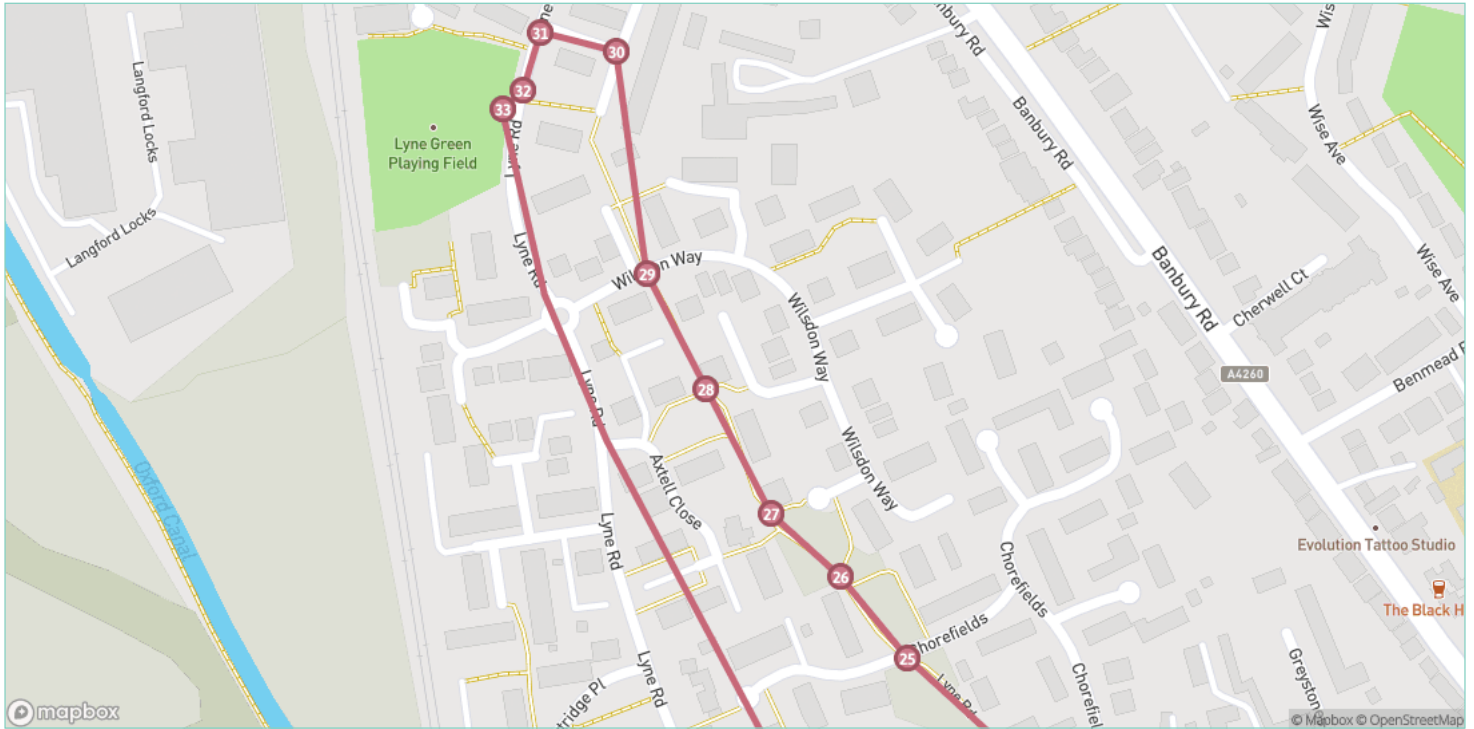
Step 20: There are fun painted games along the pavement here. Why not try a game of hopscotch or hoop jumping before you continue following the pink paw prints?

Step 21: Where the path splits in multiple directions, turn right for the Big Bear trail. (Straight on for the shorter Bear Cub trail – another route in-app)

Step 22: Follow the alleyway turning left and then right until you reach the Phelps. Cross and continue straight ahead.

Step 23: Cross over Lyne Road. Then follow the pink stars on the path through the houses.

Step 24: You'll then pass a small green area on your left.



Step 25: Complete with balancing apparatus too. Can you take on the challenge? Keep following the path across Chorefields.

Step 32: Lyne Road Green is over to the right with some lovely apple tree saplings growing here.

Step 26: There will be a bench on your right if you need to take a break, or want to sit and connect with nature for a while.

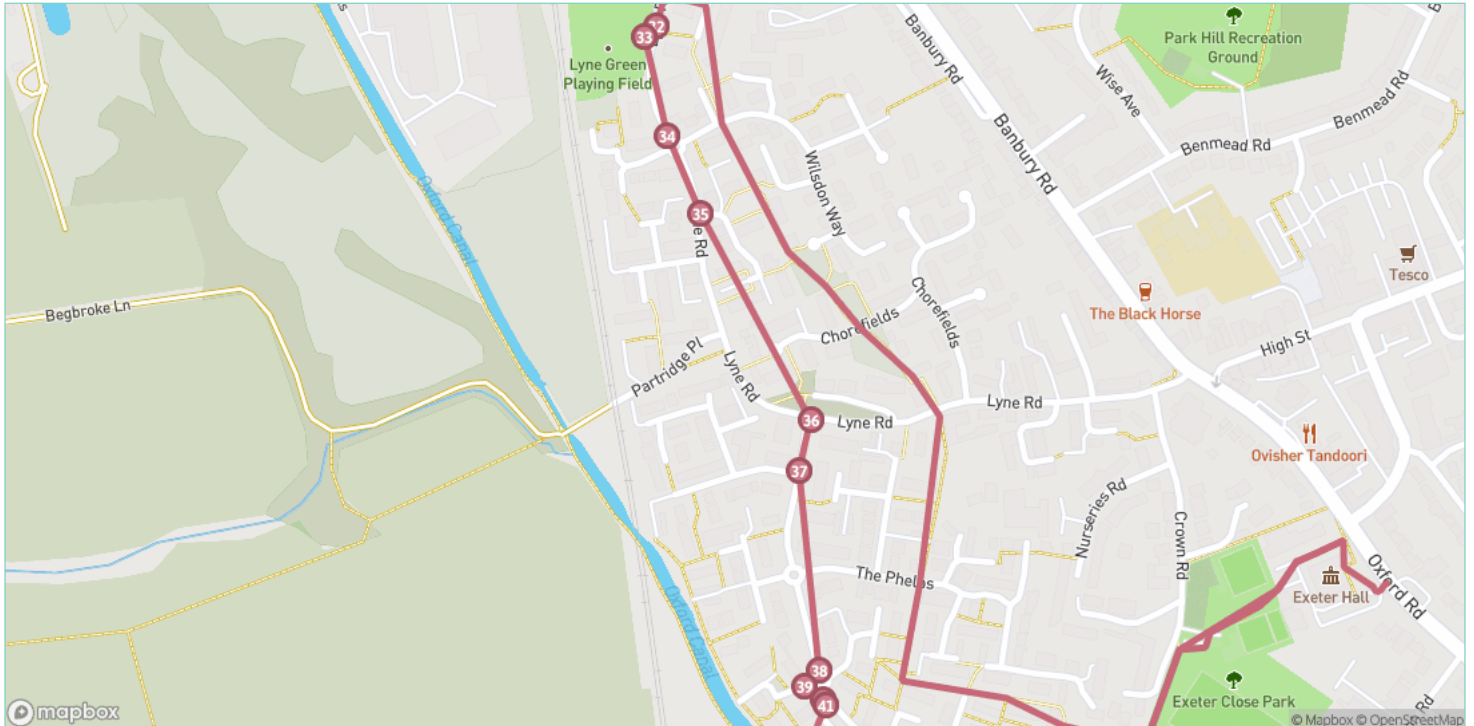
Step 27: Take time to hop skip and jump along this stretch!

Step 28: Well done – you’ve reached the 1 km marker!

Step 29: Cross Wilsdon Way and continue on. The path will soon turn into The Ridings.

Step 30: Follow the stars and turn left onto The Ridings until you reach Lyne Road.

Step 31: Turn left onto Lyne Road and continue for a short while.



Step 33: Can you spot this fancy bug hotel?

Step 34: At the roundabout bear left, cross Wilsdon Way and then continue straight ahead.

Step 35: Continue over Axtell Close and after a while cross Lyne Road following the pink pavement markings.

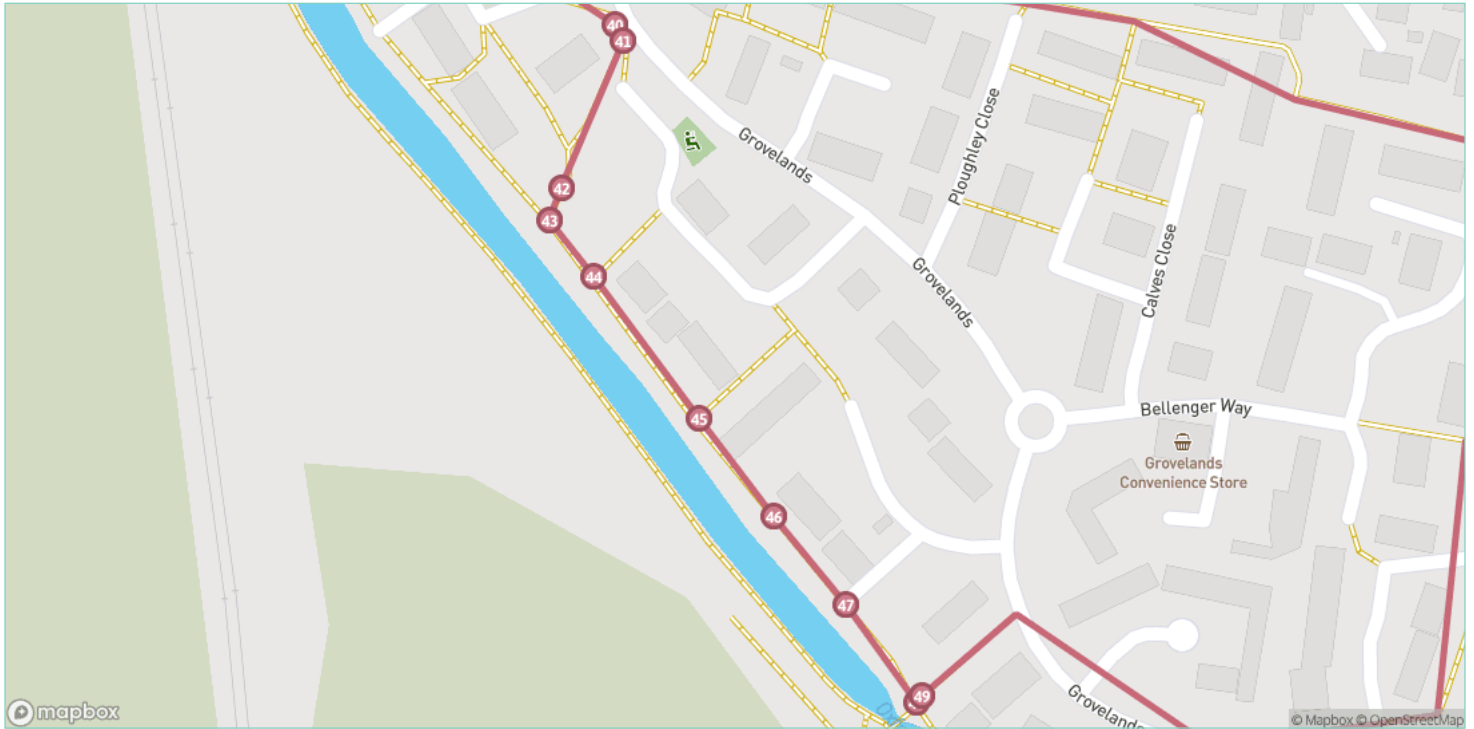
Step 36: Now turn right down Grovelands. If you're starting or ending your walk along here, there's a choice of buses back to Exeter Hall.

Step 37: Cross Andersons Close and next to the bus stop notice the 2km marker. Only 1km to go!

Step 38: At the roundabout cross The Homestead and continue straight on.

Step 39: At the next roundabout cross Lane Close.

Step 40: Soon after, turn right along an alleyway. Follow the pink signs.



Step 41: This is where you join the Bear Cub trail again.

Step 42: Follow the alleyway passing two large weeping willow trees on your right.

Step 43: Keep going until you reach the Oxford Canal. What do you see as you turn left!

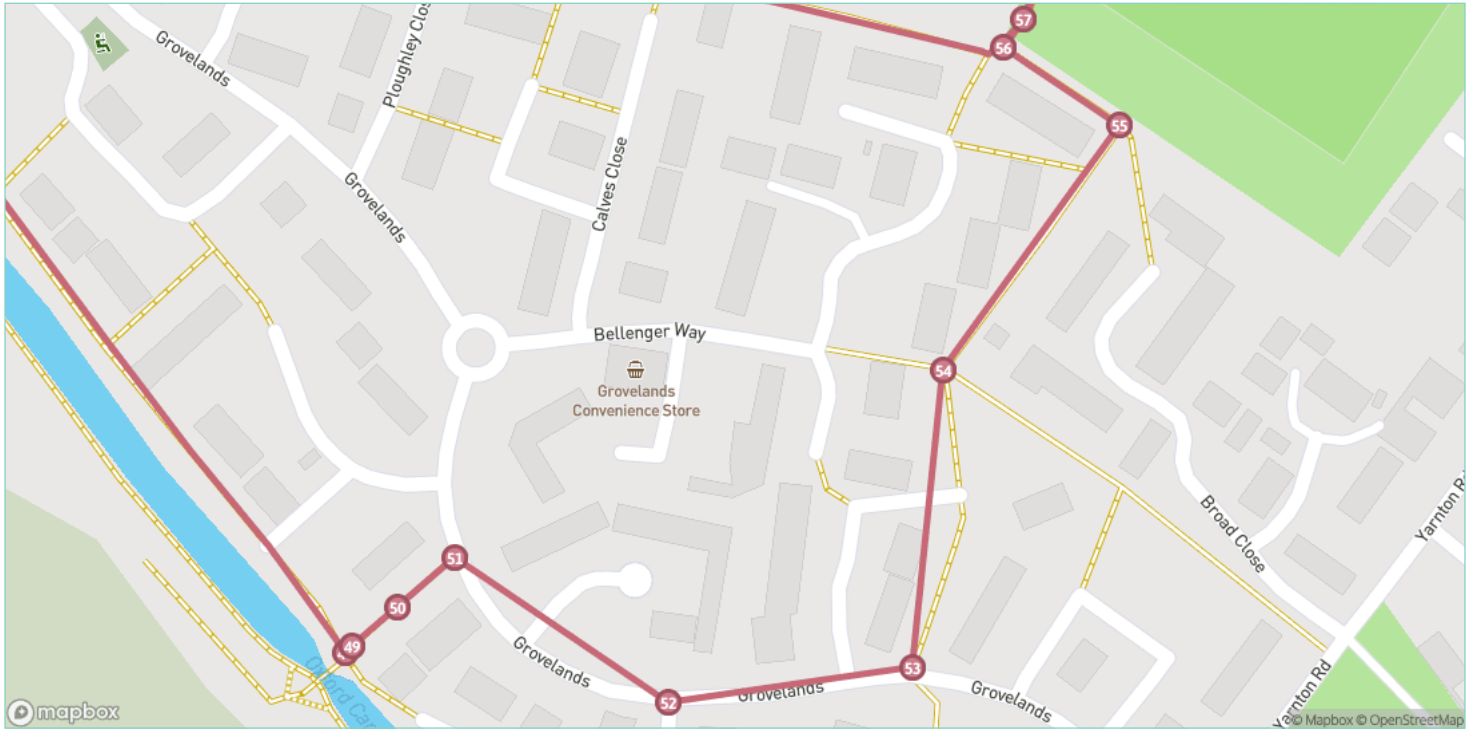
Step 44: Continue alongside the water for a short while.

Step 45: Ignore the path to your left and continue ahead.

Step 46: Enjoy the pavement activities as you go or why not sit for a while?

Step 47: Pass this area on your left as you jump from 1 to 10!

Step 48: Before you take the next left, turn right up the slope to the bridge.



Step 49: Take a few moments to enjoy the views of the canal.

Step 50: Come down from the bridge the way you came and go straight on. What can you see? You've found all three!

Step 51: Continue along the alleyway and once you reach Grovelands, turn right.

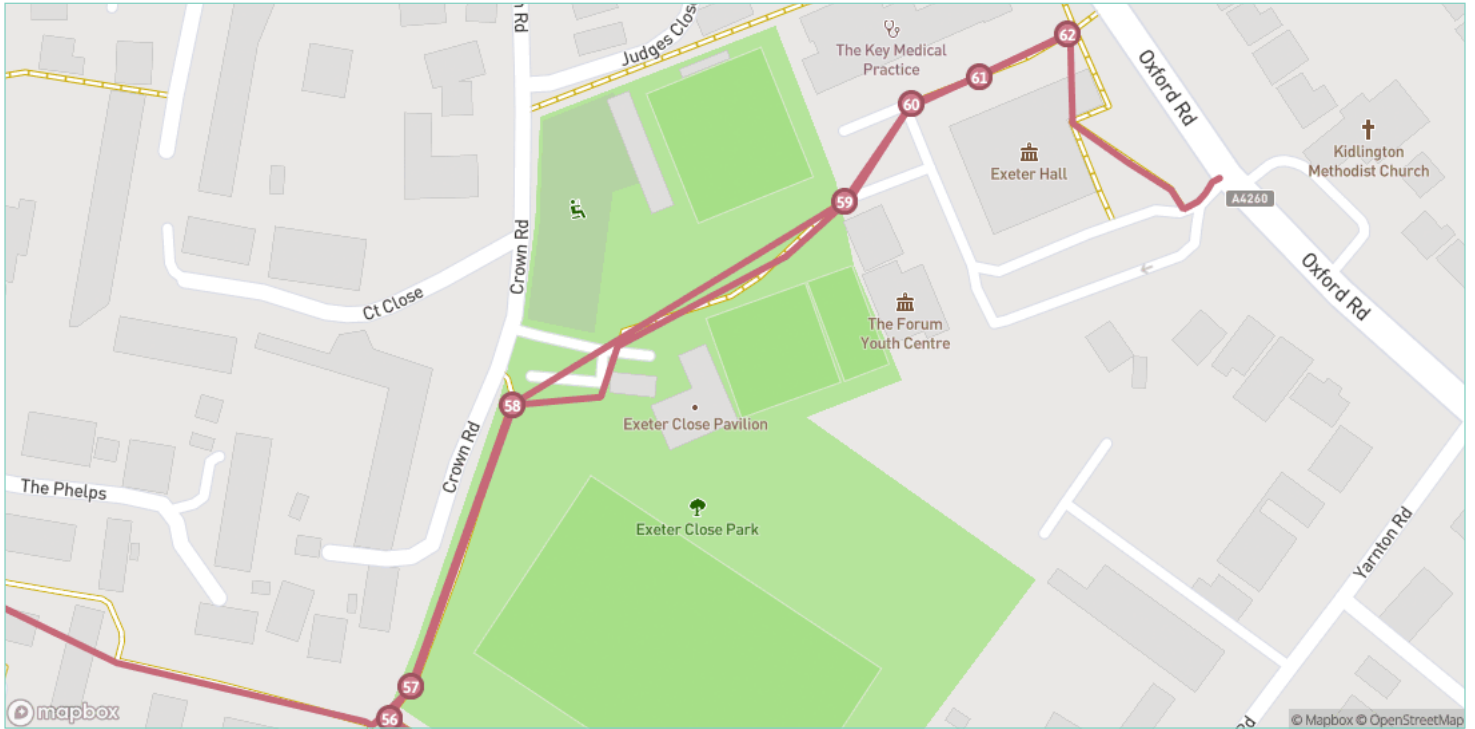
Step 52: Cross Osbourne Close and then cross Grovelands with care where the road narrows .

Step 53: Continue straight along the alleyway, following the pink paw prints.

Step 54: At the junction of paths, go straight on following pink and orange footprints as we join up with the end of the Lion trail.

Step 55: You've now reached Exeter Close Park ahead. Follow the markings round to the left...

Step 56: ... and round to the right to join the path alongside the Park



Step 57: Head across the car park and then through the metal barriers shaped like bicycles. Why not spend some more time in the park?

Step 58: Pass through more bicycle barriers and walk through the car park, taking care.

Step 59: Pass through a third set of bicycle barriers.

Step 60: Turn right before the next set of bicycle barriers.

Step 61: Walk along the side of Exeter Hall.

Step 62: You've now reached the end of the walk. Why not try another Kidlington Zoo trail, also available in app?