



Princes Park Step-Free Walk

A circular wheelchair and pram friendly walking trail around pretty Princes Park. Gorgeous lakeside views! Enjoy nature on your doorstep.

Distance 2.4 kilometers / 1.5 miles

Duration 35 minutes



Wheel friendly



Water feature



Great views



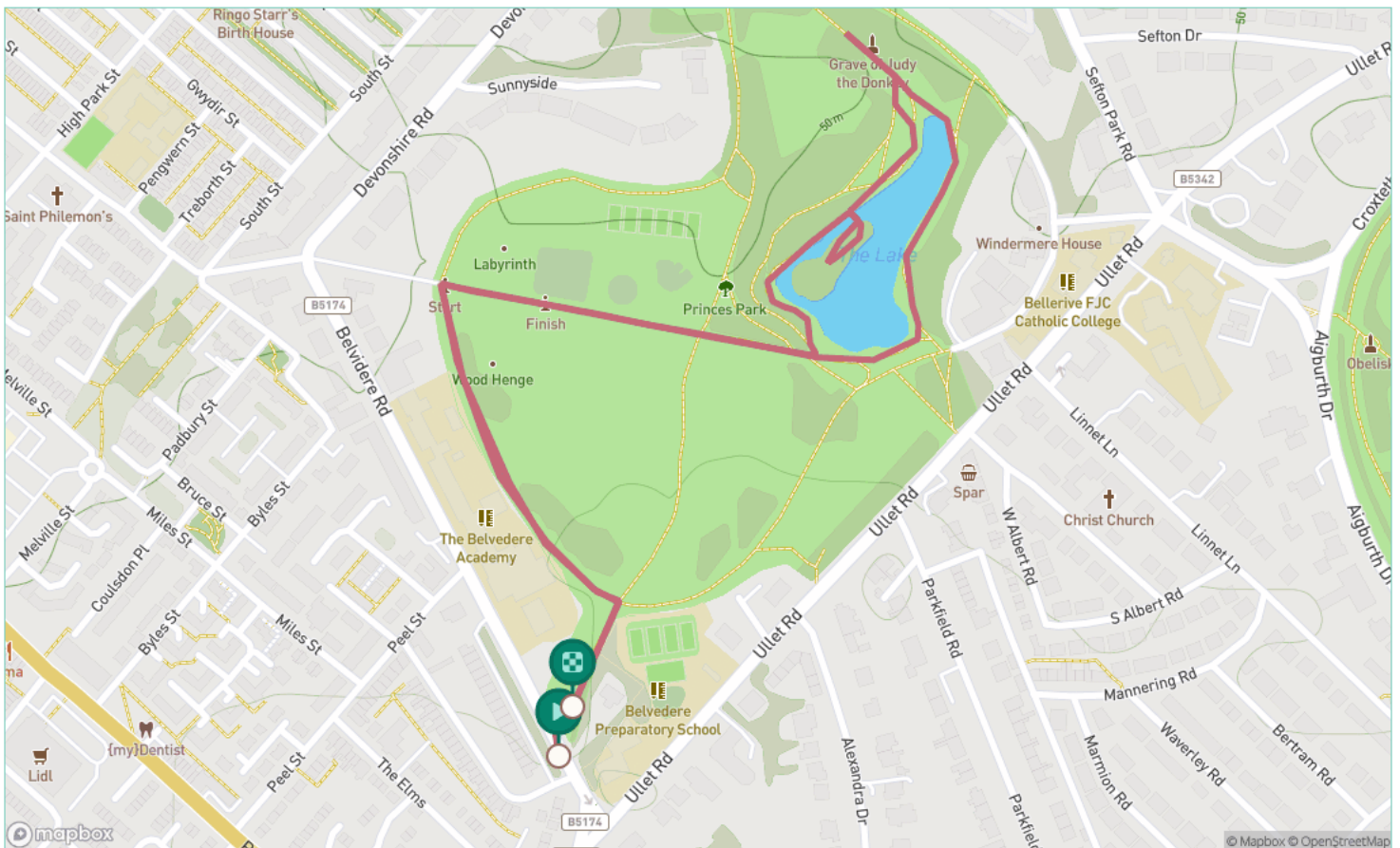
Public transport



Picnic spot

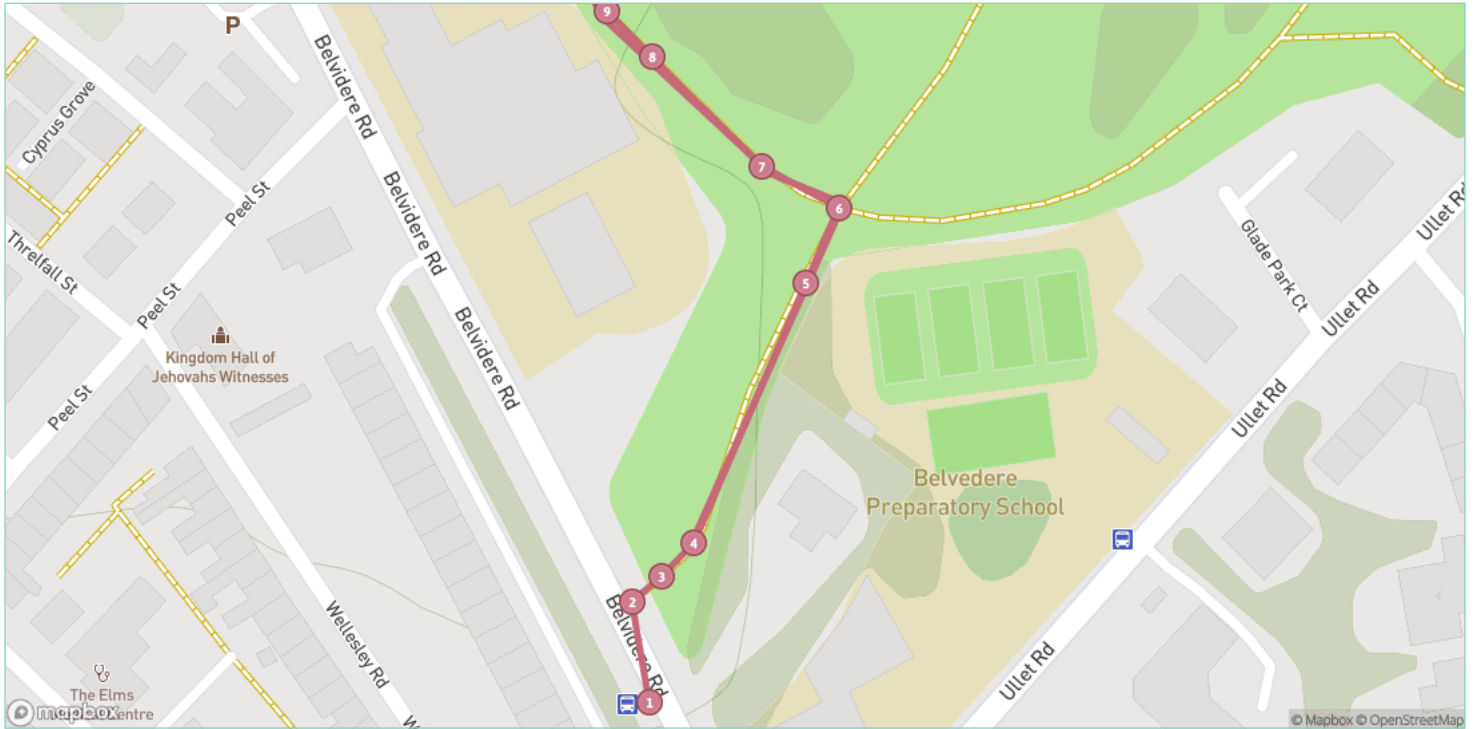


History



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: 01 July 2026.



Step 1: This step-free circular walk starts off Belvidere Rd. The bus stop is right here (Buses 4, 204). There is also on-street parking here.

Step 8: The path is lined with shrubs like this dog rose! 🌹

Step 2: With your back to the bus stop, carefully cross over Belvidere Road and make your way to Princes Park entrance.

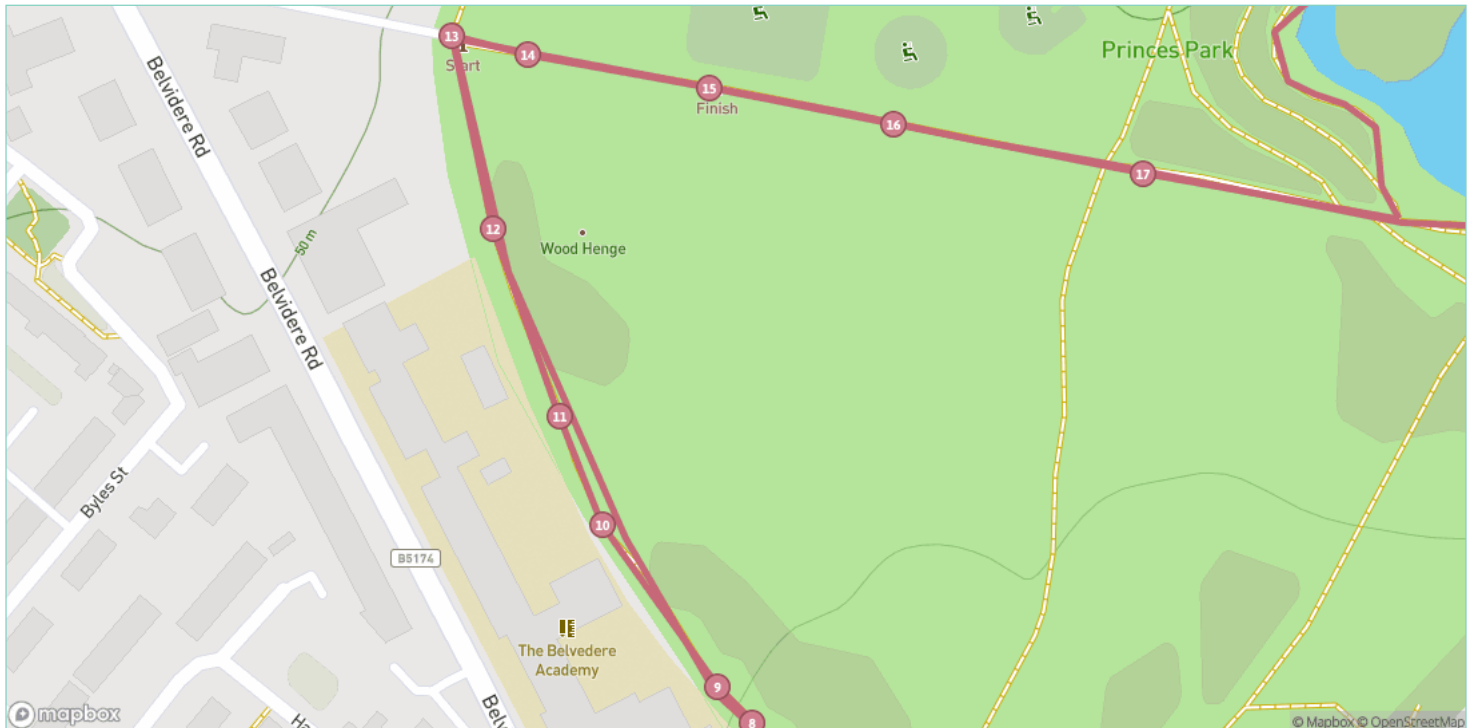
Step 3: Head onto the pavement, mind the bollards and enter Princes Park.

Step 4: Follow the path further into the park. On your left you'll see wild grasses and blackberry bushes blossoming in summer.

Step 5: At the end of the path, turn left.

Step 6: Follow the flat tarmac path ahead. Enjoy views across the park on your right.

Step 7: Did you know? Princes Park opened in 1842, designed by Joseph Paxton. The same visionary behind the Crystal Palace in London!



Step 9: Continue down the path, the surface becomes worn and might be bumpy. The park was named after the newborn Edward...

Step 10: ...Prince of Wales, not after a crowd of princes. Just one royal baby born in Buckingham Palace in 1842.

Step 11: There's a handy bench here if you need a quick rest before we continue.

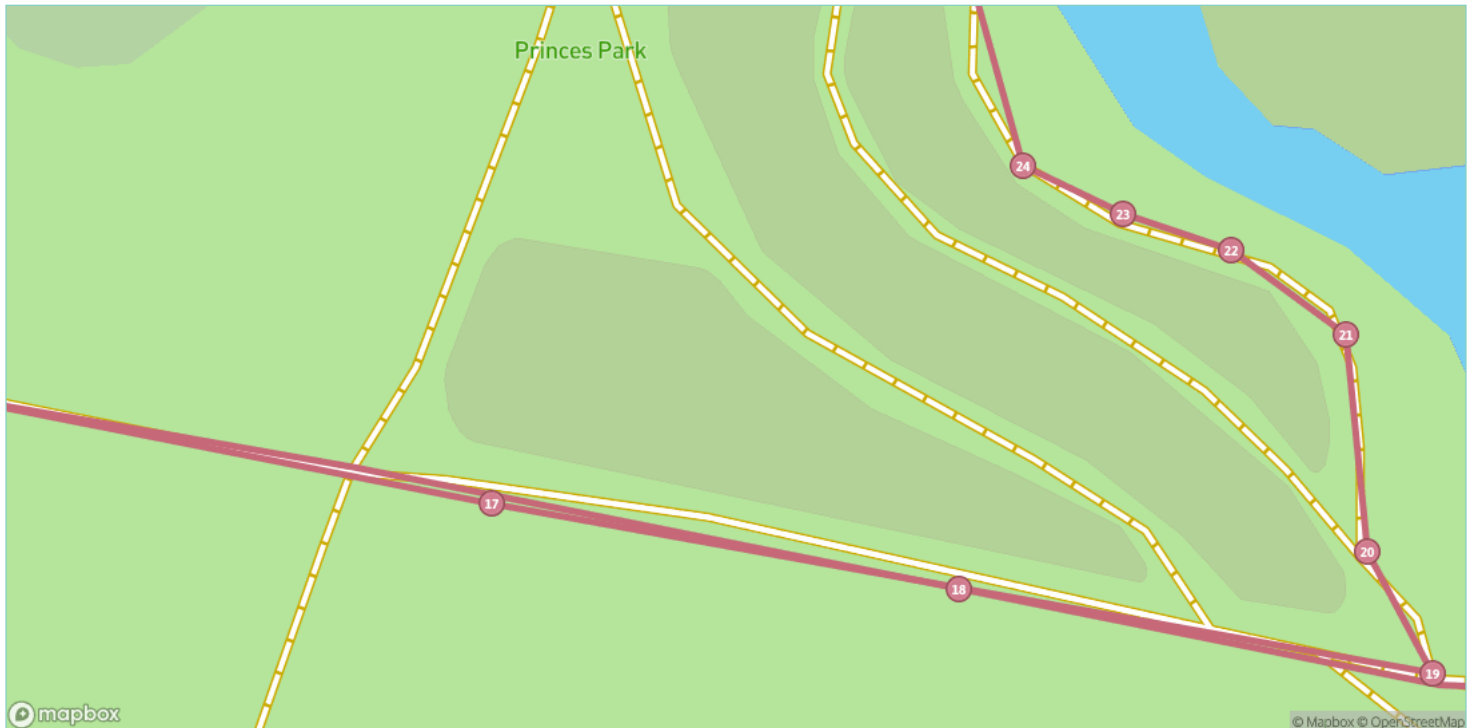
Step 12: What good things in nature can you spot today? Use all of your senses to tune into the nature around you. 🌸

Step 13: The path opens up now, take a sharp right and walk into the middle of the park.

Step 14: Princes Park was Paxton's first independent park design. It set the template for public parks across Victorian Britain!

Step 15: Before the 1840s, Britain had no public parks at all, just private estates and pleasure gardens closed to ordinary people.

Step 16: Continue ahead, walking or wheeling past a fantastic kids playground. Perfect if you have little ones with you!



Step 17: Continue down the path towards the serpentine lake.

Step 18: Did you know Victorian's called parks "the lungs of the city"? They were vital breathing space for workers crammed into rapidly growing industrial towns. This speaks true to this day.

Step 19: At the path junction beside the lake. Take a sharp left to walk beside the water.

Step 20: You'll pass a fence on your right, be mindful as the path goes slightly downhill here.

Step 21: Continue along the path closest to the lake.

Step 22: Can you see any water birds today? Perhaps some Canada geese and their goslings?



Step 23: Top tip: if you're feeding the birds, skip the bread! Ducks and swans can't digest it well and it can make them sick. Try defrosted peas, sweetcorn, or oats for a lakeside treat they'll love.

Step 24: Follow the path as it bears right. Be careful as there is a steep drop into the water on your right.



Step 25: Continue ahead, passing a bench on your left as you go.

Step 26: As towns swallowed surrounding fields, campaigners fought for precious green space arguing nature was essential for body and mind.

Step 27: Again, they were right to this day and we greatly appreciate the campaigners efforts.

Step 28: Continue ahead, get ready to cross a bridge on your right.

Step 29: Welcome to the Nelson Mandela memorial. Cross the bridge and continue down the flat dirt path.

Step 30: Don't miss the views from the bridge as you go. In spring or summer, can you spot any darting dragonflies, damselflies or butterflies?

Step 31: Once you're on the island, take the path on the left at the fork and continue ahead.

Step 32: This is a man-made island and mirrors Mandela's 18 years imprisoned on Robben Island.



Step 33: The path soon opens up and the memorial is on your left.

Step 34: Mandela grew a secret garden in Pollsmoor Prison using halved oil drums as planters. The 32 limestone pillars here honour that.

Step 35: Limestone is the same material Mandela was forced to quarry during his years of imprisonment. Liverpool was an active anti-apartheid city and banned South African goods, and awarded Mandela the Freedom of the City in 1994.

Step 36: This space is beautifully tranquil and moving. The memorial was actually designed as an outdoor classroom and is a place to learn about humanity, social justice and a place to celebrate our differences.

Step 37: When you're ready, retrace your steps back towards the bridge.

Step 38: Turn left to cross the bridge and turn right on the other side.

Step 39: Continue ahead. There are more benches up ahead if you'd like a rest.

Step 40: Follow the path as it bears left.



Step 41: Continue left at the fork. Can you see the grand buildings to your right?

Step 42: The park was originally private and only wealthy residents of the surrounding Georgian villas could enjoy it until 1918.

Step 43: At the next fork, take the right hand path.

Step 44: Continue ahead, walk under the trees and look for a small headstone.

Step 45: Here lies Judy the donkey. She gave 21 years of rides to children in this park. When you're ready, return back the other way.

Step 46: We're headed back towards the lake now. Keep left at the fork.

Step 47: Keep left at the next fork and continue walking towards the lake.

Step 48: The park's founder, Richard Vaughan Yates spent the equivalent of over £5 million today to create this park. It nearly ruined him!



Step 49: The serpentine lake was originally used for boating. The boathouse burned down in the early 1990s. Only its foundations remain.

Step 50: Keep going, you may spot anglers here. Please note that fishing requires a permit.

Step 51: Enjoy the sounds of the reeds rustling in the wind. Perhaps you can spot some birds here?

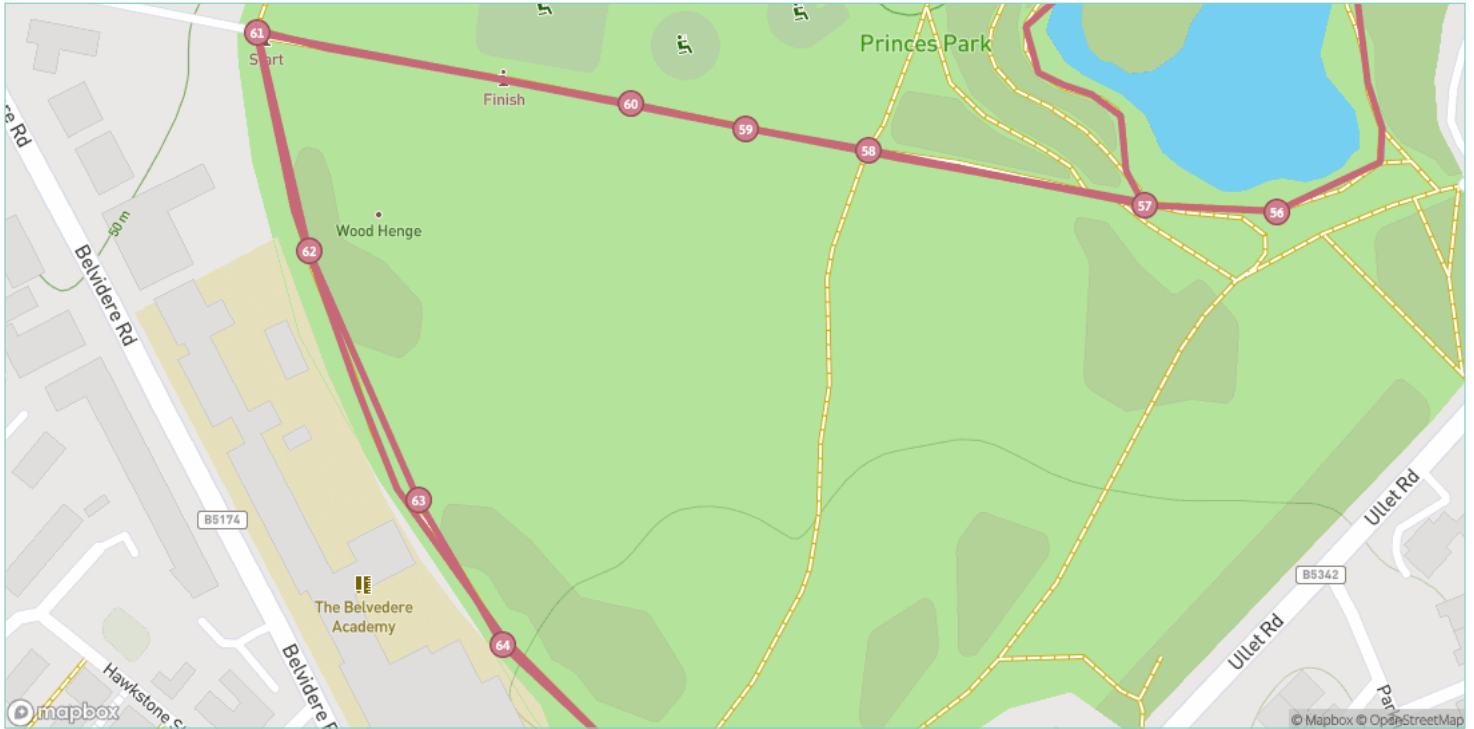
Step 52: Follow the path ahead.

Step 53: To help you identify the local birds, check out this helpful sign.

Step 54: The reflections of the sky and clouds on the lake make for great pictures. Why not take a few?

Step 55: Continue following the lake around to the right.

Step 56: We're heading back to the main path from earlier.



Step 57: Fun fact: In August 1849, a four-day festival drew over 10,000 visitors a day. Ten military bands played the National Anthem simultaneously.

Step 64: The gate from the start is just here on your right.

Step 58: Keep walking down the main path, you'll pass by the outdoor gym and playground as you go.

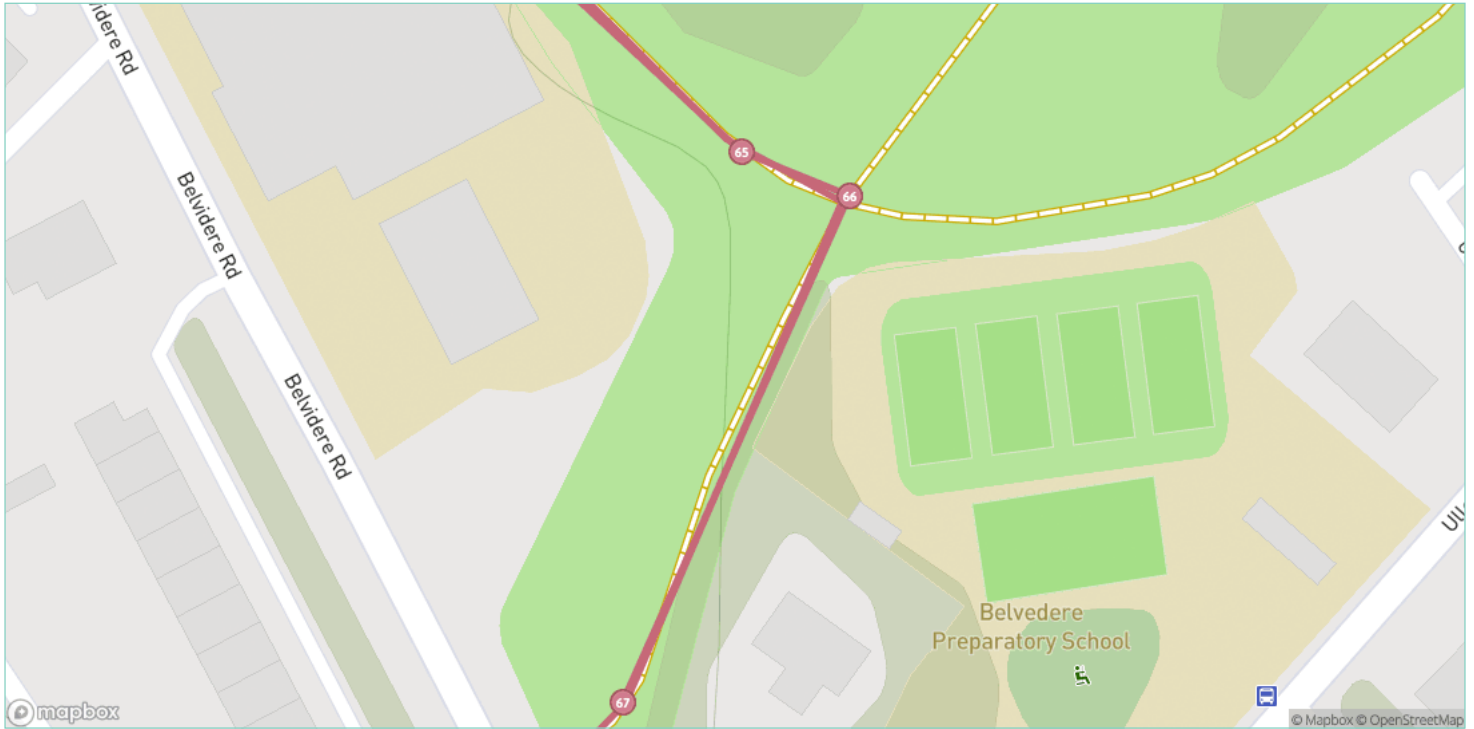
Step 59: There are picnic tables surrounding the kids playground.

Step 60: Continue to the end and then turn left to retrace your steps around the perimeter of the park back to the entrance.

Step 61: Continue around the outskirts of the park.

Step 62: Is there anything new or unusual you notice as you walk back the other way?

Step 63: We're almost at the end of the walk now. Continue down the path.



Step 65: Before you go, you could always have a little break or mindful moment on one of these benches.

Step 66: When you're ready, continue right to head towards the gate.

Step 67: We hope you enjoyed this jaunt! The bus stop is over the road and there's more bus options on Ullet Rd. We hope to see you again soon!
