



Bristol Ring Section 2

Explore hidden nature gems from Crews Hole Woodland to the Whitchurch Railway Path. Bus routes to the centre at each end.

Distance 8.6 kilometers / 5.3 miles

Duration 2 hours and 30 minutes



Wildlife



Water feature



Public transport



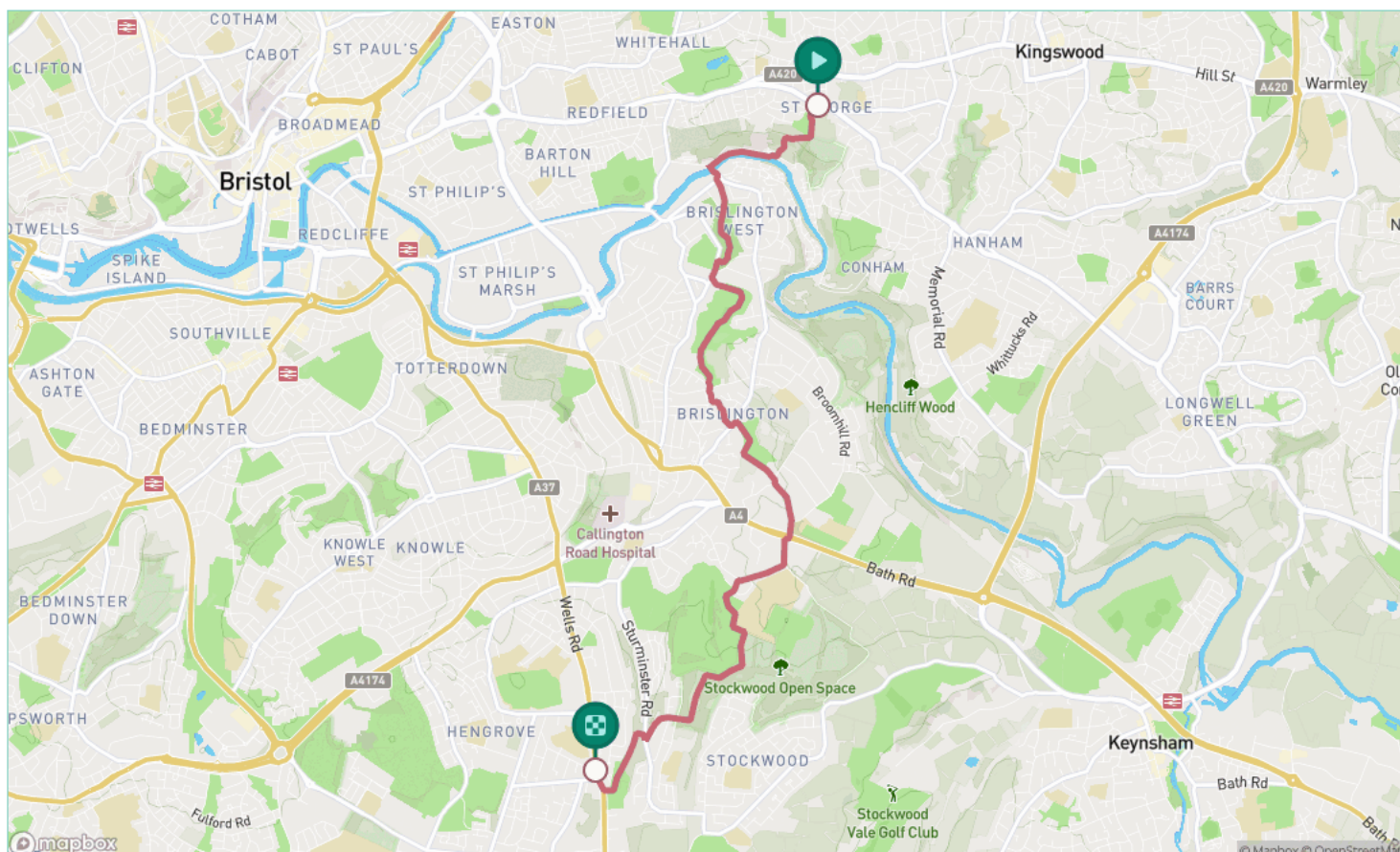
History



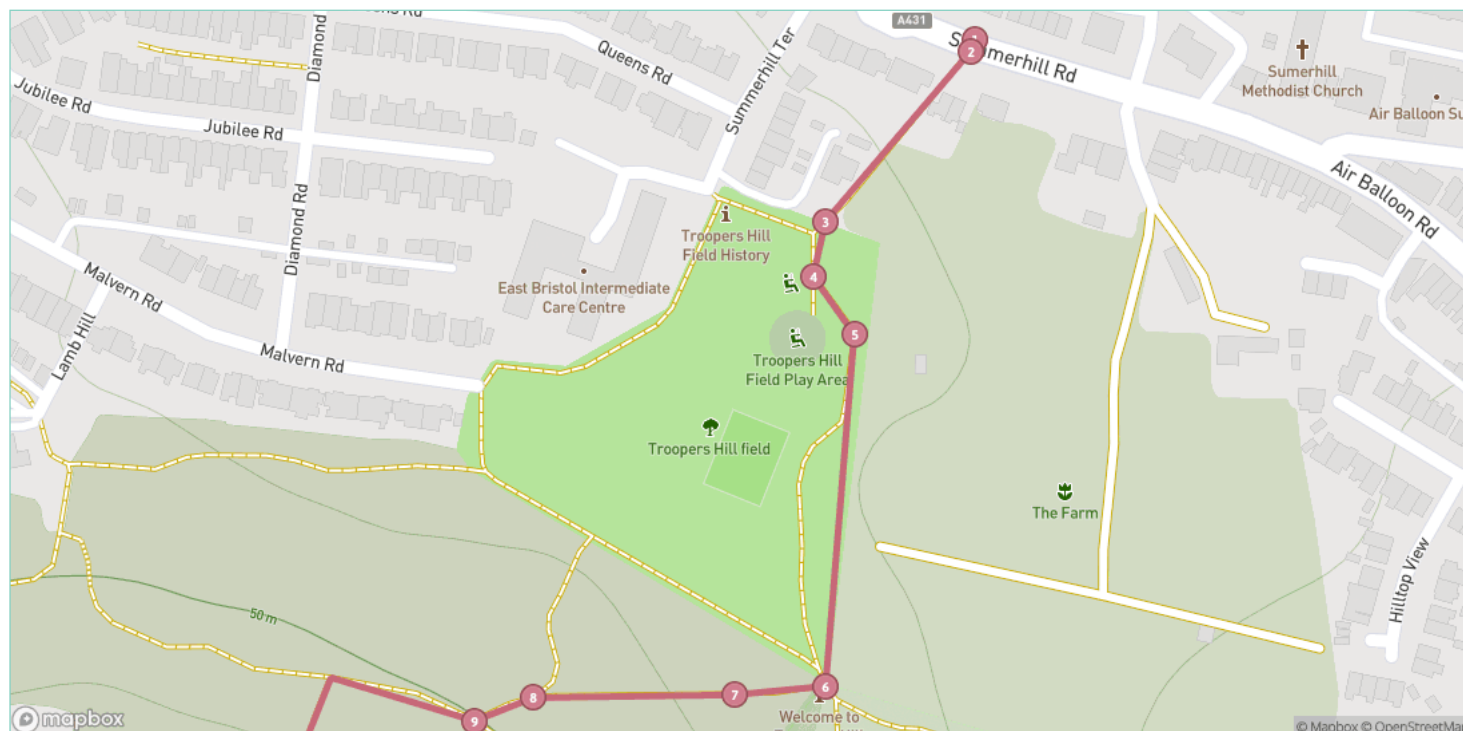
Hilly & steep



Dog 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: 02 October 2026.



Step 1: Section 2 starts at step 6 on this walk. If you're coming from the city centre, catch the 44 or 45 to Marling Road bus stop.

Step 8: Just after a post on your right, head left downhill towards another post.

Step 2: Cross the road at the pedestrian crossing then turn down this footpath right opposite the bus stop.

Step 3: Exit the path around the boulder to enter Troopers Hill Field. Head left on the tarmac path.

Step 4: Then left again around the play area.

Step 5: Follow the path along the perimeter until you reach the end of the field.

Step 6: At the junction, cross a large tarmac path and then head right, down the hill on an earth path by a waymarker for Crews Hole.

Step 7: Woo hoo! Welcome to Section 2 of the Bristol Ring - you're straight into some lush Bristolian nature.



Step 9: Turn right onto the woodland path.

Step 10: By the next post, head left down the steps. You're headed down to the River Avon.

Step 11: There are small sections without steps before the steps start again.

Step 12: Keep going downhill.

Step 13: Take care after rain when it can be slippery.

Step 14: Bear left as you approach the bottom. The waymarkers will help guide the way.

Step 15: Head down the final steps and exit the woodland by the gate onto Crews Hole Road.

Step 16: Turn right along the pavement.



Step 17: Look out for a footpath fingerpost on the opposite side.

Step 18: Cross when safe to do so and head down the steps to the riverside path. Get ready to turn right at the end.

Step 19: Continue right on the waterside.

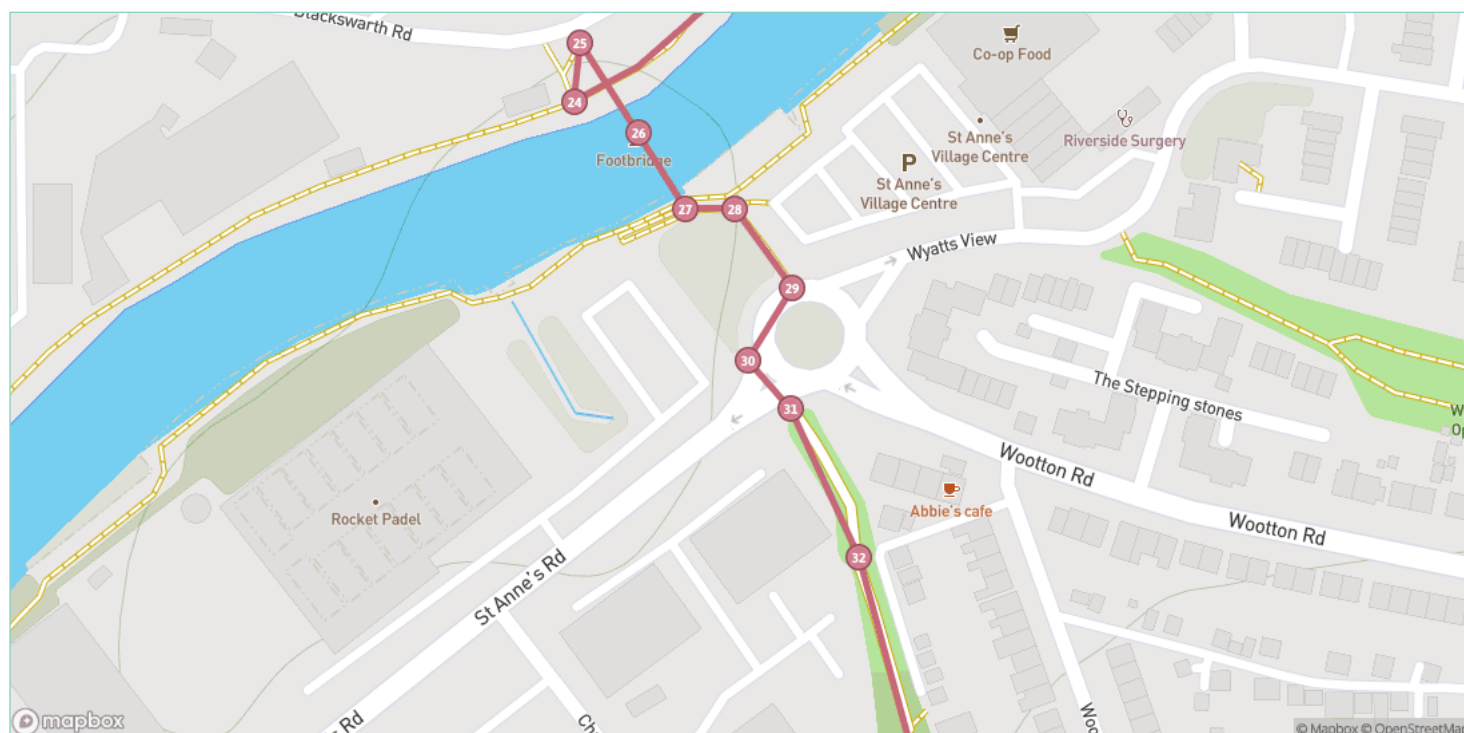
Step 20: Enjoy this section along the River Avon.

Step 21: You'll soon see a footbridge ahead which is where we're headed.

Step 22: There's some really colourful graffiti along this stretch.

Step 23: Go under the footbridge.

Step 24: Then head right on the path immediately after to loop around onto the footbridge.



Step 25: The bridge opened in 1957 and replaced the St Anne's ferry which was in use since the middle ages.

Step 32: The first section takes you uphill with housing on your left.

Step 26: Look out for views across to Troopers Hill Chimney which you may already have been to if you've got Section 1 in the bag.

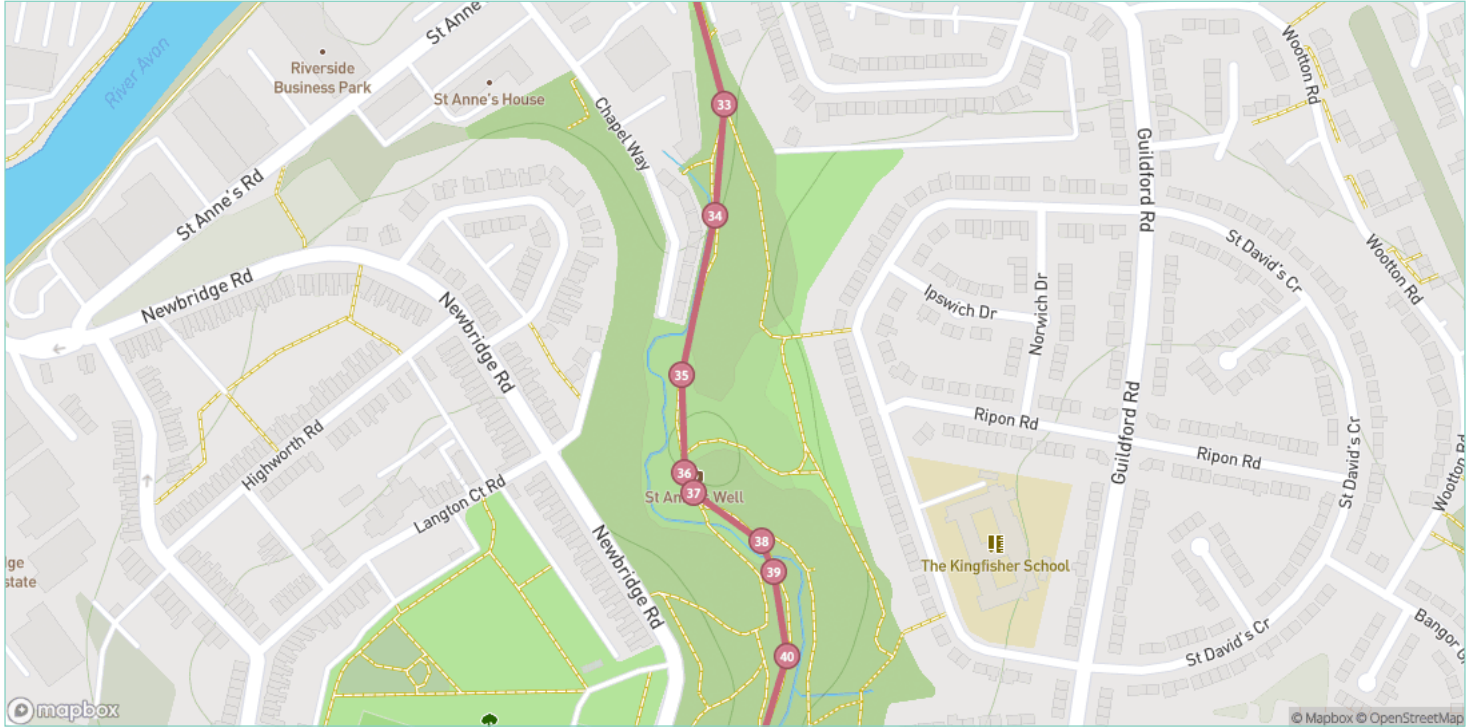
Step 27: Head down the ramp on the opposite side. There is a small supermarket here if you need supplies.

Step 28: Then follow the path to the right towards the main road.

Step 29: Turn right at the roundabout.

Step 30: Head left at the traffic island to cross St Anne's Road.

Step 31: Then go straight ahead into St Anne's Woods.



Step 33: At the fork, head right going downhill.

Step 34: The Brislington Brook will appear on your right and will accompany us for much of this walk.

Step 35: The trees will give way to meadow.

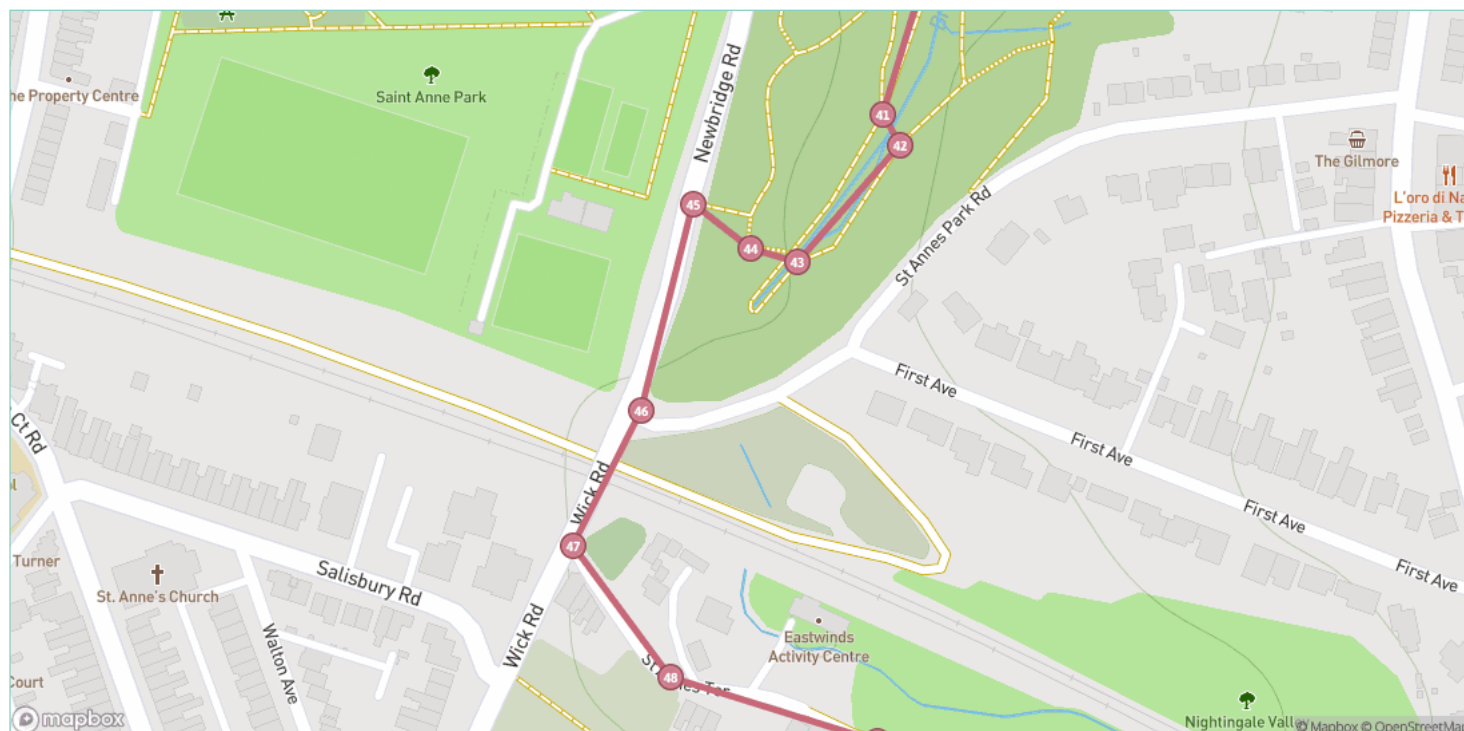
Step 36: St Anne's Well is just here and is thought to be sacred, as it was linked to the chapel of St Anne which used to be nearby.

Step 37: There is a seating area just after the well if you'd like to rest.

Step 38: Continue ahead through this hidden gem, heading over the bridge.

Step 39: Walk past a large fallen tree.

Step 40: Follow the bend in the path past a large sycamore tree.



Step 41: Head left over the bridge.

Step 42: Then turn right to follow the path next to the brook. It's a great place to stop and appreciate the sights and sounds of the water.

Step 43: Cross the brook again at the next bridge and head up the steps.

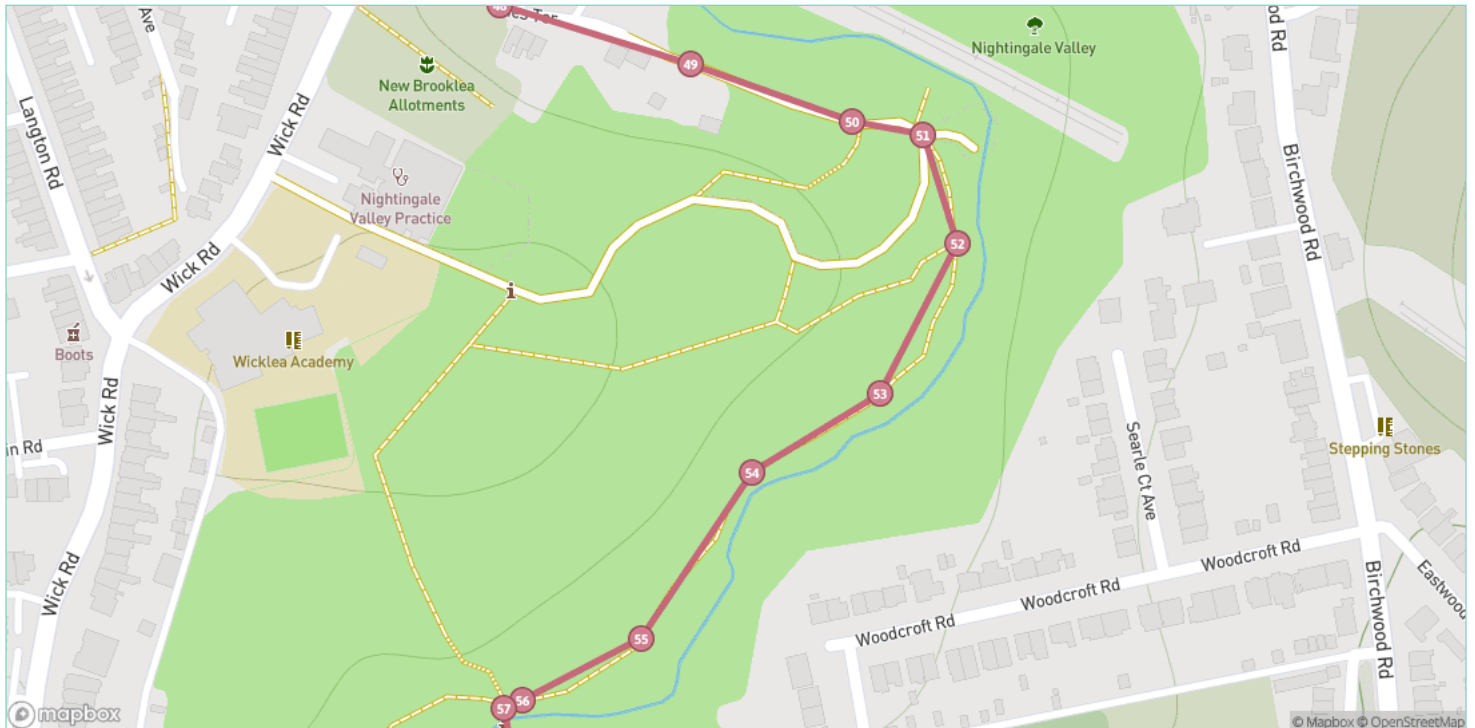
Step 44: They are quite steep but there is a handrail to support you.

Step 45: Turn left on Newbridge Road.

Step 46: Cross St Anne's Park Road and continue ahead over the railway bridge.

Step 47: After crossing the bridge, turn left and head down St Anne's Terrace.

Step 48: Continue to the end of the road. There is no pavement here.



Step 49: Pass through the gap and enter the next local nature reserve, Nightingale Valley.

Step 56: You'll soon reach the restored packhorse bridge.

Step 50: Continue straight ahead at the first path junction.

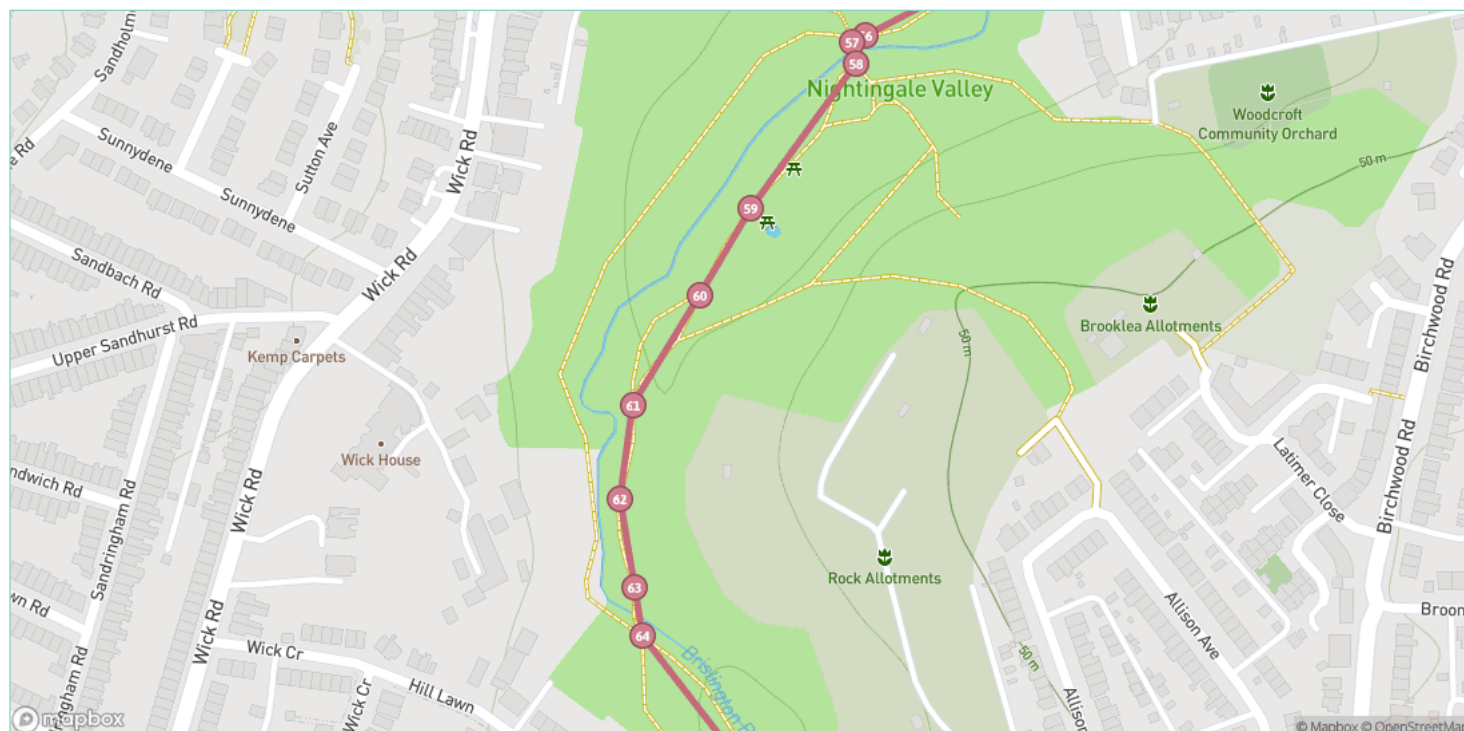
Step 51: When you reach the fence to the Brislington Boat Screen, at the fork, follow the path to the left.

Step 52: Brislington Brook will be on your left. Follow the riverside path through the woodland.

Step 53: The valley is another wonderful hidden gem providing much needed habitats, supporting biodiversity in the now fragmented forest.

Step 54: Keep going until you reach a stone bridge.

Step 55: Look out for this impressive oak on the right of the path.



Step 57: Cross over the bridge.

Step 58: Then turn right on the opposite side, walking with the pylon on your left.

Step 59: Pass a picnic area, a great place for a rest if you need one.

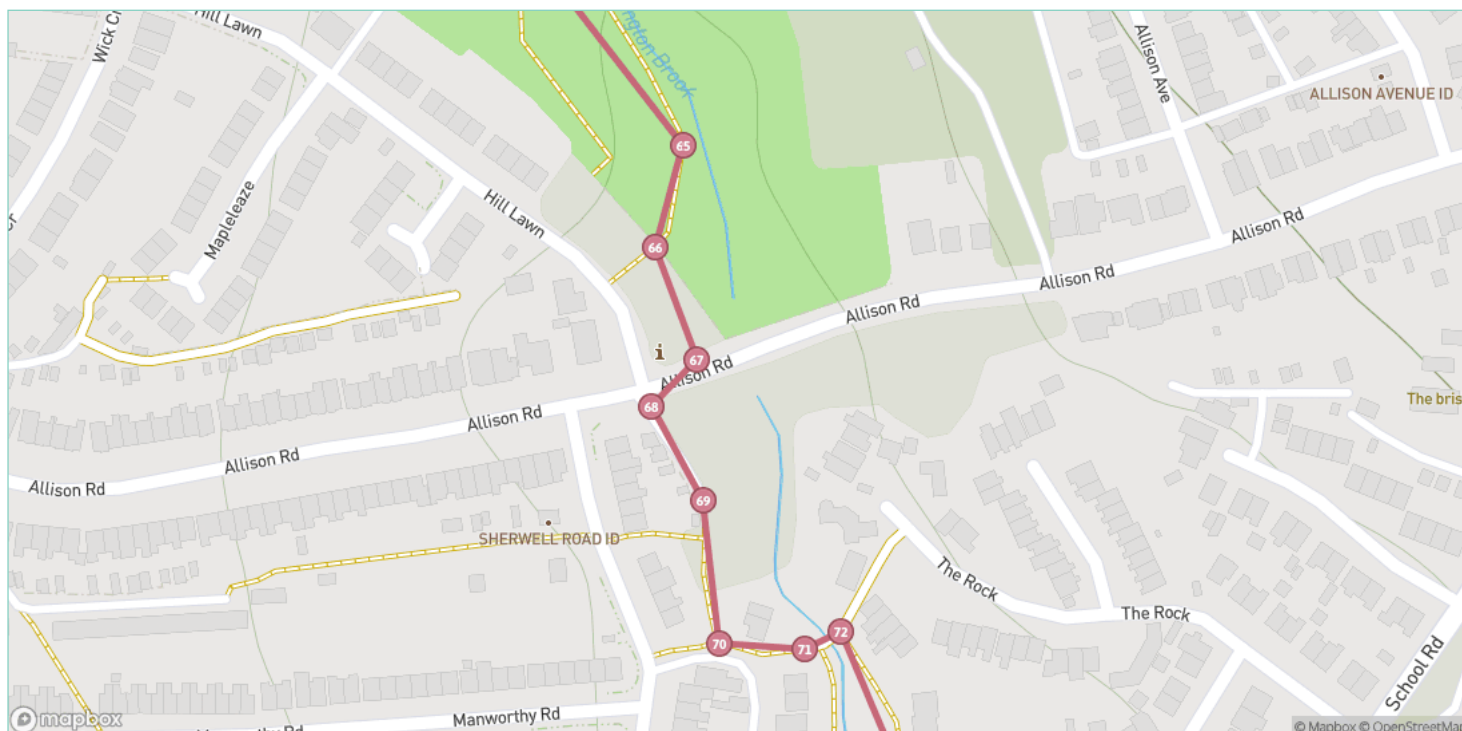
Step 60: The path widens through the woodland here.

Step 61: Continue along the river bank. Look for this impressive oak on the other side, supported by bricks in its trunk.

Step 62: Soak up the last stretch of this valley before we leave.

Step 63: Cross Brislington Brook at the bridge.

Step 64: Turn left on the opposite side to walk with the river on your left.



Step 65: Follow the path up to the gate to exit Nightingale Valley.

Step 72: Head long the narrow path with gardens to your left.

Step 66: Go around the gate and then turn immediately left on an earth path towards the road.

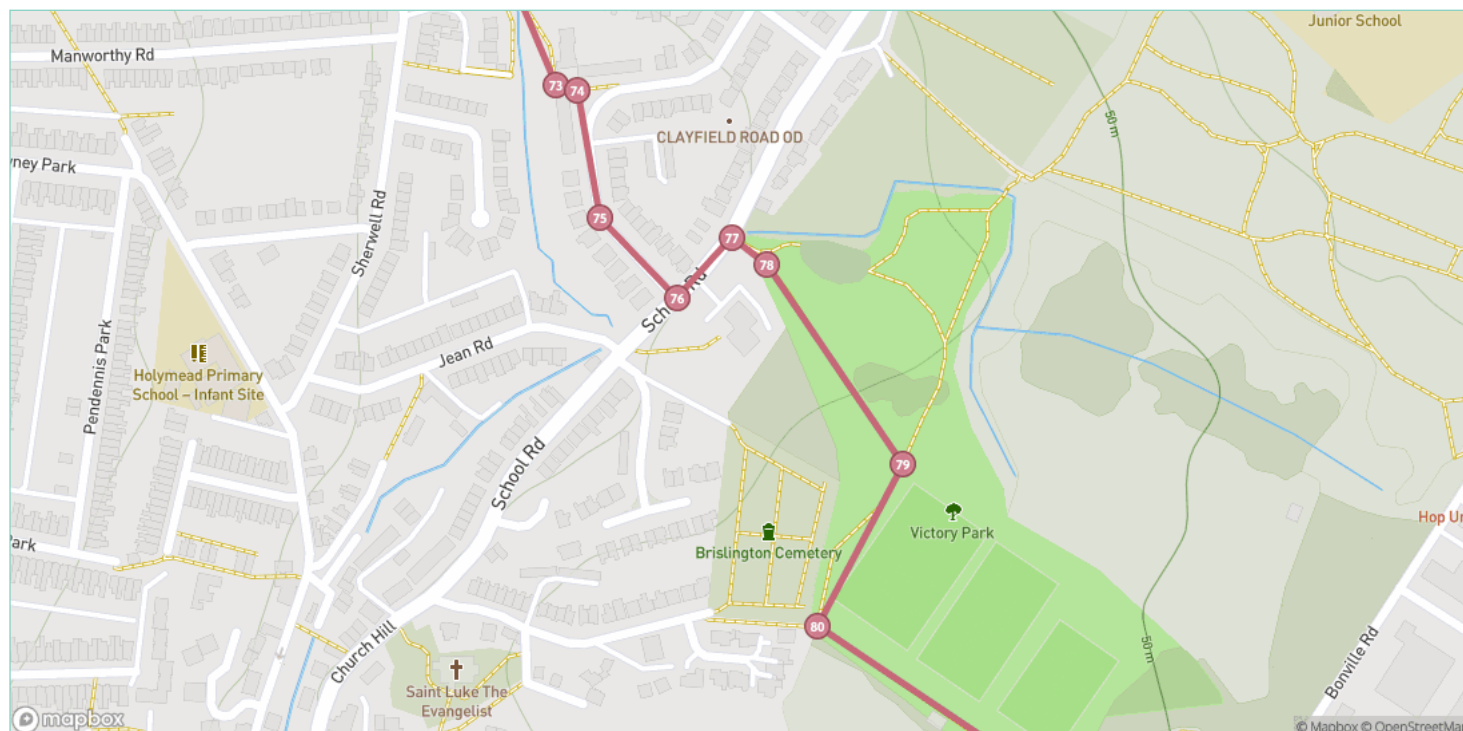
Step 67: Cross Allison Road at the traffic island and turn right on the opposite side.

Step 68: Immediately after the bus stop, turn left onto a compacted path behind housing.

Step 69: The path narrows as it continues behind gardens.

Step 70: Turn left at the path junction and head downhill to Brislington Brook.

Step 71: Cross the bridge and turn right straight after.



Step 73: Follow the path left through the housing estate.

Step 74: Turn right onto Clayfield Road.

Step 75: Follow the road to the end.

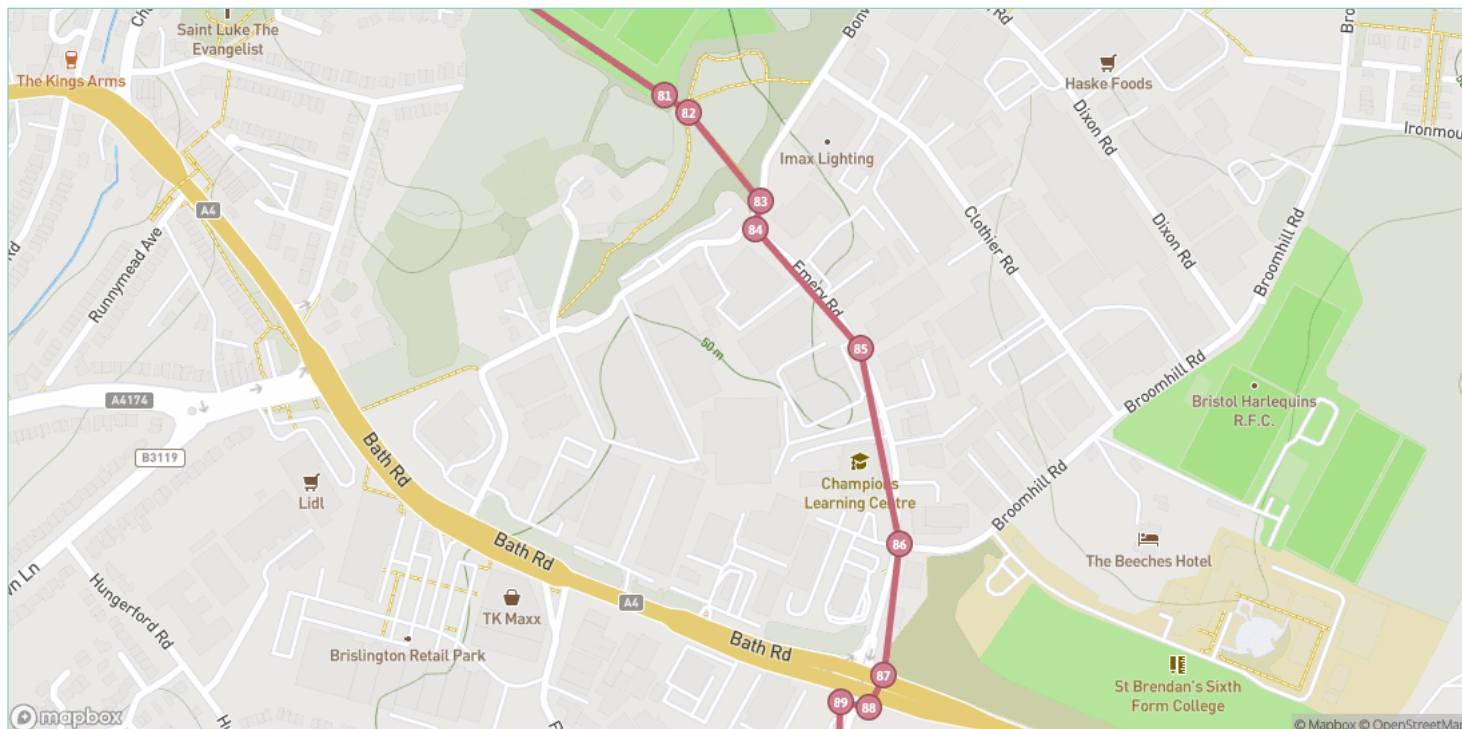
Step 76: Turn left onto School Road and cross at the traffic island.

Step 77: Turn right into Victory Park and head uphill on the tarmac path.

Step 78: There are benches along here if you need a breather.

Step 79: When you reach the raised recreation ground, follow the path to the right around the perimeter.

Step 80: Follow the path to the left, passing a commemorative plaque detailing the history of the park's creation after WWI as a recreation space.



Step 81: Exit the park through the metal gap by the gate.

Step 82: Walk straight across the grass path through the meadow and under trees on the far side.

Step 83: Cross Bonville Road and head right towards the junction.

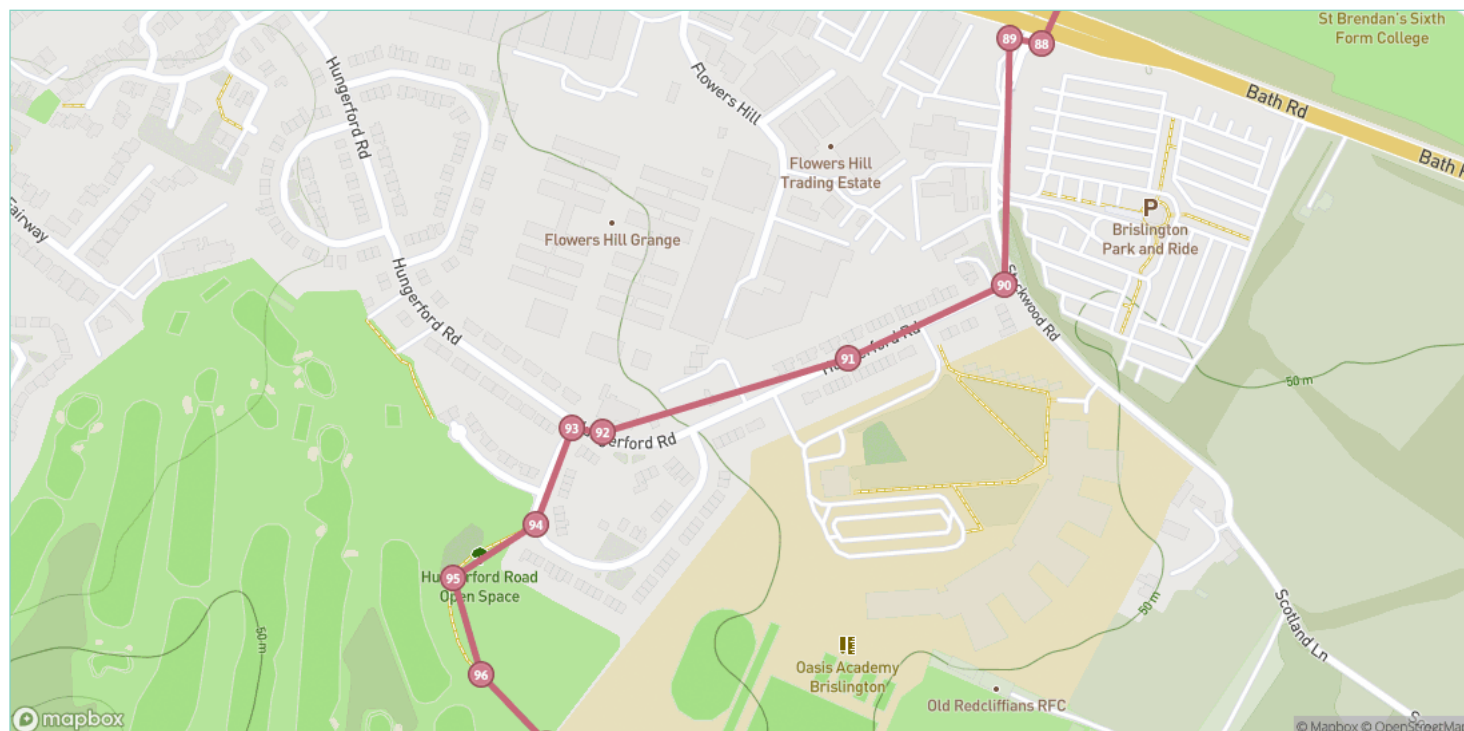
Step 84: Turn left on Emery Road.

Step 85: Walk to the end of the road through this industrial estate.

Step 86: Go straight over at the roundabout when safe to do so.

Step 87: Cross Bath Road at the lights.

Step 88: Turn right to cross Stockwood Road at the lights.



Step 89: Then turn left on the opposite side and walk until you reach the first residential street.

Step 90: Turn right on Hungerford Road.

Step 91: Continue along the road until you reach the bend where the community centre is.

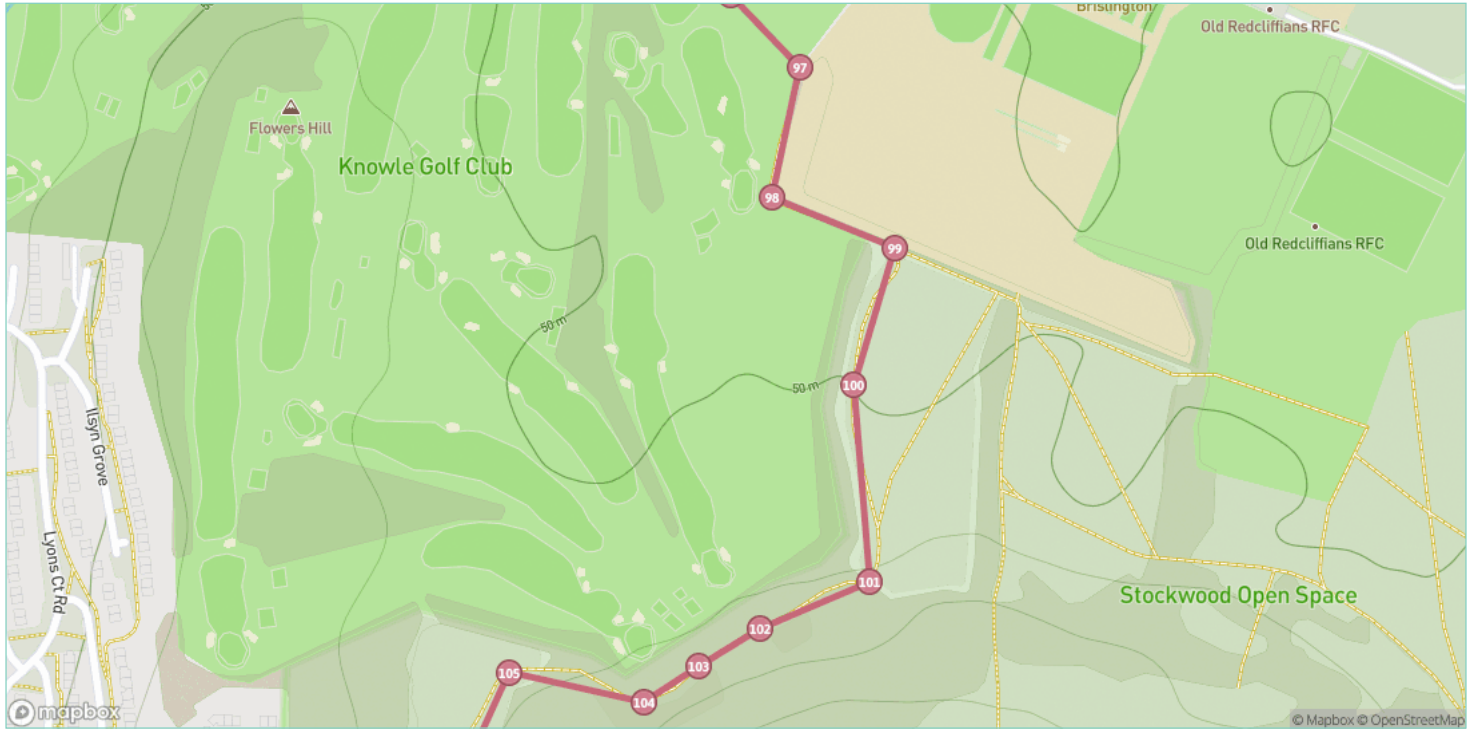
Step 92: Cross Hungerford Road in front of the community centre and social club.

Step 93: Then head left downhill on Hungerford Gardens.

Step 94: Cross the road and enter Hungerford Road Open Space.

Step 95: Follow the tarmac path as it bends to the left.

Step 96: It's good to be back in the local parks.



Step 97: Head around a low metal barrier and follow the path as it bends right, now enclosed by fencing on each side.

Step 104: Follow the path to the right, going downhill. The ground is uneven and can get very muddy along here.

Step 98: Follow to the left.

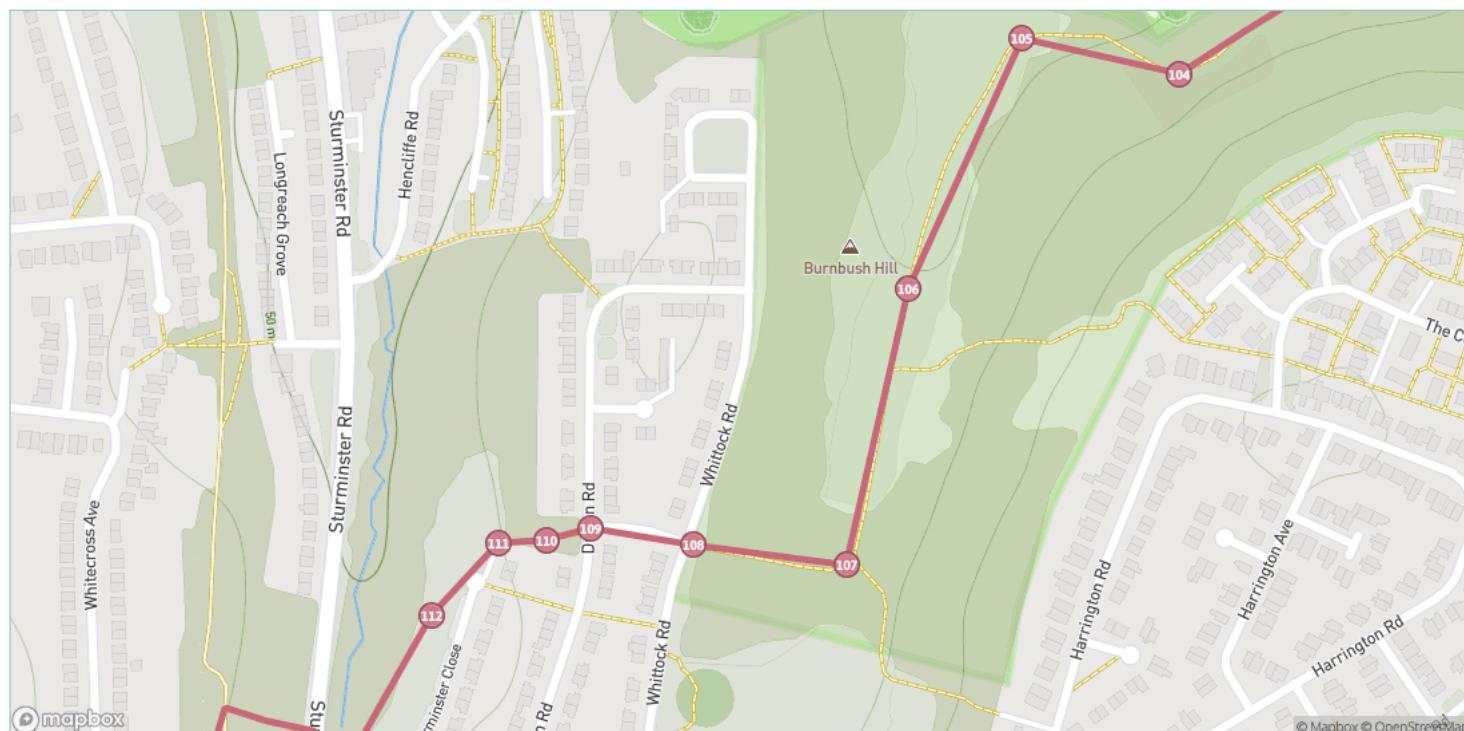
Step 99: You've reached Stockwood Open Space Nature Reserve! And breathe. Just before a bench, turn right heading uphill on the grass.

Step 100: Keep heading up to the top right of this field. Much of this area was farmed for centuries before becoming public land.

Step 101: Turn right at the top onto a narrow earth path.

Step 102: Go straight ahead at the path junction into a wooded area. You might hear the odd ball being hit on the golf course to the right.

Step 103: What season are you walking in? What signs of the season can you spot?



Step 105: Emerging into an open space, follow the grass path to the left.

Step 106: Continue straight ahead through the grass towards the woods ahead. It's a very tranquil spot and you'll often be the only one here.

Step 107: When you head into the trees, take the path on the right.

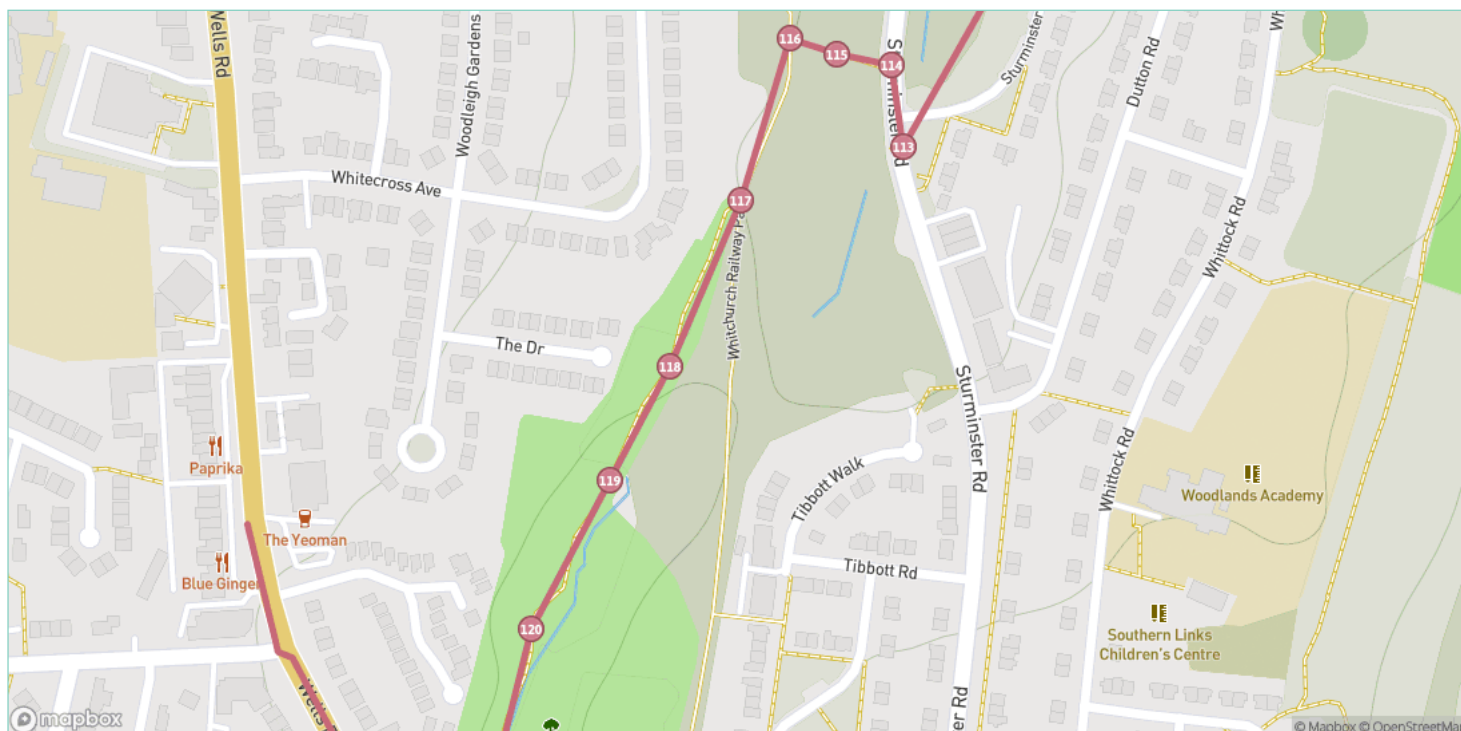
Step 108: Exit the green space, cross Whittock Road and go straight ahead on Burgis Road.

Step 109: Cross Dutton Road and walk onto the footpath immediately opposite.

Step 110: Heading downhill next to housing, look left for views across to the rural hills beyond the city limits.

Step 111: At the end of the path, bear left to walk across the grass alongside Sturminster Close until you reach the main road.

Step 112: If you're here in autumn, you won't miss the sunshine yellow leaves along this stretch. Can you find any blossom in spring?



Step 113: Use the traffic island to cross Sturminster Road and turn right on the opposite side.

Step 114: Head left up the steps by the fingerpost signed to Wells Road. We're heading through one more green gem before Section 2 ends.

Step 115: Keep going to the top. there are benches along the way if you need to pause. You could look for colours and textures in nature.

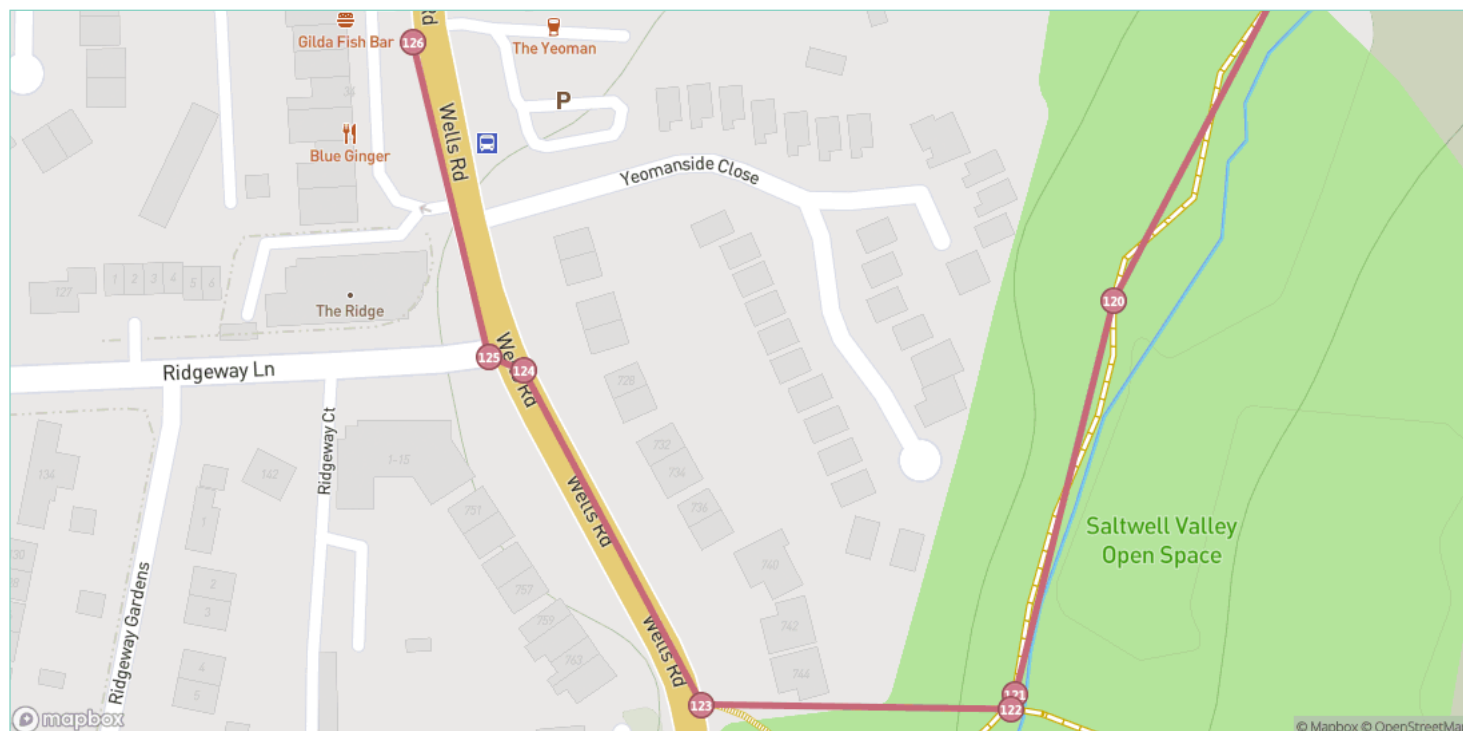
Step 116: Turn left onto the Whitchurch Railway Path. It follows the former Bristol & North Somerset Railway line, which closed in 1968.

Step 117: At the fork, turn right and head downhill on the smaller compacted path.

Step 118: This is Saltwell Valley Open Space, another local gem in this south east section of the city.

Step 119: Look out for blackberries in late summer.

Step 120: Follow the gently winding path through the wooded tunnel.



Step 121: You'll emerge at a bridge over the Brislington Brook.

Step 122: Head right up the steps to exit the green space.

Step 123: Turn right on Wells Road towards the lights.

Step 124: Cross the road at the lights and turn right on the opposite side which is where Section 2 ends. Bravo!

Step 125: Section 3 starts by turning left onto Ridgeway Lane...

Step 126: ...but to finish your day here, continue on Wells Road to Gilda Parade bus stop where you can hop on routes 172 & 374 back to the city centre.