

Fulham to Chiswick		
1 st walk check	2 nd walk check	3 rd walk check
04 th February 2025		
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Fulham to Chiswick (Putney Bridge to Turnham Green)

Start: Putney Bridge Station

Finish: Turnham Green station

Length: 6.6 km (4.1 mi)

Ascent: negligible

Time: 1 ½ hours walking time.

Transport:

Putney Bridge station (Zone 2) is a stop on the Wimbledon branch of the District Line (journey time 15 minutes from Victoria). Turnham Green station (Zones 2 and 3) is a stop on the Ealing Broadway and Richmond branches of the District Line (journey time 18 minutes to Victoria) and also on the Piccadilly Line (journey time 14 minutes to Green Park [early morning/late evening]).

Walk Notes:

Scenic stretch of the Thames Path, passing the large Bishop's Park plus some pocket parks, many south-facing riverside hostleries, historic houses and some interesting new builds, while providing ever changing vistas along and across the Thames. Finish through Chiswick's lively centre.

Note: Bishop's Park gets locked at night, check opening hours here <https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/sports-and-parks/parks-and-open-spaces/locking-times-parks-and-cemeteries>

Walk Options:

Explore Fulham Palace and Bishop's Park (map-led).
Finish at Hammersmith Station (4.1 km/2.6 mi).

Eat and Drink

Numerous options en route and at the end in Chiswick, including two Michelin Star restaurants, many pubs and cafés (riverside or otherwise) as well as the Fuller's Brewery Shop & Tap.

Walk Directions

From the exit of **Putney Bridge Underground Station** at street level, with **Mowgli Coffee** within the station (open to 20.00 daily) and with the **River Café** opposite, *turn left* along **Station Approach** with a 'To Thames Path' sign. In 25m cross **Ranelagh Gardens** (road), by the **Doctor Espresso Caffetteria** on the right, and continue ahead to the right of the elevated railway line along a paved path with a '**Thames Path**' sign, passing **Café Lya**. In 40m *bear right* with the path, where another path joins from the left from the far side of the Thames. In 50m *turn right*, with the Thames on the left. In 60m pass a mosaic commemorating the **Oxford v Cambridge Boat Race** and in another 60m the **Swan Draw Dock** on the right, part of the local flood defences.

In 50m at the **Putney Bridge**, you *turn right* for 30m and use the **Putney Bridge Subway** to get to the other side. *Turn left* with the TP, *unless you want to explore* the **Fulham Palace Grounds and Bishop's Park** to the right and re-join the TP further along. You have views across the river to **Putney**, including several rowing clubs. About 500m along this stretch, at low tide you can spot an outfall sluice from the (now mostly infilled) moat around Fulham Palace in the river wall. In another 140m skirt to the right around a wide flight of stairs that were the bishop's route to the river. On the other side of the river, the **Beverley Brook** enters the Thames. At the far end of Bishop's Park, continue to the left of **Craven Cottage, Fulham FC's stadium**, along a newly-created and opened stretch of the TP, running under the new **Riverside Stand**.

[**Note:** this path will be blocked off on match days and the diversion around the ground turns right through the park along the Putney End, left along Stevenage Road, past the Craven Cottage and the Johnny Haynes Stand, and left again at the corner of the ground along the Hammersmith End.]

You pass several housing developments of varied aesthetic value, then have slowly developing **views to Hammersmith Bridge and the Wembley Stadium Arch** beyond, while on the left, the outflow from the **London Wetlands Centre** in Barnes flows into the river. Further along, the TP gets diverted to the right for 60m around the **Crabtree Draw Dock** to Rainville Road, to the left past **The Crabtree** pub and left again back to the river, along more drab post-war developments. In about 200m you pass **The River Café Café**, a newish offshoot of the (one Michelin Star) **River Café**, which is next up in the **Thames Wharf**, part of the former **Duckham's Oil Storage** facilities. You now get views across the river to the (now residential) **Harrods Furniture Depository**.

Next up on the right are a couple of more interesting residential developments, then some new developments: '**ARC West London**' (laboratory-led) and '**Fulham Reach**' (residential, with a **Brasserie Blanc** branch and a **Bread Lab** bakery and café and **Charlotte's Cloud** bistro away to the right, by the Fulham Landing Pier on the left). In-between those two developments you have passed from Fulham into Hammersmith, but the **parish boundary marker** in the seawall seems to have not survived the developing. The boundary ran along the now culverted **Parr's Ditch**, a man-made boundary ditch, running down from Brook Green. The ditch became an open sewer and was covered over.

The Fulham Reach development is followed by **The Blue Boat** pub and a rowing club on the right, and a statue of **Lancelot 'Capability' Brown** on the left (the first ever statue of England's greatest 18th century landscape gardener, unveiled on 24th May 2017; Brown had lived on nearby Hammersmith Mall for 13 years from 1751, while working on some of his greatest projects). In 100m you pass **Sam's Riverside** restaurant in **The Riverside Studios** building and *curve to the right* with the TP to skirt around the **Hammersmith Draw Dock**, while noticing two blue plaques on the wall of the studios, for the studios and for the first ever televised performance in 1956, by **Eartha Kitt**.

Back on the riverfront, you pass the pocket-sized **Beckett Wharf Park** with an info panel and just before you go under **Hammersmith Bridge**, a right turn gets you to the **Old City Arms** pub. Continue along a row of houses (partly 18th century), with the 5th one along sporting a blue plaque for George Devine (actor and artistic director). Further along, **The Blue Anchor** and **Rutland Arms** pubs flank the Auriol Kensington Rowing Club, 80m before the **Furnivall Gardens**. The last building before the green space, **Westcott Lodge**, was the vicarage for St. Paul's Church, Hammersmith, and 25m to the right on its wall hangs a **street lamp from West Berlin**, donated in 1963 by Mayor Willy Brandt, later Chancellor of West Germany, and an info panel. [Hammersmith Metropolitan Borough was twinned with Neukölln, one of Berlin's Boroughs.]

There is a fine info panel some way along Furnivall Gardens, telling the story of the area. This used to be **Hammersmith Creek, the tidal mouth of the Stamford Brook** (this collects the waters of three separate streams that drain a large part of West London). Once navigable to King Street, it housed enough typical riverside businesses to earn the nickname '**Little Wapping**'. With the brook culverted and mostly diverted into the sewerage system and the creek infilled to create the gardens, all that is left is the brook's outfall about 40m before the far end of the gardens. *Turn right* with the TP for 30m and *turn left* along a narrow paved path, in 30m passing to the right of **The Dove** pub (there is a blue plaque on the next building along).

The TP continues along **Upper Mall**, a residential road. **Kelmscott House** on the right was the London home of **William Morris** from 1878-96 and is now the HQ of the William Morris Society. On a house at the second junction (**Weltje Road**), you find a blue plaque for **Eric Ravilious** (painter). At the end of the road continue under some overhanging houses and pass **The Old Ship** pub, this side of the Upper Mall Open Space. At the far end of the small green, the TP turns right for 20m to **The Black Lion** pub and **The Elder Press Café** opposite, on **South Black Lion Lane** at a bend, and you *turn left* along **Hammersmith Terrace**. The row of houses on the left block access to and views of the river but have three blue plaques on show. The next junction (**Eyot Gardens**) is dominated by a **Victorian Stink Pipe**, denoting the course of a secondary ditch of the Stamford Brook, and has **Mari Deli & Dining** on the far side.

You ignore Miller's Court from the right and continue along a stretch of road with houses to the right and their front gardens to the left, enabling some views on the left, initially to the river and then the **Chiswick Eyot** river island. You are entering **Chiswick** along this stretch and where the view opens out again, by the **Griffin Brewery** building, *turn right* along **Chiswick Lane South**, signed 'Fuller's Brewery Shop and Tours'. In 80m *turn left* for 70m to explore a loading bay, a yard with tank and chimney and a **wisteria from 1816!** Continue along the road, passing **The Brewery Shop & Tap**, and at the

six-lane A4 **Great West Road** (with a blue plaque for Alexander Pope, the poet, up on the left on the former Mawson Arms pub), use a subway to cross it.

[**On the far side**, for **Hogarth's House Museum**: *turn left* along Dorchester Grove for 200m, cross the A4 via a subway and *turn right* along it for 180m.]

But continue in the previous direction, along **Chiswick Lane** (the A316) to the left of the fenced **Homefield Recreation Ground**. Cross the road at a convenient point and in 180m, level with the far end of the recreation ground, *turn left* along **Ashbourne Grove**. In 240m *turn right* along **Devonshire Road** and in 50m you pass the long-closed **Duke of York** pub on the left. In 200m, at the corner of **Ingress Street**, pass **The Whistling Oyster** on the right, the **first of many refreshment options between here and Turnham Green Station**. The remainder of Devonshire Road is lined with shops, restaurants, cafés and a wine bar, including **La Trompette** restaurant (one Michelin Star). **Chiswick High Road** is 150m ahead, and this is also full of food and drink options in all directions. The best pubs for food on the High Road itself are probably **The Hound** and **The George IV** (Fuller's) away to the left.

There are also an **Italian restaurant** and a **Pasta Bar** along **Elliott Road** opposite, but for the **Underground Station**, you cross the High Road at a set of lights a little to the right and continue along **Turnham Green Terrace**. There are **more options still** along this road and in 230m you pass an info panel on **The Battle of Turnham Green** (1642) and then pass under the railway bridge, which is adorned with an interesting sequence of historic maps of the area, providing a timeline from 1593 to today. The entrance to **Turnham Green Station** is on the right-hand side, following the bridge. Further along the road and around the corner to the right is one last pub, **The Tabard**.

Central London bound trains depart from the near platforms 4 (District Line) or 3 (Piccadilly Line, late evening only).