Walk 10 - Park Life

www.walktonbridge.co.uk



Pic: Contains Ordnance Survey data $\ \ \, \ \ \,$ Crown copyright and database right 2013

Description: A short buggy friendly walk, exploring the beautiful Tonbridge Park and the Castle grounds. Print off your picture bingo cards and join in the fun as you try and spot all the things that make this area so special.

Length: 1.8 miles / 2.9 km (approximately 1 hour, longer if stopping to picnic, play, or explore Tinkers Island)

Grade: Not too tough

Good for: A short accessible walk and a celebration of Tonbridge.

- 1. Begin your walk at 'Big Bridge'. Head South across the river, and then turn right down River Walk. At the end of turn right onto New Wharf road.
- 2. Continue past the canoe club and then turn left through the big set of gates and enter the racecourse sports ground.
- 3. Walk past the tennis courts then turn right at the end of the playground.
- 4. Continue round the edge of the park, past the house boats and allotments. After the last bench on your left, you have the option of

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leaving the path to explore Tinkers Island. Turn left into the woods and follow the path round until you emerge back into the park, re-joining the walk at step 5.

If you are with a buggy or in a wheelchair it is best to stay on the concrete path as it can be muddy in the woods and a little overgrown.

- 5. Continue round and you will see a stack of logs and a fallen tree. This is where the Tinkers Island route re-joins the path.
- 6. Turn left at the next bridge, crossing over before continuing along the path until you reach a T-junction.
- 7. Turn right and then stay on the path nearest the stream. Follow this to the end and then when you reach the swimming pool /Slade Car Park, cross over the road with care and join the pavement.
- 8. Walk past the model railway and then turn left past the swimming pool and cross the little bridge.
- 9. Turn right into the castle grounds and then at the end of the railings, double back round the little moat, following this round the base of the mound and up to the castle gate.
- 10. Walk through the gate, turn left, and follow the path round the edge of the lawn. Once you reach the mound, walk downhill and then turn left along the river, finishing your walk at Big Bridge.

If you've enjoyed this walk then please tag your photos #walktonbridge on Instagram or share with a friend. Visit my website for more beautiful walks in and around Tonbridge.

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When enjoying this walk, please remember to follow the countryside code:

Respect other people

Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors

Park carefully so access to gateways and driveways are clear

Leave gates and property as you find them

Stay on footpaths but give way to others where it's narrow

Protect the natural environment

Leave no trace of your visit - take all your litter home

Don't have BBQs or fires

Keep dogs under effective control

Bag and bin your dog poo.

Enjoy the outdoors

Plan ahead, check what facilities are open, be prepared

Follow advice and local signs and obey social distancing measures