

## ALLOW EXTRA TIME TO VISIT:

- Widcombe Parade with its shops and eateries - perfect for some refreshment or to buy a picnic
- Bear Flat - another local shopping centre with good places to eat and shop
- Prior Park Landscape Garden, a National Trust property open to the public
- Alexandra Park, with its spectacular views over the city
- Bloomfield Green, with its link to the Two Tunnels and the Linear Park
- Lyncombe Hill Fields, an area managed by the local community to improve diversity and access
- Bath Abbey Cemetery, one of the few Grade 2 listed cemeteries in England with great views
- Widcombe old village and St Thomas à Becket Church dating from the 12th century

## REACHING WIDER:

- The Kennet & Avon Canal
- The Two Tunnels, part of the national cycle route
- The Skyline Walk, devised by the National Trust

## GENERAL ADVICE

1. All walks start and finish at Bath Spa railway station.
2. Paths can be muddy so it is advisable to wear sturdy shoes or walking boots. There are hilly sections on all the walks.
3. The time estimated is for an average walker without any stops.
4. If the walk involves a climb, remember to look back as there will probably be a great view.
5. Abbreviations used throughout the walk descriptions:  
R - right; L - left; RH - right hand; LH - left hand; KG - kissing gate
6. Remember to follow the Countryside Code. <http://www.gov.uk/countryside-code>
7. The relevant OS maps are - Landranger (172) and Explorer (155).
8. If you find a problem with a footpath this can be reported directly to: [prow@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:prow@bathnes.gov.uk)

We hope you enjoy these walks, which are accurate at the time of writing. However, things do change, and diversions and withdrawal of permissions are not unusual. All the information you need is on our website at [www.widcombeassociation.org.uk/walks](http://www.widcombeassociation.org.uk/walks)

Bought to you by the Widcombe Association and supported by

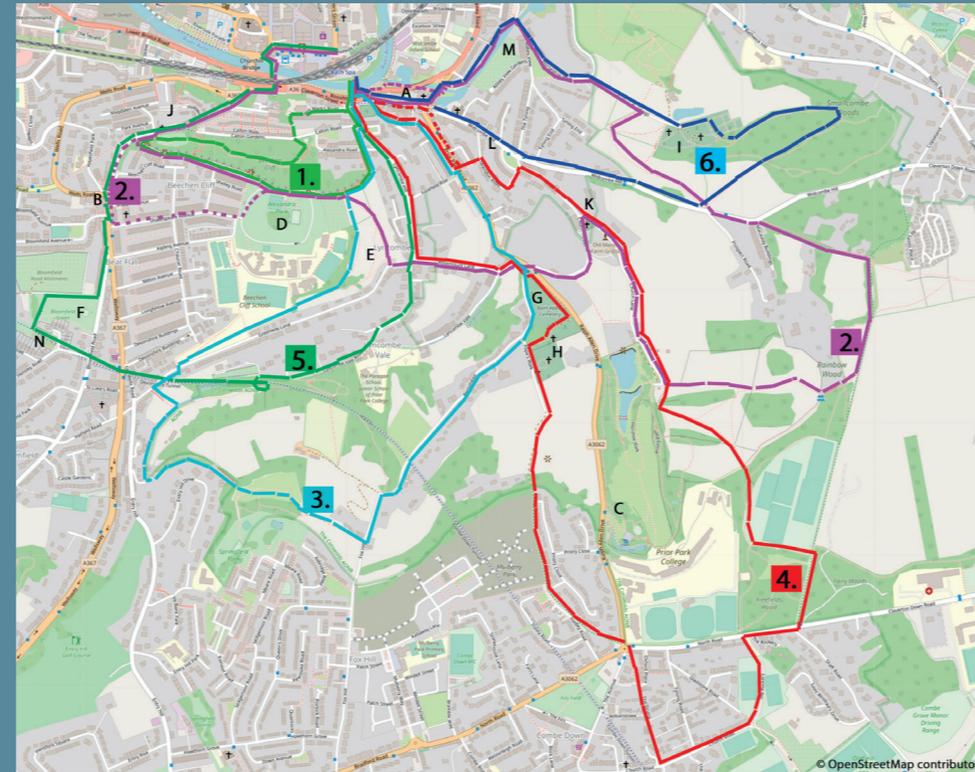


**Bath & North East Somerset Council**



## OVERVIEW MAP OF THE WALKS

This map shows an overview of all the walks we have selected. This is not suitable as a walking guide. You should look at the detailed directions and map for the walk you would like to do.



## KEY: WALKS

1. Beechen Cliff circuit
2. Best of Widcombe views
3. Lyncombe Vale circuit
4. Historic Widcombe
5. Tunnels and valleys
6. Smallcombe Wood circuit

## KEY: ATTRACTIONS

- A. Widcombe Parade Shops
- B. Bear Flat Shops
- C. Prior Park Landscape Garden (National Trust)
- D. Alexandra Park
- E. Lyncombe Hill Fields (FLHF)
- F. Bloomfield Green
- G. Bath Abbey Cemetery
- H. Perymead Catholic Cemetery
- I. Smallcombe Cemetery
- J. St Mary Magdalen church
- K. St Thomas à Becket Church and Widcombe Manor
- L. Widcombe Crescent
- M. Kennet & Avon Canal
- N. Two Tunnels/Lateral Park



[www.widcombeassociation.org.uk/walks](http://www.widcombeassociation.org.uk/walks)

# Six Walks in Southern Bath

Our walks are centred on the historic parishes of Widcombe and Lyncombe which are part of The City of Bath. The area is just a short hop over the River Avon from the centre. This really is where the city meets the countryside and has for centuries been where Bathonians and visitors alike have come to enjoy the rural setting of Bath.



In the Middle Ages Widcombe and Lyncombe belonged to the Priory of Bath and there was a deer park at the current Prior Park. This is where Ralph Allen later established his showcase home and gardens (gardens only are National Trust). There were also Georgian pleasure gardens from the 18th Century. The area features in Jane Austen novels, Henry Fielding and his sister Sarah lived here, and Thomas Hardy wrote of the countryside and fine views. The area is within the UNESCO World Heritage Site and are an important part of the setting of The City of Bath.

The area is a vibrant place to visit with local centres in Widcombe Parade and Bear Flat. Both have an excellent range of pubs, restaurants and local shops, which will welcome weary walkers for some revitalising refreshment or a spot of retail therapy.

## History...architecture... countryside...fine city views

There is something here for everyone. We would like to encourage visitors and residents to explore the area, enjoy our walks and visit local attractions and businesses. We are presenting six walks which will appeal to all ages and levels of fitness.

Under each walk we have provided you with two links. The first is to some more information about the walk and what you will see. This is intended to help you decide which walk you would like to do. The second link is for the detailed walk directions and map, and you should either print them off or make sure you have these instructions on your phone to take with you.

**ENJOY YOUR WALK!**

## WALK 1: BEECHEN CLIFF CIRCUIT

This is a short (but at the start a steep) walk to the top of Beechen Cliff – the wooded cliff to the south of the city centre – returning through Magdalen Gardens. There are several viewing points along the top of the cliff giving fine views of the city.



ALLOW 1 HOUR.



LINK 1: information on the walk  
LINK 2: walk instructions & map



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## WALK 2: BEST OF WIDCOMBE VIEWS



This walk goes through varied countryside and gives good views of the city. It takes you through the old village of Widcombe before ascending alongside NT Prior Park Landscape Garden to reach the skyline, then descending to the canal and Widcombe Parade.

ALLOW 2 HOURS.

Option B – a step-free access to Alexandra Park and the top of Beechen Cliff. If steps are a problem, then retrace back to Bear Flat and either continue down to the city or cross Wells Road at the traffic lights for a bus back to town.



LINK 1: information on the walk  
LINK 2: walk instructions & map



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## WALK 3: LYNCOMBE VALE CIRCUIT

This walk starts with a steep climb and then crosses fields and open countryside, mainly along footpaths, giving good views. Finally descending back to Widcombe Parade and the end of your walk.

ALLOW 2 HOURS.



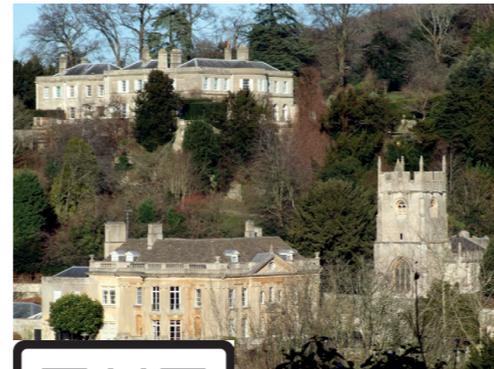
LINK 1: information on the walk  
LINK 2: walk instructions & map



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## WALK 4: HISTORIC WIDCOMBE



This walk takes you through Bath Abbey Cemetery and then continues along lanes and footpaths to Combe Down, before returning through fields with good views of the city and beyond.

ALLOW 2 ½ HOURS.



LINK 1: information on the walk  
LINK 2: walk instructions & map



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## WALK 5: TUNNELS AND VALLEYS

Visiting the vibrant local shopping area of Bear Flat, this walk takes in one of the tunnels on the Two Tunnels walking and cycling route - it is advisable to take a torch for this section. There are no steps on this route but there is a step-over gate. A lovely walk through the lanes in the area.

ALLOW 1 ½ HOURS.



LINK 1: information on the walk  
LINK 2: walk instructions & map



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## WALK 6: SMALLCOMBE WOOD



This walk starts along the Kennet & Avon Canal and includes a visit to Smallcombe Cemetery and Smallcombe Wood, one of Bath's few ancient woodlands. You emerge into a meadow with fine views across the city.

ALLOW 1 ½ HOURS.



LINK 1: information on the walk  
LINK 2: walk instructions & map



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