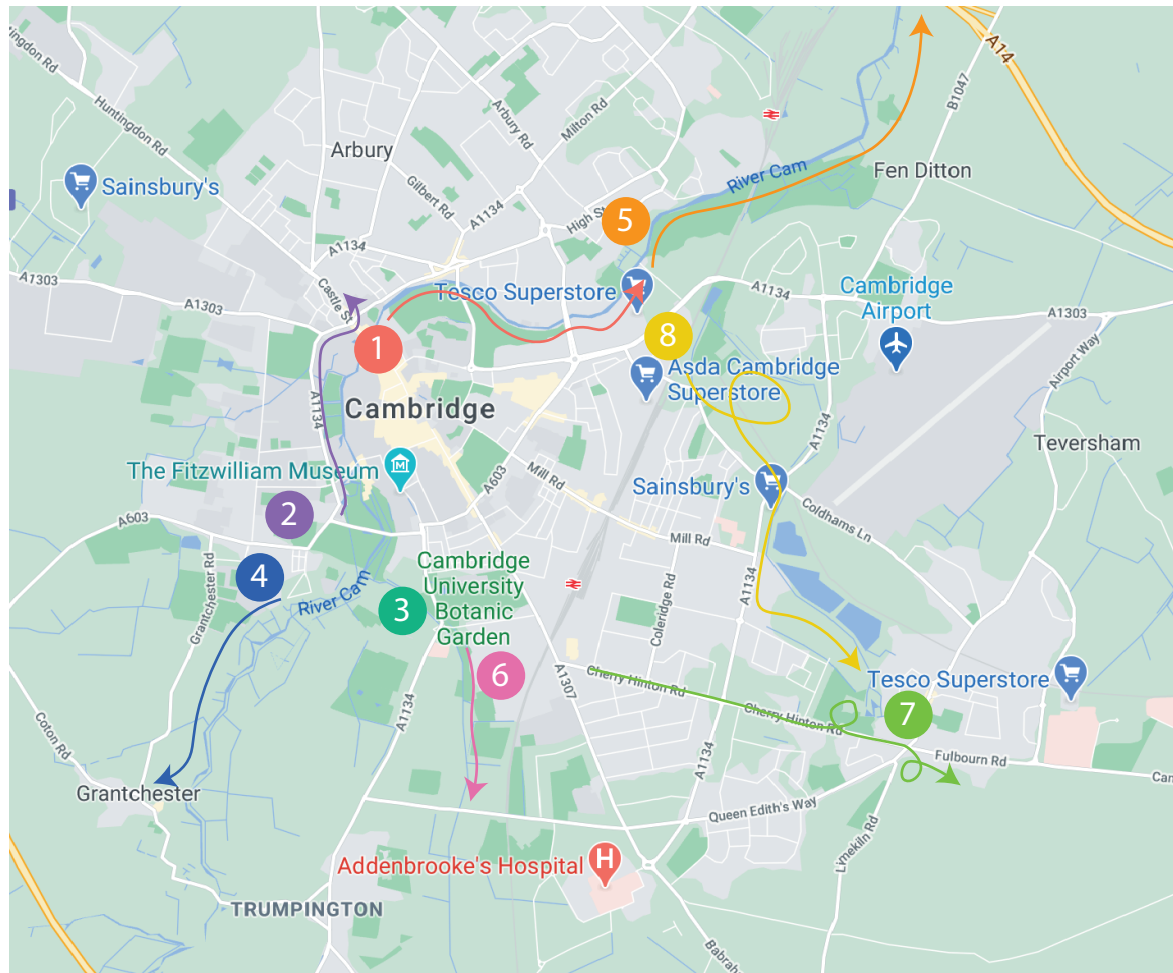


GPC Recommended Walks and Cycles during Lockdown



1. Jesus Green and Midsummer Common

This walk will take you along the river and past the various boathouses. To vary this walk you can head to Alexendara Gardens, which is a small quiet green area near Magdalene College, or to Logan's Meadow which is across the river from the Cambridge Museum of Technology.

2. Walking along the Backs

While unfortunately the other colleges are closed to visitors, you can still see many of them while walking along the college 'backs', starting outside Queen's College and walking parallel to Queens Road. Across the road from St Johns College is their playing fields, which is (currently) open for the public to walk though. You can also take this walk further by heading to Castle Mound, where the castle no longer stands, but you can walk up and get a nice view over the city.

3. University Botanic Gardens

These are remaining open during the lockdown, but prior booking is required, with entry free for students. The gardens are beautiful and hold a plant collection of over 8,000 species. Fun fact, the highest temperature recorded in the UK, 38.7 °C, was recorded at the garden, but you are unlikely to see temperatures like that over the next few months.

4. Walk to Grantcheser

Start at Granta Place and follow the river Cam to the village of Grantchester. The walk takes you through Paradise Local Nature reserve and Grantchester Meadows and past the College sports ground (that is closed for sports but open for personal exercise). If you want to make this walk longer, walk past Grantchester to Byron's Pool Nature Reserve near Trumpington.

5. Stourbridge Common and Fen Ditton

As you may have noticed now the Cam plays an important part in Cambridge life. This walk will take you further down the river, along the stretch that the (rowing) bumps would take place on. If you walk north of the river and cross at Baits Bite lock then on your way back you will pass though the quant village of Fen Ditton and Ditton Meadows.

6. Vicar's Brook

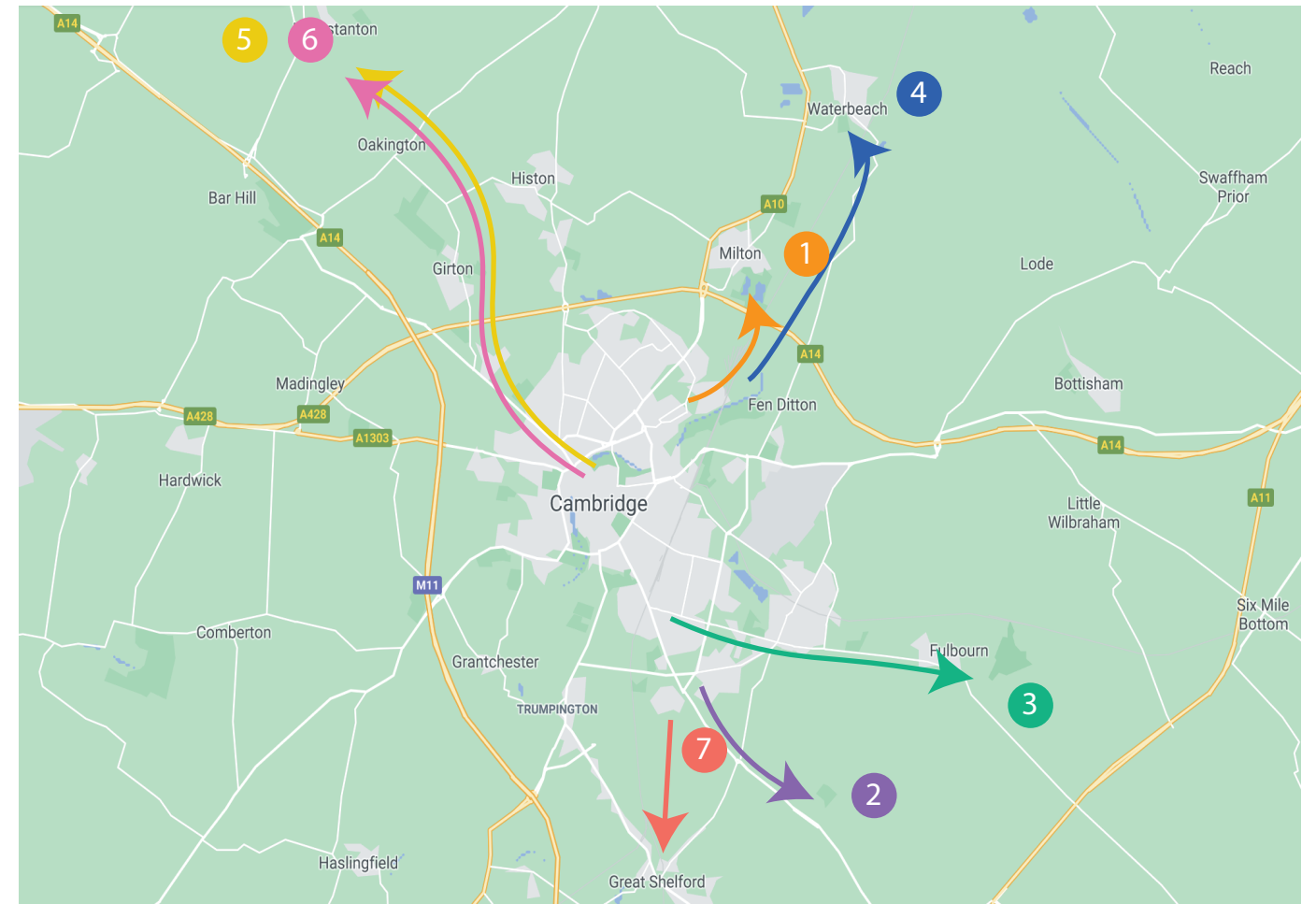
Start to the south of the University Botanic Gardens, there is a small path that leads southwards from the West end of Brooklands Avenue. This short treelined walk takes you along the brook, past allotments, the Empty Common Community Garden and sports fields. You could combine this walk with the walk to Grantchester by heading though the village of Trumpington.

7. Cherry Hinton Park and Chalk Pits

Cherry Hinton Hall Park features a duck pond and lovely lawns. From here you can walk former quarry, from which chalk was used to build some of the unviersity's colleges - now wildflowers grow there, providing a unique landscape. Just south of here is a mound that provides a view of the city - aptly named on Google View Point over Cambridge.

8. Coldham's Common and Cherry Hinton Brook

This walk takes you beside a number of lakes and along the brook. With Ditton Meadows and Stourbridge Common to the North and Cherry Hinton Park and Chalk Pits to the south this can be combined with the other routes or as a standalone- the nature of Cambridge being so compact means that lots of these routes are not far from another.



Further Afield - These are a little further out and you may choose to instead cycle

1. Milton County Park

Beyond Stourbridge Common, rather than crossing the river at Baits Bite lock, continue and reach Milton County Park. Created from old gravel pits the park offers a varied natural habitat with woodland, lakes, and pathways that are also suitable for bicycles (when it's dry).

2. Wandlebury County Park and Magog Down Hills

This walk is great if you want to escape the flat landscape of Cambridge and walk along hills to take in the views. Near here is Beachwoods Nature reserve, a small wood of Beach trees, that is worth wondering through.

3. Fulborn Fen

The meadows here have a high diversity of plants and insects. There are eight different woods in this site of special interest as well as five meadows and open water. On the way here you will pass the Fulborne Windmill and who doesn't love a windmill.

4. Waterbeach

This route takes you along the Cam past Midsummer and Strourbridge commons and Baits Bite lock to the village of Waterbeach, going further along the river would evertually take you to Ely.

5. Houghton Mill to St Ives and the Hemingfords

Start Cambridge Science and Buisness Parks and cycle along the cycle path that runs along side the guided bus route. It will take you to the the Town of St Ives which sits on the River Great Ouse and there are a number of walks from here that you can go on. One heads through the quaint villages of Hemingford Grey and Hemingford Abbots and past Houghton Mill and Houghton Meadows. This can be extended to walk though Godmanchester Nature Reserve towards Huntingdon.

6. Fen Drayton Lakes

This also takes you along the guided busway, but before getting to St Ives get off your bike and walk around the number of lakes at the RSPB Fen Drayton.

7. DNA Rainbow Road

This cycle route starts at Addenbrooke's Hospital to Great Shelford and is decorated with 10,257 colourful stripes which represent the four bases of a BRCA2 gene.