

Bristol Green Walks

Sue Cullimore

**12 easy walks around
Bristol's green spaces**



BRISTOL BOOKS

Bristol Books CIC
40 Woodborough Road, Winscombe, BS25 1AG

Bristol Green Walks
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Published by Bristol Books 2026

ISBN: 978-1-909446-51-9

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Photography by Sue Cullimore
Additional photography by Joe Burt, Clive Burlton and Richard Jones

Cover Illustration: David Chandler
Design: Joe Burt

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A CIP record for this book is available from the British Library.

Printed and bound by Short Run Press Ltd, Exeter.

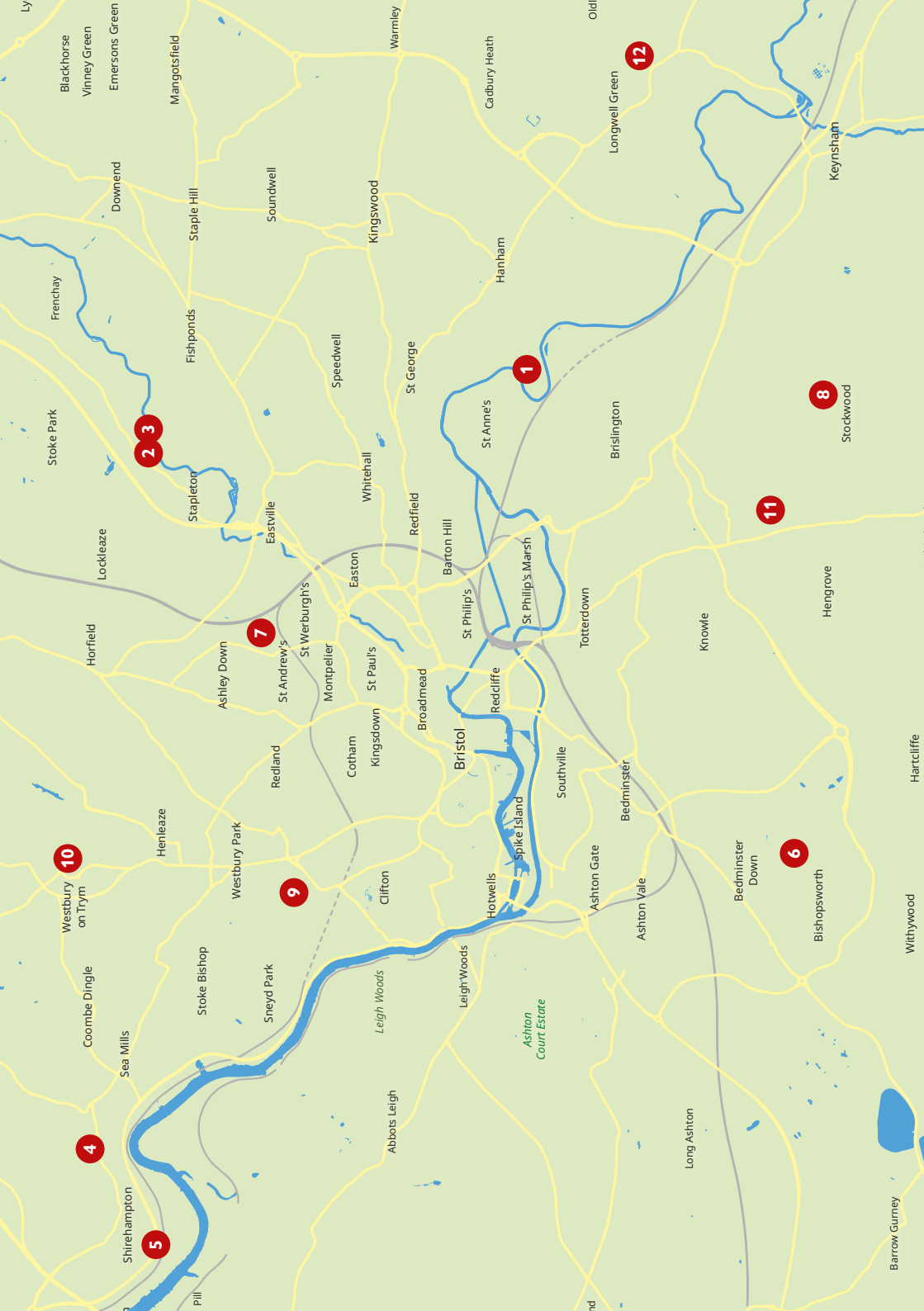
Right: Penpole Woods (Walk 4. Kings Weston Estate)





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Walk	Distance
1. Avon Valley	4.5miles
Lovely riverside walks, wooded valley views, bird life, autumn strolls and a couple of pubs at the end.	
2. Snuff Mills to Eastville	2.5miles
Easy riverside walks on surfaced paths, industrial history and children's activities.	
3. Frome Valley and Oldbury Court	3.8miles
A combination of wooded riverside and historic parkland walks, with a big children's playground.	
4. Kings Weston Estate	3.7miles
Landscaped parkland of an 18 th century house, dog walking, a cafe and prehistory on Kingsweston Hill.	
5. Lamplighter's Walk	3miles
Views of the mouth of the Avon and the estuary, maritime history, a Local Nature Reserve with varied habitats, and flat, easy walking.	
6. Manor Woods Valley	2miles
Visit a small Local Nature Reserve with ancient woodland, wildflower meadows in spring and summer and a community orchard.	
7. St Werburghs City Farm and Boiling Wells	2.5miles
Walk around a unique, quirky Bristol neighbourhood with plenty to interest families.	
8. Stockwood Open Space	3miles
Explore peaceful, unspoilt spaces on the edge of the city and find wildlife and ancient woodland in this Local Nature Reserve.	
9. The Downs	2.5miles
A walk in Bristol's most famous green space to discover its history, ecology, and community significance. Great views of the Avon Gorge.	
10. Westbury-on-Trym and Badock's Wood	2miles
Discover a pretty village in a valley, some medieval history and a woodland nature reserve, great for kids.	
11. Whitchurch Way Walk	4miles
A mainly flat walk on surfaced paths to explore a village on the edge of Bristol and its change over the last century. Good for wheels.	
12. Willsbridge Mill	2miles
A peaceful wooded valley nature reserve with a friendly café. Paddle in the stream, watch out for wildlife and discover its history.	

INTRODUCTION

The idea for this book began to take shape during lockdown when we were only allowed to do local walks. I have always loved walking, but had mainly explored the rural areas outside Bristol since moving to the city 40 years ago. I discovered walks in some of Bristol's urban green spaces which I'd never visited before. They were a revelation, and although not always pristine and bucolic, held so much interesting history and wildlife that they deepened my appreciation of my adopted city.

However, it was only in late 2025 that I had the idea of putting some walks together for a book, with notes on interesting things to see and do on the way. I was already familiar with most of these walks, but I tried to find some new ones in order to have a good spread across the city. It then became difficult to choose the twelve green walks included here from all the great options in and around Bristol. I hope readers will discover walks which are new to them in Bristol's many wonderful green spaces through using this book.

The walks have been deliberately designed to be relatively easy and accessible to most people of any age. There are no stiles, and where there are steeper sections or steps, I've given options for avoiding them. They are all around 2 to 4 miles long, and there are usually options for extending or shortening the route if you wish. The basic routes can all be done within a couple of hours, but it depends how fast or slowly you want to go. The paths I've selected are mostly well surfaced and many are accessible for wheels (e.g. buggies, wheelchairs, children's bikes and scooters), at least for some of the way.

I love to explore and try to find out about what I'm seeing when I walk, so I've included information panels for each route. There are three themes: History and Heritage, Nature Notes and Families. The reader can dip into these while walking, or perhaps read them before or after the walk. There are some web links for further information.

Each walk has an introductory section giving practical information such as length, walking surface, parking and public transport. Most people want a refreshment and loo stop, families with kids appreciate a playground, and lots of us like a rest on a bench or to sit at a picnic table. Where possible, these are noted in the walk description. Each walk has a simplified route map with numbered location points linking up with the text.

Bristol has such brilliant green spaces that you really don't need to go beyond the edge of the built-up area to walk in woodland, wildflower meadows or along lush riverbanks.

Enjoy your Bristol green walking.

Right: Narrowways Hill (Walk 7: St Werburghs City Farm and Boiling Wells).

