

## POINTS OF INTEREST

1. Wollaton Hall is one of the country's finest Grade One listed Elizabethan mansions. The magnificent site houses a hall built in the 1580s by Sir Francis Willoughby, the Camellia House, the Courtyards, Museums and formal gardens. You can explore the 500 acres of deer park and the lake in the grounds if you have time. There is an array of wildlife including herds of red and fallow deer.
2. Martin's Pond is a Local Nature Reserve, which was the first to be designated in Nottingham in 1976, and was first documented in 1835. The area is a haven for wildlife and associated with the fisheries which sourced the lake at Wollaton Hall. The Friends of Wollaton Local Nature Reserves help to look after Martin's Pond and Harrison's Plantation in partnership with Nottingham City Council and the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust.
3. Other wildlife: grey heron, common frog, mute swan, moorhen, coot, mallard, reedmace, grey squirrel, common pipistrelle bat, sweet flag, crack willow, green woodpecker.

## MAP



# Wollaton Walk



**A two hour circular walk from  
Wollaton Hall to Martin's Pond**

Walk No.1

**A circular walk from Wollaton Hall built in the 1580s to Martin's Pond Local Nature Reserve. The route also passes through Harrison's Plantation and around Raleigh Pond before returning to Wollaton Park. Please note that Wollaton Park is only open in daylight hours.**

## THE FACTS

Area:	Wollaton, Nottingham City, NG8 2AE.
Distance:	3.5miles (5.5km).
Duration:	About 2 hours.
Suitable maps:	OS Landranger 129, OS Explorer 260, street map.
Travel Information:	<a href="http://www.traveline/info">www.traveline/info</a> Tel: 0871 200 22 33
Terrain:	Mainly wide walkways and pavements, with some woodland tracks and potentially muddy grassy paths. Some sections may be muddy in wet weather so please wear suitable footwear. Unsuitable for wheelchairs, mobility scooters and prams.
Starting Point:	Car parking (fee payable) is available adjacent to Wollaton Hall where the walk starts. Cycle parking is free.
Refreshments:	Wollaton Pub and Kitchen (Lambourne Drive), Admiral Rodney (Wollaton Road), café inside Wollaton Hall stable block.

## THE ROUTE

**A** Start from the war memorial above the upper car park near Wollaton Hall and head downhill using the path to the left which follows an old metal fence. Continue until you reach the park wall gate where you exit and turn left following the pavement to Wollaton village, passing the C13th church of St Leonard on your right, then the Admiral Rodney pub. Note the old well in the middle of road on your left – this is the original village centre. A short detour to your left takes you to Dovecote Drive on the right, site of Wollaton's dovecote built by the Willoughby family in 1572.

## THE ROUTE CONTINUED

**B** Continue along the Wollaton Road to a T-junction and a zebra crossing slightly to your right. Cross here with care, turn right and continue along the pavement for about 400 yards (365.76m) to the first turning on the left, Russell Avenue. At the right hand bend soon afterwards, turn left into Martin's Pond Local Nature Reserve and keep left to circle right around the pond, taking the short detour around the boardwalk area in the wetland.

**C** Just before you arrive back at the entrance, take the waymarked path to your left into the woods. This is Harrison's Plantation, a mixed broad leaf woodland including sycamore, ash, wild cherry and oak. Here there are several tributaries of the stream that flows from Martin's Pond and a variety of birdlife. The path branches to the left with a waymark on your left, continue straight on to an exit onto the Old Coach Road – note the large, mock Palladian, house on the left.

**D** Cross over into Raleigh Pond and walk straight ahead, keeping the pond on your left. Several paths lead around the pond, those at the edge of the water can be muddy in wet weather but useful for admiring wildlife. After visiting the pond, continue in the same direction to reach the fence and one of the exits on to Lambourne Drive. Turn right along the pavement.

**E** At the end of Lambourne Drive, pass in front of the Wollaton Pub & Kitchen. Cross Wollaton Road at the pedestrian crossing and turn left, then first right into Ancaster Gardens. At the T-junction turn left along leafy Harrow Road until, after 500 yards (457.2m), a break in the suburban housing to the right marks Digby Avenue where you enter the park.

**F** Proceed along this wide, oak-lined track with a school on your left followed by the golf course. To your right is a copse locally known as Squirrel Woods or Open Woods. Continue along Digby Avenue to an intersection of paths, Lime Tree Avenue is to your left, to the right a pathway to the park entrance. Take the grass track immediately ahead, passing a tree with a wooden bench on your right – read the inscription! Cross another tarmac track and head for the narrow grass path between the golf course and the walled gardens. Follow the Ha Ha (a grassed ditch with one sloped and one vertical side and a masonry retaining wall used to keep grazing livestock out of a garden while providing an uninterrupted view from within) around to the right until it opens up to a grassy area with a view of the lake to your left. Pass the entrance to the gardens on your right and head for the stable arch ahead, through which is the shop, exhibition room, café and toilets. Pass through courtyard and back to the car park.