

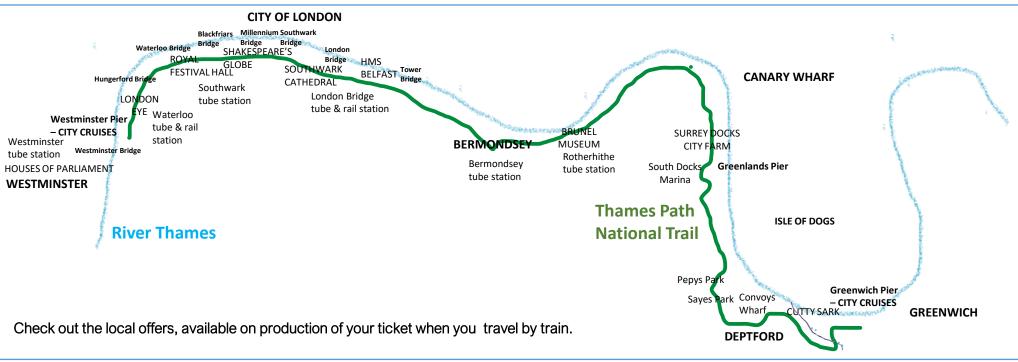


# **VISIT THAMES**

## Thames Path Rail Trail 7

THAMES PATH: Trail 7 London Westminster to Greenwich (South Bank)

Start from the London Eye | Finish at Greenwich TOTAL DISTANCE 7.7 miles/12.4kms



## **Directions**

By Rail/Bus: Arrive by rail with Great Western Railway (GWR) at London Paddington. Take the Circle Line to Westminster Tube Station (20 mins).

Return: Take the Jubilee line from North Greenwich Station and change at Baker Street onto the Bakerloo Line to Paddington (about 45 mins). Or walk as far as London Bridge and cross over the bridge and return with City Cruises.

www.citycruises.com/london-sightseeing/river-red-rover





Thames Path

NATIONAL TRAIL

### For further information:

Visit Thames:

www.visitthames.co.uk/ThamesValley-GWR

Thames Path National Trail:

www.nationaltrail.co.uk/thames-path

Great Western Railway:

www.gwr.com/destinations-and-events/top-destinations/thames-valley

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## Thames Path Rail Trail 7

#### THE WALK

The London South Bank section of the Thames Path National Trail offers an urban landscape full of wonderful views, internationally famous buildings, cobbled lanes, historic pubs and liquid history. Follow the Path using the Thames Path National Trail symbol.

- Arriving at Westminster Tube Station, cross Westminster Bridge, opened in 1862, it is the oldest surviving road bridge across the Thames in central London.
- There's far too much along this stretch to list here, but some of the treats include: wonderful views of the **Houses of Parliament**, a chance to see the whole of the city from the **London Eye**, and a leisurely stroll along the 'South Bank' with all its theatres and galleries to enjoy.
- Underneath Waterloo Bridge is a secondhand book market, and the entrance to the **BFI Southbank**. Continuing along the river, pass Gabriel's Wharf, a pretty pedestrian enclave, a large orange building that surrounds the Oxo Tower, famous for its Art Deco design.
- Continue towards Blackfriars Bridge and ahead is the Founders Arms and just after it, on the right, is the **Bankside Galle**ry (free). Next is **Tate Modern**, housed in the old Bankside Power Station, the world's most visited art gallery.
- Past the Millennium Bridge is **Shakespeare's Globe**. Back by the river, you'll soon come to Southwark Bridge and under Cannon Street Railway Bridge. Ahead you'll pass: the **Clink Prison Museum**; the rose window and western wall of medieval **Winchester Palace**, once the London residence of the Bishops of Winchester; the **Golden Hinde**, a full -size replica of the ship which Francis Drake circumnavigated the globe in 1577-80; **Southwark Cathedral**, containing some impressive monuments.
- Beyond the Cathedral is **Borough Market** (food and drink), then under London Bridge past the **London Bridge Experience**. Follow the Path to the river and pass by **Hay's Galleria**, a shopping mall; on the river **HMS Belfast** (open daily) before reaching Tower Bridge and City Hall, home to the Greater London Authority. Continue along the cobbled street ahead; then back to the river towards the Design Museum
- The next stretch to Greenwich becomes less busy and residential, keeping mostly next to the river, passing Rotherhithe where the Pilgrim Fathers departed to America in 1620, **The Mayflower** pub and just beyond it the **Brunel Museum**, in the engine house built by Marc Brunel (father of Isambard Kingdom Brunel) to house the steam-powered pumps that drained water from the Thames Tunnel, the first tunnel to be constructed underneath a major river and still in use as part of the London Overground network. Passing through various wharfs and docks and **Surrey Docks City** Farm, at South Dock Marina cross over the working lock and enter Deptford. Follow the riverside promenade to Pepys Park and then through Sayes Park, afterwards turning left towards the river, continuing along the river before heading inland to cross Deptford Creek and follow the path towards the **Cutty Sark** and **Greenwich**.

## Things to Do

• Greenwich is home to a World Heritage Site, **The O2** arena, London's prettiest royal park and the Prime Meridian of the World – longitude zero. Wander through Greenwich Park to the **Royal Observatory and the Planetarium** or fly 90m high on the **Emirates Air Line cable car** into a world class show at The O2 arena. Browse designer-maker arts and crafts in **Greenwich Market**, and visit **Cutty Sark**, the fastest ship of her age. Explore Britain's momentous naval history at the **National Maritime Museum** and enjoy the views in a riverside pub.

**Stay:** There's a wide choice of accommodation including hotels like InterContinental London The O2, with its amazing views of the river, the art-deco inspired interiors of DoubleTree by Hilton London Greenwich and the handily placed Novotel London Greenwich – virtually next door to the Docklands Light Railway and railway station. **Book your accommodation at <a href="https://www.booking.visitgreenwich.org.uk">www.booking.visitgreenwich.org.uk</a>** 

London <u>www.visitthames.co.uk/London</u> | Greenwich <u>www.visitthames.co.uk/Greenwich</u> Rail Trails and more information on places to stay, thing to do and places to eat & drink: www.visitthames.co.uk/ThamesValley-GWR







