Lechlade Seven Stiles & St John’s Lock walks

Two beautiful short walks through vibrant Lechlade, with quaint shops, cafes and pubs, then following the Thames Path National Trail, heading downstream towards St John’s Lock or upstream through the meadows keeping an eye out for the abundance of wildlife such as ducks and swans.

Start: Riverside Park

At (A), head towards the river until you meet Thames Path at (B). Turn right and walk along path until you reach the road and Ha Penny Bridge. Go up the steps and turn left, walking along pavement over bridge.

Walk 6a – Seven Stiles

When you reach the T junction at (C), turn left and follow the pavement through Lechlade. Walk for 350m until after the layby on left (D) there is a footpath signposted ‘Seven Stiles Stroll’. Going through metal gate follow footpath, going through four small fields, over five foot bridges and through four gates.

When you reach the road at (E) go straight ahead along road and take footpath on left signposted ‘Roundhouse’ and ‘River Thames and Canal’. Follow the track until you reach the river. Bear left to follow the footpath and go over arched footbridge at (F). Turn left and follow footpath through field, alongside the River Thames. Turn right at interpretation panel to follow footpath back to Riverside Park.

Walk 6b – St John’s Lock

When you reach the T junction at (C), turn right and follow the pavement through Lechlade. At the church, take public footpath to go along left side of the church through graveyard. When you get to the small road, cross over to go through kissing gate. Follow the footpath along edge of a field, through another kissing gate and along stream/ditches.

When you reach the road at (G) turn right to walk along pavement past The Trout Inn. Walk along the road over the bridge – please take great care as this road can be busy. Immediately after the bridge, turn right to go through a small gate to follow the Thames Path (H). Go past St John’s Lock and follow the footpath through gate. Follow path through the field and go through another gate. Walk along path alongside the River Thames for 750m until you reach Ha Penny Bridge at (I). Follow path through the gate to walk under the bridge. Continue along path next to River Thames. Turn left to head back to Riverside Park.

Refreshments: Excellent choice of cafés & pubs in Lechlade.

The Thames Path is a wonderful 184-mile (294km) walk and one of only 13 National Trails in England. It follows the River Thames from its source near Kemble in the Cotswolds to the Thames Barrier near Greenwich in London, travelling through some of the finest countryside, including right through the heart of the Cotswold Water Park.