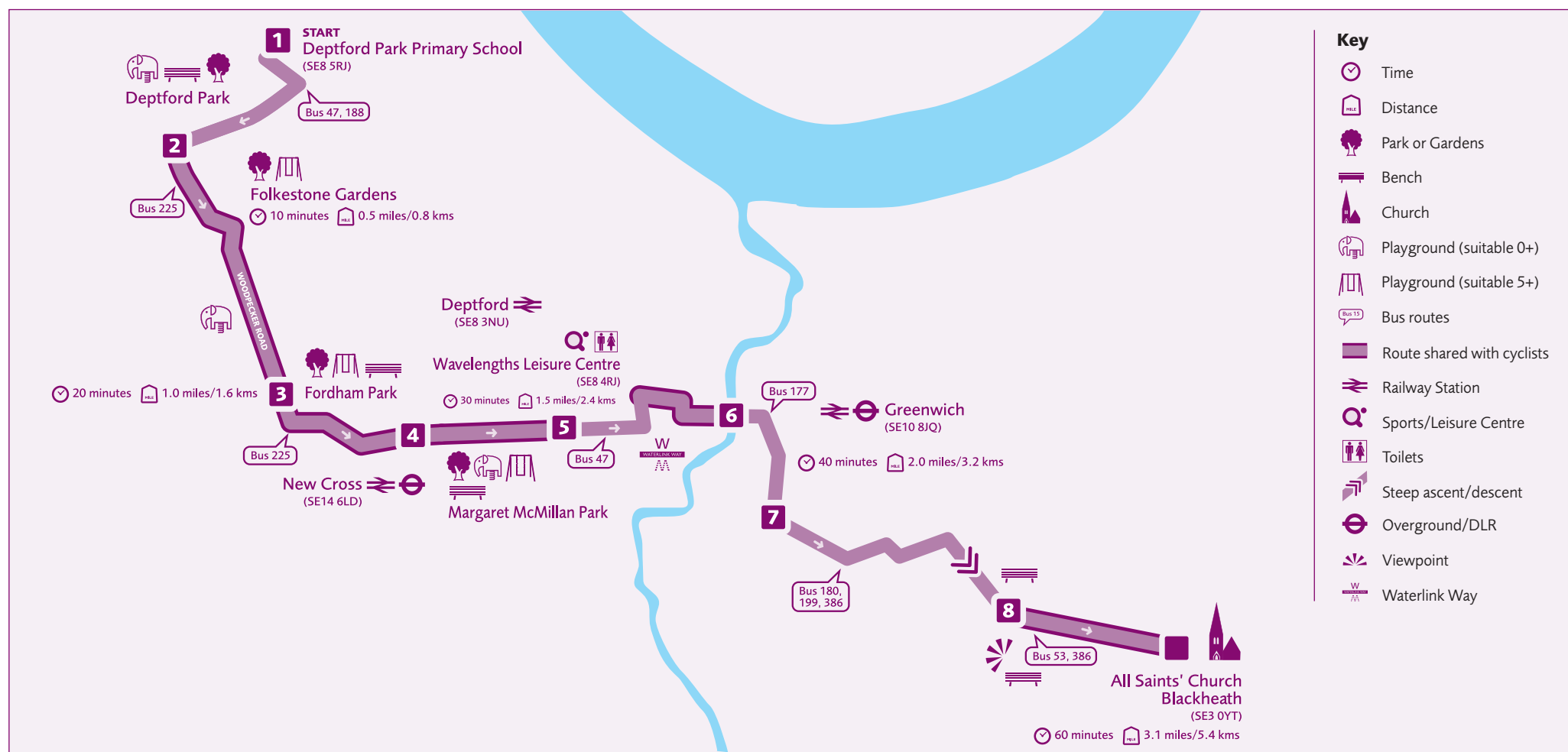


Route from North West New Cross and Deptford

A family-friendly walking route to Blackheath in less than an hour



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DESCRIPTION	This route leads you through the newly redeveloped Fordham Park, via Douglas Way to Deptford High Street and the recently opened Deptford Lounge. You will cross the Deptford Creek by a lifting bridge, walk through the outskirts of Maritime Greenwich World Heritage site and capture a unique view of St Paul's Cathedral as you near Blackheath. <i>Bus service information is provided so if you live off the route, you can choose to take the bus to the walking route, and walk from there to Blackheath.</i>
TOTAL DISTANCE	3.1 miles/5.4 kms
TIME	60 minutes
CONDITIONS/TERRAIN	All firm. Some parts have poor surfaces for wheelchairs, pushchairs, toddlers and elderly. When conditions are wet, take care on the heath. Much of the route is shared with cyclists.
WHAT TO LOOK FOR	Lifting bridges across the Creek, the award winning dance centre Laban and a sign showing the skyline of London in 1984.

1 Start: Deptford Park Primary School (SE8 5RJ)

Cross Evelyn Road at the pelican crossing, **turn left** then almost **immediately right** into Deptford Park. *If the park is closed, turn left and then right into Grinstead Road and pick up the route at point 2.*

The land currently used as Deptford Park began life as market gardens. In the late 1700s some 500 acres in the Deptford area were given over to market gardens and the production of fruit and vegetables. Deptford was most famous for its production of asparagus.

Turn left inside the park and follow the perimeter path clockwise, leaving the park where signed to Folkestone

Gardens. There is a traffic island to your left for a safer crossing of Grinstead Road. **Turn right** across two exits to builders' yards.

2 Go under the railway and **left** into Folkestone Gardens (take care as this route is shared with cyclists).

 10 minutes  0.5 miles/0.8 kms

If the park is closed, pass the park entrance then take first left to follow Trundleys Road.

On 7 March 1945 a V2 rocket destroyed two blocks of flats at Folkestone Gardens in Trundleys Road. 52 people were killed, 64 seriously injured and 70 had lesser injuries.

It was the second worst V2 bombing in southeast London. Folkestone Gardens park was created on the site in 1970s.

Keep to the right hand path running beside Trundleys Road. **Turn right** to leave the Gardens (signed New Cross/Deptford London Cycle Network 20) **cross** Trundleys Road to pass beneath the railway down Woodpecker Road (also shared by cyclists).

Along Woodpecker Road there are lots of small green spaces on the left and right.

3 **Cross** Sandford Street by the pelican crossing into Fordham Park, after 50 metres **turn left**,

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(signed to New Cross station 5 minutes). Pass totem poles

 20 minutes  1.0 miles/1.6 kms

and then play equipment on your left (*under 13s*), **keep left** to leave the park, **crossing** Pagnel Street through the Walpole Road underpass (*with lighting designed by local artist Heather Burrell*) to the Waldron Health Centre.

To your right just 2 minutes walk away is New Cross Overground station SE14 6LD.

4 Turn left and **immediately right** along Douglas Way, straight through Margaret McMillan Park (*there is play equipment over to your right, across a stone bridge*).

Margaret McMillan Park was opened in 1954. It is named in honour of Margaret McMillan who with her sister Rachel established the Deptford Clinic in 1910. They were pioneers in improving the health of children and are honoured in several places in the borough. Rachel died in 1917 and Margaret went on to found the Rachel MacMillan College in Deptford in 1930 which was opened by Queen Mary. It later merged with Goldsmiths, University of London.

Continue straight across Watson Street, passing the Albany (SE8 4AG) on your left. *Just a couple of minutes*

away to your left is Deptford rail station (SE8 3NU).

5 Cross Deptford High Street, and **continue** down Giffin Street past the Deptford Lounge, the gold building on your left, then the Wavelengths Leisure Centre (SE8 4RJ)

 30 minutes  1.5 miles/2.4 kms

at the T-junction with Deptford Church Street. **Cross** here, and **turn left**, beneath the railway, and then **right** through the gate in the railings, beside raised vegetable beds. **Turn immediately right** in front of a fenced games court, and then **left** alongside the railway arches, to emerge on Creekside. *Creekside is the northernmost stretch of the Waterlink Way – a strategic walking and cycling route that runs from here to Beckenham Place Park.* **Turn right** under the arches and carefully **cross** Creekside to the shared pedestrian and cycle route, running beside the railway on the left.

To your right is the Creekside Discovery Centre (SE8 4SA), and nearby are Cockpit Arts (SE8 3DZ) (*the UK's only creative-business incubator for designer-makers*), and to your left the dance centre, Laban (SE8 3DZ).

6 Cross over the creek by the Ha'penny Hatch lifting bridge

(peer through the rail arch to your left for a framed view of the Stirling prize winning Laban centre).

The new Ha'penny Hatch footbridge was opened in 2002. The modern lift bridge replaces the old wooden Ha'penny Hatch toll bridge, which closed in the 1920s. It cost a ha'penny – half an old penny – to cross.

Pass beneath the DLR and **turn right** at Norman Road. **Cross** Greenwich High Road, by the pelican crossing to your left

 40 minutes  2.0 miles/3.2 kms

then **right** and **immediately left** to continue straight on up Egerton Drive. To your left 4 minutes along the High Road, is Greenwich rail and DLR station (SE10 8JQ).

7 At the crossroads, **turn left** along Devonshire Drive, **crossing** Greenwich South Street by the zebra crossing on your left, to walk up Blisset Street. **Take the first right**, Winforton Road, to start your climb to Blackheath. At the T-junction **turn right** steeply up Point Hill.

Just to your right, at the top, is a level green space, if dry, walk on the grass to the far end, to see the view of

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St Paul's and London stretching in front of you.

- 8** From the top of Point Hill, **fork right** along a path to a pelican crossing beside the A2, Shooters Hill Road. Don't cross here, but walk beside the A2 on the shared footway until you reach the Blackheath tea caravan on your right. There is a traffic island just past this to help you cross the main road. Take the footpath **to the left** and at the circular path crossing take the right path (*signed Blackheath village*). When you arrive at a road (*two large house on the right*) take the footpath to the left (*also signed Blackheath village*) directly to All Saints' Church, Blackheath (SE3 0YT).

End