

Worcester Woods Country Park to Cherry Orchard

The official start of the walk is from Worcester Woods Country Park, Wildwood Drive, Worcester, WR5 2LG. Alternative car parks and start points along the route are marked within these instructions. The park is a 15 minute cycle ride from the centre of the City. The nearest railway service is at Worcester Foregate Street station and you can catch a bus from Worcester Bus Station, number 45 which runs hourly to Worcester 6th Form College. (You will need to alight the bus just after Nunnery Lane then turn right to walk along Spetchley Road. At a roundabout turn left then bear right and left continuing straight on to reach the start of the walk) or number 38 to Worcester Royal Hospital. (You will need to alight at Charles Hastings Way, opposite A&E. Turn right off the bus and on reaching a roundabout turn left, shortly after you will see an entrance to a path, turn right down this path. Follow the path as it turns sharp right then left until you reach the Countryside Centre and the start of the walk). There is also free car parking. From the car park you can access Worcester Woods Country Park, Hornhill Meadows and Nunnery Wood.

At the park you will find toilets, cafe, dog wash and children's play area.

We start the walk facing the entrance to the café. Turn left, then left again, after 10 metres turn right along a path keeping Nunnery Wood to your right and Worcestershire County Hall to your left.

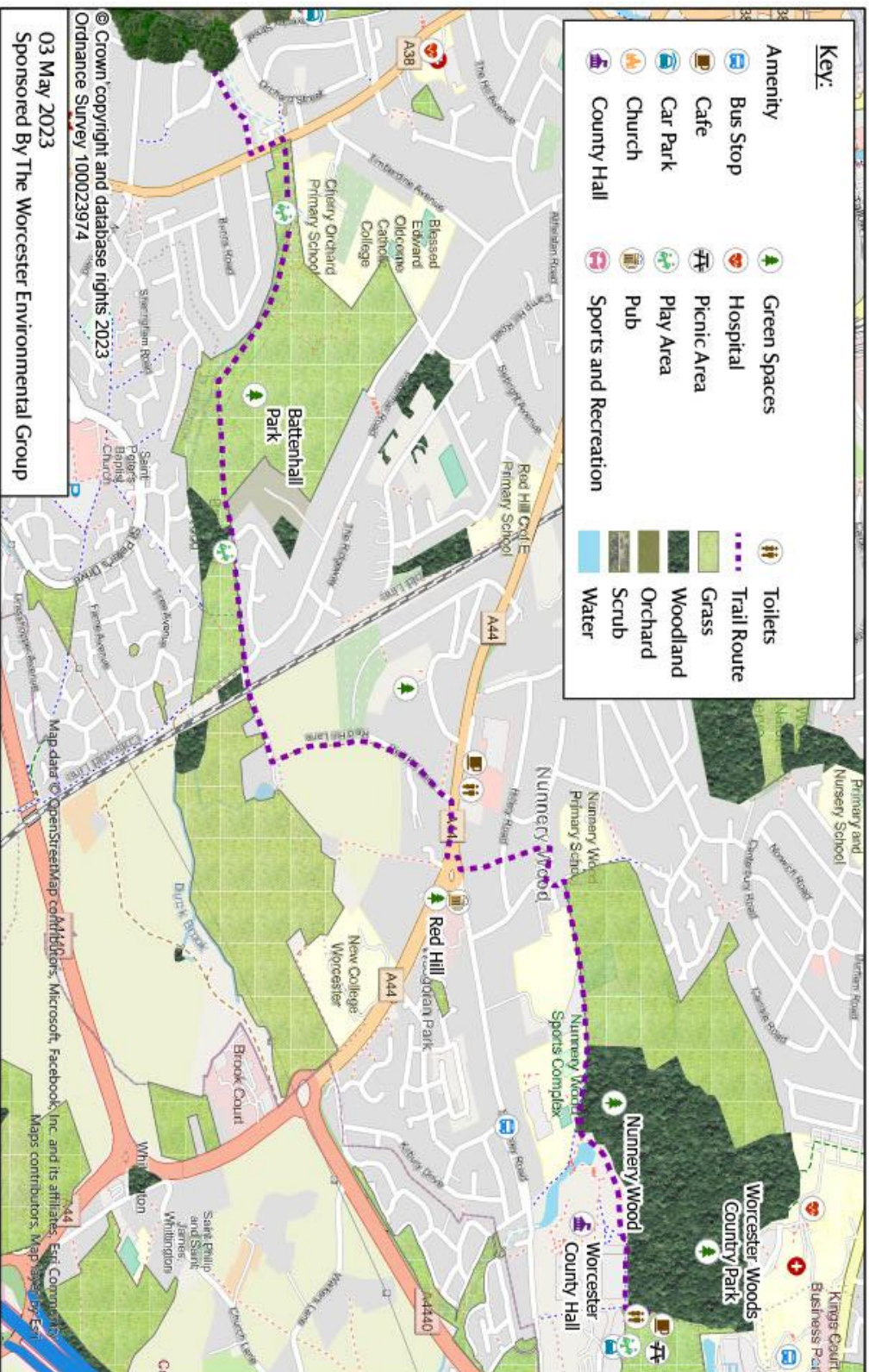
As the path bears left, turn right onto a grass footpath continuing along the edge of Nunnery Wood, passing a bug hotel on your right. The grass area to your left is County Hall Wildflower Meadow providing habitat for pollinating insects such as bees, hoverflies, butterflies and beetles. Look out for wildflowers, Selfheal, Red Campion and Field Scabious. Continue on the grassed footpath turning right to re-join a tarmac path. At a junction of three paths turn left with a lake and County Hall to your left. The lake (Terrapins were released into the lake in the 1990's following the children's T.V. series Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles) cascades down a series of steps, just after the steps there is a footbridge, turn right here and right again after 10 metres. Follow the footpath with a sports field on your left and Nunnery Wood to your right. Pass tennis courts and Worcester 6th Form Centre on your left. Cross a tarmac road and keep straight on along the path with an athletics ground to your right. Keep straight along the path passing sports fields to your right, when you reach a roadway turn left and then bear right, turning 1st right up Hayward Close. At the end of the close turn left along a tarmac footpath. Carry straight on across a road reaching another road with the Oak Apple pub to your left. Turn right here reaching a crossing after 50 metres, cross two roads and turn right. In 100 metres turn left down Red Hill Lane. If you need refreshments and toilet facilities Waitrose is opposite.

As you descend down Red Hill lane you arrive at a forked junction, here you have views across to the Malvern Hills. Take the left fork down a track passing allotments on your right. On reaching a cluster of buildings bear right along a tarmac drive continuing straight on under a railway bridge. At a junction with a road continue straight on into Battenhall Park reaching a play area on your right. At a junction of paths turn right signposted Bath Road & City centre, continue along this path with trees on both sides. You will shortly pass Duck Brook Community Orchard which is well worth a visit for seasonal fruit including the famous Worcester Black Pear. The orchard has a brook channel providing a watery habitat for aquatic invertebrates and small fish. It provides a wetland habitat for species such as marsh marigold, meadowsweet and purple loosestrife.

Continuing on at a junction of paths bear left passing a play area on your left continue straight on until you reach Bath Road. Cross at the crossing and turn left, after 100 metres turn right along a narrow tarmac footpath to join Osier Close and after 20 metres to meet St Mark's Close.



Wild About Worcester Way: Worcester Woods Country Park to Cherry Orchard



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