

Cherry Orchard to Gheluvelt Park

Alternative accessible route marked *.

Car parking is available on Waverley Street, at Croft Road, and towards the end of this section of the walk at the Pump House.

From the junction of Osier Close and St Mark's Close continue across the road straight on along a footpath coming to a dead end road on your left, bear right here stepping down onto a footpath keeping two garages to your left with Cherry Orchard Nature Reserve to your right. Follow the path down a slope through woodland crossing a wooden bridge on your right. After crossing the bridge follow the path up a slope until the river Severn is on your left and continue along the path to reach Diglis Footbridge.

*Alternative accessible route. From the junction of Osier Close and St Mark's turn right after a short while joining Waverley Street. Continue down the slope and just before a car park on your left turn left along a path keeping a model railway track to your left and Diglis Fields to your right. Follow the path bearing left up a slope then right continuing to follow this winding path until you reach Diglis Footbridge. Go across Diglis Footbridge and join the footpath (Bromwich Parade) with the River Severn on your right. After a short while you will reach a weir across the river along with Diglis Fish Pass. Installed in 2021 it allows Twaite Shad and other species to migrate up the river and spawn.

20 metres on you will reach Chapter Meadows on your left. The meadows are cut for hay and grazed by cattle. During Winter flooding fertilises the grass to produce a good crop each year. There are two signposted circular walks to follow, the yellow buttercup route is wheelchair accessible. Continue along Bromwich Parade and eventually you will have uninterrupted views of Worcester Cathedral to your right.

Continuing on you reach the Swan Sanctuary created in 1980 following a decline in the population of Mute Swans. Research showed this was caused by lead used in angling weights. Fishing is banned between the Ferry Steps and the upriver railway viaduct. As you can see the swans now flourish in this lead free environment. Please keep your dog on a lead in this area.

Continuing straight on you pass Worcestershire County Cricket Club to your left, to your right look out for St Andrews Spire where Peregrine Falcons nest. You can watch them raise their families between April and June on Worcester City Council's website. Shortly you will arrive at the traffic bridge crossing the Severn, here cross the road at the crossing bearing right to keep the river close by on your right. Continue straight on along Henwick Parade passing under the railway viaduct until you reach Sabrina footbridge, cross the river here.

If you need refreshments here, turn right after the bridge walking for 50 metres to find the Café Viaduct and toilets to your right.

Turn left after crossing the bridge and you will see Pitchcroft on your right, home to Worcester Racecourse, after a further 80 metres you will arrive at the entrance to Worcester Racecourse. Walk ahead through the entrance with the grandstand to your left continuing straight on to reach a tarmac path with stables and outbuildings on your left. The path opens out with the River Severn on your left. Continue straight on following the path to the right as you see houses in front of you, shortly after turn left to join Waterworks Road. Follow the road round to the right to pass the Pump House Environment Centre which houses a café and toilets. 10 Metres after passing the Pump House turn left into Gheluvelt Park.

* Alternative race day/events route with car parking if required. After crossing Sabrina Bridge turn right and follow the path left crossing Grandstand Road to keep the railway viaduct to your right, follow the tarmac path. When you reach a road (Castle Street) turn left keeping the racecourse to your left, at the next junction bear left continuing straight on to pass the Swan Theatre on your left. Continue straight on until the road bears to the right, here continue forward along a path marked Stephenson Road. Continue straight on along a narrow alleyway passing fields, an orchard and allotments to your left. When you reach a road (Pitchcroft Lane) turn right and then left along Pope Iron Road passing the Winning Post pub on your right. At a T junction continue straight on to re-join the main route into Gheluvelt Park. You can turn left immediately after entering the park to visit the Pump House Environmental Centre which has a café and toilets*.



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