

# Hackney Legal Walk

1st October 2021

**Start – Princess of Wales pub, 146 Lea Bridge Road, E5 9RB**

<https://www.princessofwalesclapton.co.uk/>



**Buses** 55 and 56 from Clapton

**Parking** at the pub (£2 for three hours – refundable if you spend money at the pub. You can also pay again if you stay longer and be refunded).

**Free parking** at **Lea Valley Waterworks Centre** – Lammas Road, off Lea Bridge Road (about 400 metres further up Lea Bridge Road)

**Registration – 10.00 - 10.30 am** in the pub garden

**Finish** – back at the **Princess of Wales pub** – where you can use your voucher to get a drink.

## Directions

Letters refer to photos below; numbers to map.

From the Princess of Wales, continue south along the canal towpath, cross the bridge and after about 100 metres, enter the **Middlesex Filter Beds (A)** on your left. Turn right to walk through the filter beds and at the end turn right and follow the path to the exit onto Hackney Marshes. Turn left and follow the path to the red-sided **Friends Bridge (B)** over the River Lea.

Do not cross the bridge but continue right on the tarmacked path with the river on your left. After around four hundred metres **[1]**, take the dirt track to the left beside a row of dustbins **[C]**. The path winds between the trees closer to the river **[2]** (if muddy you can continue on the tarmacked path).

The two paths meet near the **Marshes Centre** at a footbridge with a metal sculpture in front of it **[D]** (*toilets at the Marshes Centre, continue straight on and turn right – about 200 metres*). Cross the bridge over the river into East Marsh, continue straight on bearing left up a slope and at the top bear left and cross the red bridge over East Way (A106) **[3]** then bear right to cross the bridge over the A12 and into the Olympic Park towards the **velodrome**.

Bear right and just after you pass the velodrome on your left, turn right at Alfred Gate (signposted to Here East). Pass the Olympic Rings on your left **[E]**, cross the River Lea and immediately afterwards go down the steps to your left. At the river turn right, walking south with the river on your left. Immediately after walking under the third bridge, climb the stairs to your right and turn left **[4]**.

*\*NB For the toilets at the Timber Lodge café – don't turn right at Alfred Gate but continue on the same path for around 200 metres to reach Timber Lodge on you left. Then turn right at the next path, cross the river and turn left towards Westfield Road.*

Continue on this level towards the **West Ham Stadium**, bearing right and then, before you reach **Manderville Place**. Turn left at the signpost to **Arcelor Mittal Orbit** crossing the river above **Carpenters Road Lock** and then onto the Tessa Jowell Boulevard with the Waterworks River to your left.

Pass the Aquatic Centre on your left (*Toilets next to the Last Drop café to your right*) and the Arcelor Mittal on your right. At the end of this path **[5]**, turn right into Thornton Street, passing the Arcelor Mittal on your right. (*NB there are roadworks beside the Arcelor Mittal; follow the pedestrian diversion, turn left to get to the Last Drop café and right towards the West Ham Stadium*). At the entrance to the stadium take the stairs to the left towards the City Mill River **[F]**. At the river turn right and follow the river to Carpenter's Road Lock where the City Mill River joins the River Lea. Take the narrow pale blue footbridge across the Lea signposted to Old Forde Lock **[G]**.

Follow the path with the river on your right and the stadium on your left **[6]** towards Old Forde Lock, where the River Lea joins the River Lea Navigation. Take the narrow footbridge to your right **[H]** across the Lea and follow the Capital Ring path northwards **[7]** with the River Lea Navigation on your left. Soon after passing a primary school on your right, you will reach a row of bars/cafes with *toilets*.

Continue northwards along the tow path, passing under the A12 and A106 and then after 250 metres, Homerton Road **[8]**. Continue north, turning into the marshes at a path to your right **[I]** then left to cross the marshes and join the path between the filter beds and the Friends Bridge. Turn left, passing the entrance to the filter beds. Re-join the tow path **[9]**, continuing north to cross the bridge and return to the Princess of Wales.



From top row, left to right

- The Middlesex Filter Beds (A)
- The Friends Bridge (B)
- The start of the muddy path beside the River Lea (C)
- The Sign beside the bridge into the East Marsh (D)
- The Olympic Rings (E)
- The steps down to the City Mill river beside the Stadium (F)
- The bridge over the River Lea towards Old Forde lock (G)
- The bridge at Old Forde lock (H)