

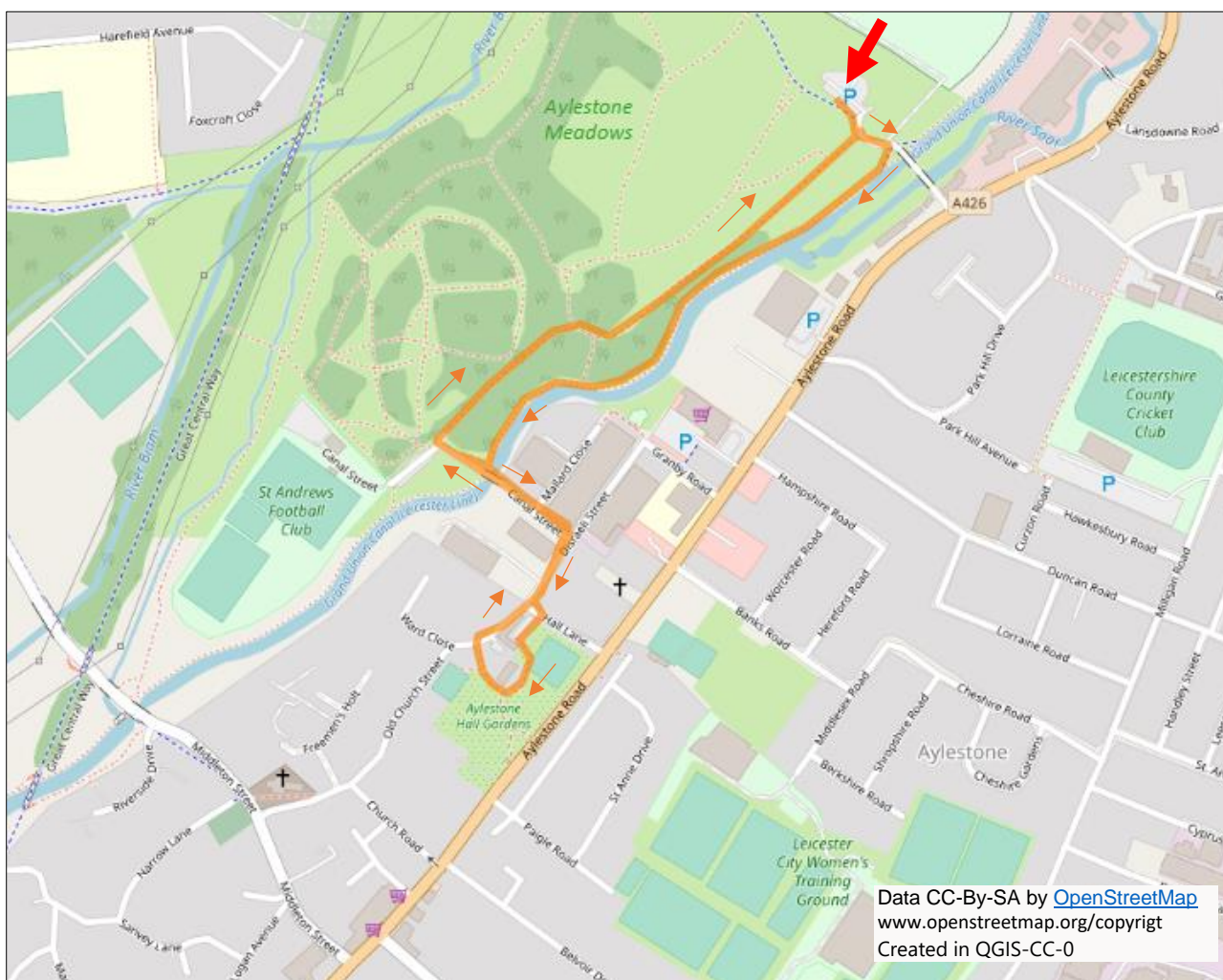
Aylestone Meadows & Aylestone Hall Gardens – Accessible Route





Start location: Aylestone Meadows car park (near Aylestone Mill Lock), off Aylestone Rd, Leicester

Time taken: 30-35 minutes (steady pace)* **Distance:** 1.2 miles, 2 km **Circular route** **Accessible**

Description:

Enjoy the city's blue and green spaces and explore Leicester's canal waterways with this self-guided walk along the Grand Union Canal. We pass Aylestone Mill Lock, Aylestone Hall Gardens and return via Aylestone Meadows. This is a short accessible route along firm paths.



-  Main route
-  Alternative route
-  Stage / waypoint
-  Start

*Time is calculated at a steady pace of 2mph, if walked without stopping. Allow extra time to look at points of interest and read the information.

This route was developed by staff and volunteers for Canal & River Trust, Beat The Street and Leicester City Council.
www.choosehowyoumove.co.uk/walks

Walk starts: Aylestone Meadows car park (near Aylestone Mill Lock), off Aylestone Rd, Leicester

The start location is close to Aylestone Road which is served by buses. To plan your journey in Leicester check out: www.choosehowyoumove.co.uk

Safety tips:

- Keep away from the water's edge while walking along the canal tow path.
- Watch out for cyclists along the canal and within Aylestone Meadows.
- The canal path and meadows can be prone to flood after heavy rain, usually in the wetter months. Paths are usually fine during the summer.
- Take care crossing roads and watch for vehicles on the access roads to/from the car parks.

Route directions:

- Starting from the Aylestone Meadows car park **(P)** near Aylestone Mill Lock, head along the access road towards the canal. Before the bridge, take the path on the right which leads to the canal tow path. Continue on this path with the canal on your left. This is a scenic section of the canal which is especially pleasant in spring and summer.
- Continue along the canal as far as Parson's bridge. Just before the bridge, take the path on the right (up the slope) to leave the canal. Exit on the road (watch for traffic here).
- Here you can do a short detour to Aylestone Hall Gardens. To do so, turn left on Canal Street and cross the bridge over the canal. Continue past a new housing estate. At the junction, cross ahead with care then turn right on Disraeli Street.
- Continue to the junction with Hall Lane. Cross Hall Lane with care to enter Aylestone Hall Gardens ahead via the car park entrance (careful – watch for vehicles).
- Cross the small carpark past buildings which were once stables. Turn left to pick up the path through the hedge. Pass the bowling green to your left and old Aylestone Hall to your right. There is an information board here to read more about it. At a path junction turn right around the side of the big house. Pass the path to the tennis courts on your left. Continue on to exit the Gardens through an archway in the brick wall.
- Turn right on Old Church Street and continue to the next junction. Cross over Hall Lane with care and continue ahead on Disraeli Street. Turn left on Canal Street and retrace your steps past the new houses and over Parsons Bridge.
- Pass the path where you came up from the canal and continue ahead towards St Andrews Football Club car park (watch for vehicles here).
- By the line of wooden bollards and metal gate, bear right on the surface path. Keep ahead on this main path to return to the Aylestone Meadows car park off Aylestone Road (near Aylestone Mill Lock), where you started.

Acknowledgements

Route researched and developed in collaboration by staff and volunteers for the Canal & River Trust, Beat The Street and Leicester City Council.