



PUB WALKS developed by CAMRA and Ramblers



Discover Stoke Newington

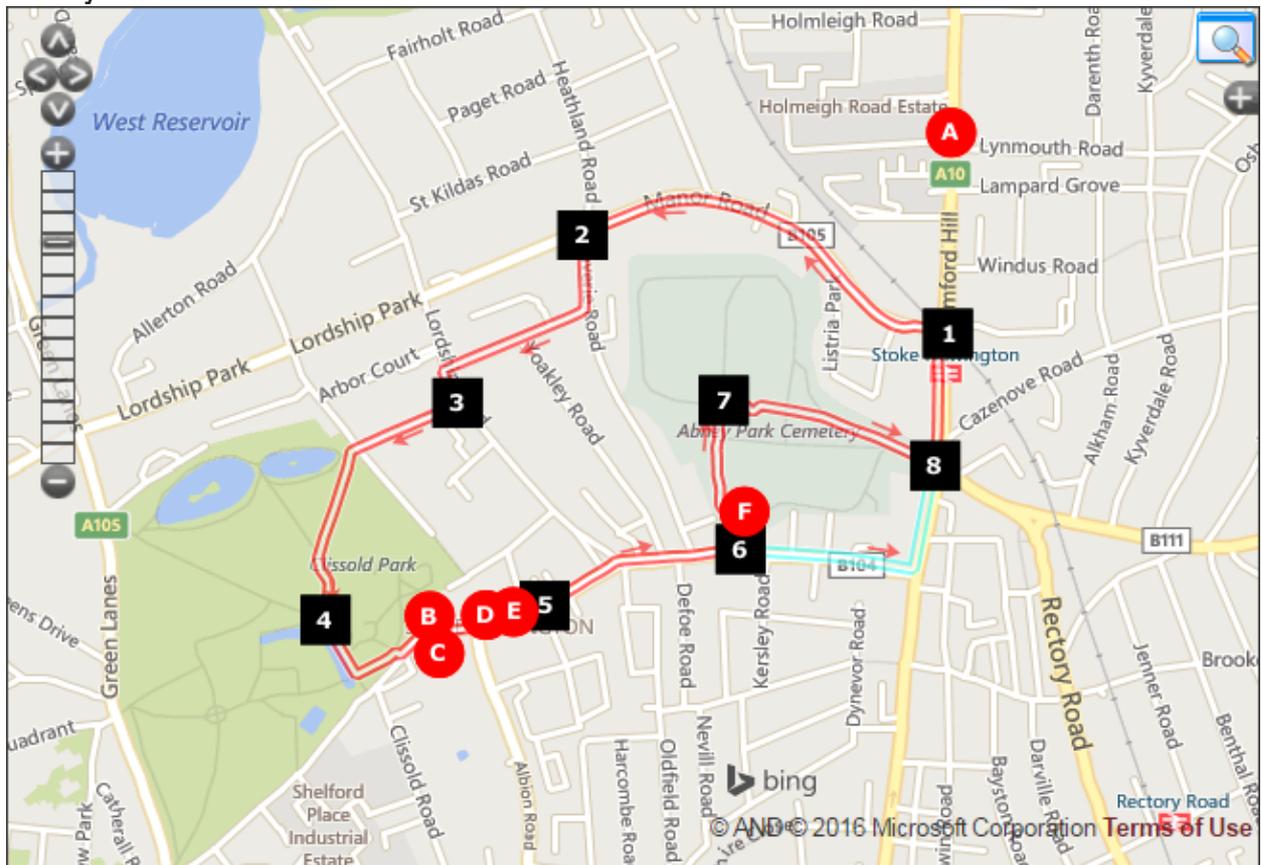
Difficulty **Easy** Walking time **40 minutes** Length **3.1km / 1.9mi**

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Route checker: **Brian Hunt**

Start location: Stoke Newington Railway Station

Route Summary: This is a lovely walk of under an hour, discovering Stoke Newington's parks and historic buildings. The circuit passes through Clissold Park, architecture and boutique shops and cafes of Stoke Newington Church Street and Abney Park.



Description



[1] Leaving Stoke Newington Rail Station cross the main road (Stamford Hill) at the pedestrian crossing immediately in front of the station entrance. Then, with a large grey building called Hugh Gaitskell House on your left, continue straight ahead onto Manor Road.

(A) Stamford Hill was formerly part of Ermine Street, a major Roman road built in the period 45-75 AD. Ermine Street ran northwards from London – its extension as far as Lincoln, York and beyond mirrored the progressive Roman conquest of Britain. In Medieval and Tudor times Stoke Newington, at the time a small village outside London, provided a pit stop for those travelling northwards up Ermine Street. During the 19th century Stoke Newington was absorbed into London's expanding urban mass, and became the home to wealthy residents who could travel via the first railways and omnibuses to their workplaces in the city centre each

day, whilst their families benefited from the relatively clean air of the city outskirts. Many expensive large houses were built for such families, and are still evident in the area today.

Follow Manor Road for quite some time, keeping to the left-hand side of the street. A parade of shops will give way to residential properties lining the street. You will then pass a large modern red brick development on the left (St Anne's Home), before reaching Bouverie Road.

[2] Cross and then turn left, and walk down Bouverie Road. Take the first turning on the right. (Grayling Road - marked by a red post box on the corner). Continue to the end of this road, passing Grazebrook Primary and Nursery School on your left. At the T-junction, at the end, turn left (Lordship Road).

[3] A short distance ahead you will see a sign for Grazebrook Road – the first turning on the right. Cross the street and head down Grazebrook Road, and upon reaching the end enter Clissold Park via the simple iron gate. *Clissold Park was opened as a public park in 1889, saving Newington Common and the grounds of Clissold House from development.* If you wish, take a break to feed the ducks in the ponds on your right, otherwise walk on, following the footpath that leads off almost straight ahead. To your left should be several tennis courts, beyond which towers the spire of St Mary's Church. When the path joins another in an angled T-junction, bear left and walk with the tennis courts still on your left towards the yellow brick building ahead. *This building is Clissold House, a Grade II listed building dating from the 1790s. Here you will find public toilets, a café and a new children's playground.*

1 **[4]** Skirt around Clissold House in an anti-clockwise direction, then follow the footpath running parallel to a stream on its right. This short stretch of water was once part of the New River, an artificial waterway that provided London with fresh drinking water between the 17th and 19th centuries. *If you wish you can take a detour across the footbridge to your right, where you will find a children's paddling pool and various animal enclosures including an aviary and deer park.* Otherwise, go left and, shortly, exit the park via another simple iron gate onto Stoke Newington Church Street. Turn left and you will soon pass two churches, one on either side of the street. An unusual pub, The "[Stoke Newington Tea House](#)", is located on Stoke Newington Church Street. In 2015 the lease was taken on by Yummy Pub Co. as a "tea-themed" pub, hence the name. A significant non-feature is the bar



– there isn't one! Customers are served over a vaulted bookcase displaying over 100 styles of brews. Alongside their spectacular tea selection, the pub serves cask beer from six hand pumps. The Tea House has a classic Art Deco style and with its elaborate iron and glass interior it has a lively modern feel. The exterior is Grade II listed and the pub also has a lovely walled garden. This pub serves two regular beers – Wells Bombardier and Wells Eagle IPA. It also offers four changing beers.

These two churches are known as Saint Mary's. (B) The one on the left is the old parish church, built in 1563. (C) The larger church on the right was built in the 1850s in response to the rapid growth of the local population, and it features an impressive 220ft (25m) spire. Next you will pass on your left Stoke Newington Town Hall (D), a large rounded brick building set back from the road, followed shortly after by Stoke Newington Public Library (E), also on your left. Both are Grade II listed buildings.

[5] Continue along Stoke Newington Church Street for several minutes, keeping to the street's left-hand side. Take care when crossing side streets. *Church Street is home to many*

shops, cafes, pubs and restaurants, almost all of which are independent businesses rather than belonging to chains. Shortly after passing the Daniel Defoe pub on your left you will come to a section of brick wall and iron railings marking the perimeter of Abney Park Cemetery and Nature Reserve.

[6] Enter Abney Park through the gate, climbing a short flight of 7 steps. Once inside Abney Park, follow the narrow paved footpath a short way, until the junction with a wider dirt path. (*Monument to William Booth founder of the Salvation Army*). Turn left at this point and follow the path for a few minutes. Keep left at Lion (*memorial to Frank Bostock, menagerist*). Shortly you reach a crossroads junction.



(F) Abney Park was formerly one of the 'magnificent seven' garden cemeteries of London, and is now a woodland memorial park and nature reserve. It is the burial site of various historical figures, More information can be obtained at the Visitor's Centre (open Mon - Thurs 10.00 am - 2.00 pm) adjacent to the gate from which you will exit.

[7] Turn right and walk towards and past the church-like brick building, the disused Abney Park Chapel. (*Turn right here and go behind war memorial, for monument to Dr Isaac Watts, (photo), father of the English Hymn, buried in Bunhill Fields, who lived for 14 years at Abney House*). Continue straight ahead along the dirt path for a while, then, upon reaching a junction marked by a circular pattern of brick pavers, keep straight, to follow a stretch of path paved with brick, towards a grand gateway.

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[8] Exit Abney Park through this gate, onto the busy road Stoke Newington High Street/ Stamford Hill. Turn left and join the main pavement, then walk up Stamford Hill on the left-hand side of the street, opposite a parade of shops. Continue until you reach the traffic lights marking the junction with Manor Road, and turn right to cross Stamford Hill at the pedestrian crossing, arriving back at Stoke Newington Rail Station. Near the rail station on Stoke Newington High Street is the "[Jolly Butchers](#)" pub. With its red painted exterior and large clear picture windows, this pub immediately catches your attention when rambling down Stoke Newington High Street. It is a one room pub containing



an unusual mix of church pew seats with prayer book slots around large tables, an open kitchen and a bar offering up to six cask beers and three ciders. You can order food from a menu which offers a wide range of both classic and non-traditional pub meals. Food is served Monday to Friday between 17.00 - 22.00, Saturday 12.00 - 22.00 and on Sundays roasts are served 12.00 - 21.00. This pub serves three regular beers – Five Points Pale Ale, King Beer Horsham Best Bitter and Moor Beer So'Hop. It also serves 3 changing beers.

POI information

This is a lovely walk of under an hour, discovering Stoke Newington's parks and historic buildings. The circuit passes through Clissold Park, home to many amenities such as tennis courts, an aviary, deer park and summer paddling pool. It then takes in the architecture and boutique shops and cafes of Stoke Newington Church Street, before exploring the beautiful and mysterious Abney Park, one of London's original 'magnificent seven' garden

cemeteries. This walk should only be carried out during daylight hours, due to the opening times of the park.

Notes

Accessibility:

The route is flat and along pavements and tarmaced park paths except for Abney Park Cemetery. The paths there are firm and reasonably level dirt / gravel paths but may be muddy after rain. The route into the cemetery at [10] includes seven steps. A step free alternative is available by continuing along Stoke Newington Church Street and then turn left at end, into Stoke Newington High Street, where you rejoin the main route at main cemetery entrance [12]. You may then wish to explore the cemetery, before leaving and returning to the station.

Additional Information:

Website of the Clissold Park User Group: www.clissoldpark.com

Website of Abney Park Trust: www.abney-park.org.uk

For more information about Pubs & Wellbeing please visit:
www.camra.org.uk/pubs-wellbeing

For more information about local routes, please visit:
www.ramblers.com

Looking for another pub walk in London? Try CAMRA's London Pub Walks – available at: <https://shop.camra.org.uk/>

