

Ludwell Valley Walk

Part of Exeter's Green Circle

Length: ~3 Miles Duration: 1 hour

THE EXETER GREEN CIRCLE

The Exeter Green Circle is a twelve-mile walk around the outskirts of Exeter – from green countryside valley parks to the pavements of quiet leafy suburbs.

The walk has five sections as shown on the full route map below.



Canals to countryside

The Ludwell Valley Walk explores the Riverside Valley Park, passing over the historic Exeter Ship Canal and the River Exe with its weirs and former mills.

In contrast through the Ludwell Valley Park the walk follows the quiet Northbrook overlooked by sloping meadows. Quiet roads and lanes link Wonford and Whipton with names that echo the former rural nature of the area such as Sweetbrier Lane and Woodwater Lane.

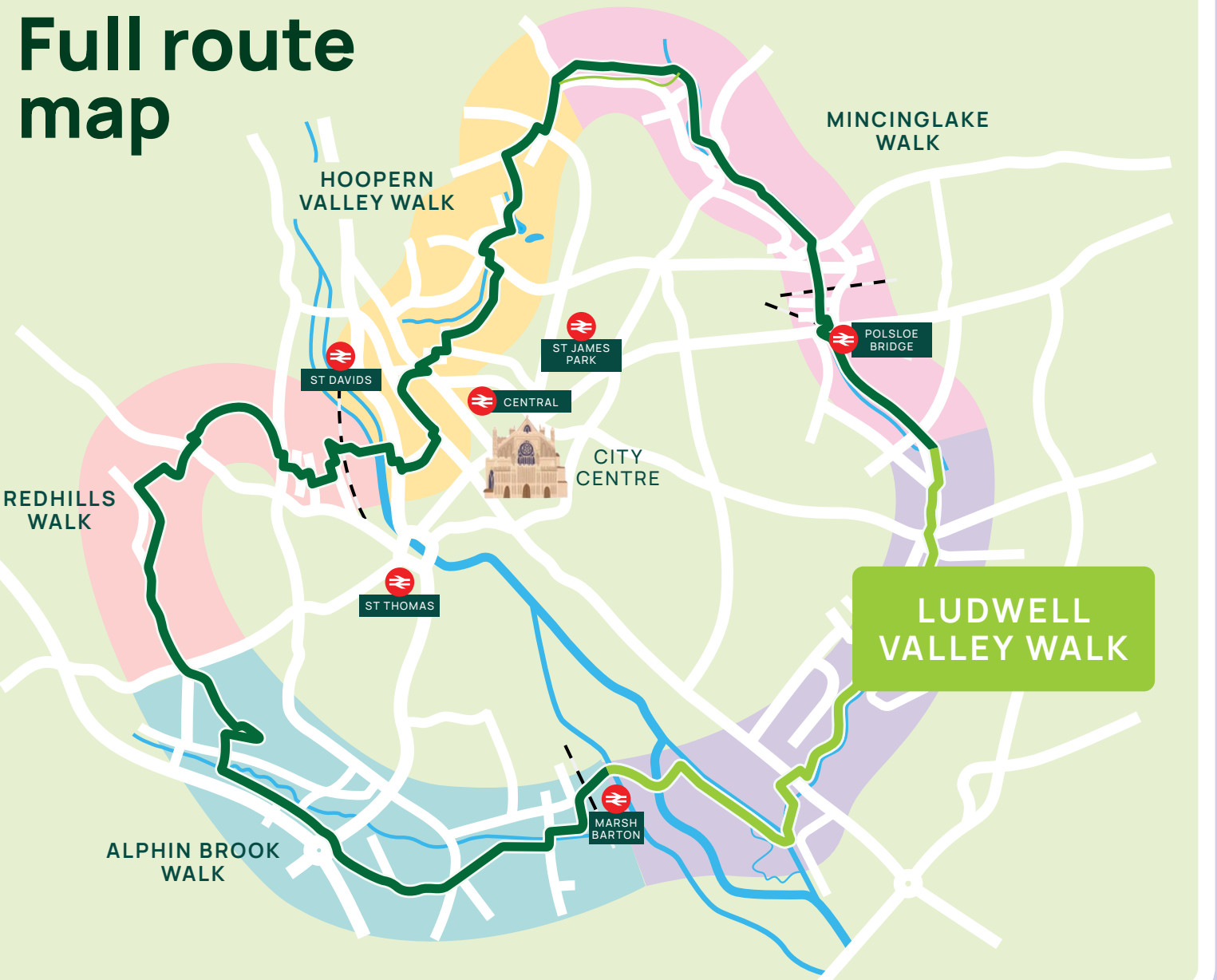
Points of interest

- 1 Riverside Valley Park**
A buttercup-filled meadow alongside the winding River Exe with wonderful views across the city to its cathedral.
- 2 Exeter Ship Canal**
Opened in 1566 it was the first canal to use the pound lock.
- 3 Double Locks**
The country's longest locks, fitting two ships at once ('double locks'). The pub here is a great stop for waterside drinks.
- 4 University of Exeter Duckes Meadow**
A multi-purpose playing field used by University students for rugby, football, American football and lacrosse.
- 5 Countess Wear Mill**
Operated from 1638 to late 19th century as a paper mill, and before that for corn milling. It drew its water power from the leat flowing from St James' Weir.
- 6 Exeter & Devon Crematorium**
14 acres of tranquil grounds, with meandering paths through an avenue of trees leading to the riverbank.
- 7 Ludwell Valley Park**
The rolling meadows here are a real wildlife haven. Harvest mice nest in the fields, whitethroats and blackcaps skulk in the hedgerows and orange-tip and painted lady butterflies feed on the wildflowers.
- 8 Wonford Sports Centre**
One of Exeter City Council's five leisure centres, with a well-equipped gym, sports hall, and all-weather pitch.
- 9 Heavitree Pleasure Ground**
A popular family park with a wide range of recreational facilities including paddling pools, six tennis courts, basketball court, skatepark, BMX track, bowling green and kick about area.

Map key

- Footpath, pavement or quiet road (generally smooth surfaces; occasional kerbs)
- Public footpath or bridleway or permitted footpath (surface may be rough or muddy; occasional gates and steps)
- Connecting footpaths
- Railway line
- Waterways
- Train station
- Bus and coach station
- Play area
- Toilet
- Viewpoint

Full route map



Scan the QR code for more information on the full Green Circle, its accessibility and public transport options.

