



## Trent Lock and Sawley walk

### **Start and end of route:**

The walk starts and ends at Trent Lock, NG10 2FY

**Distance:** In 3.1 miles and 5 kilometres

**Time:** 50 minutes

**Suitability:** Parts of the route down the River Trent and canals are suitable for bikes so you could alter the route to accommodate cycling. The route is flat with good access, but parts would not suit wheelchair access.

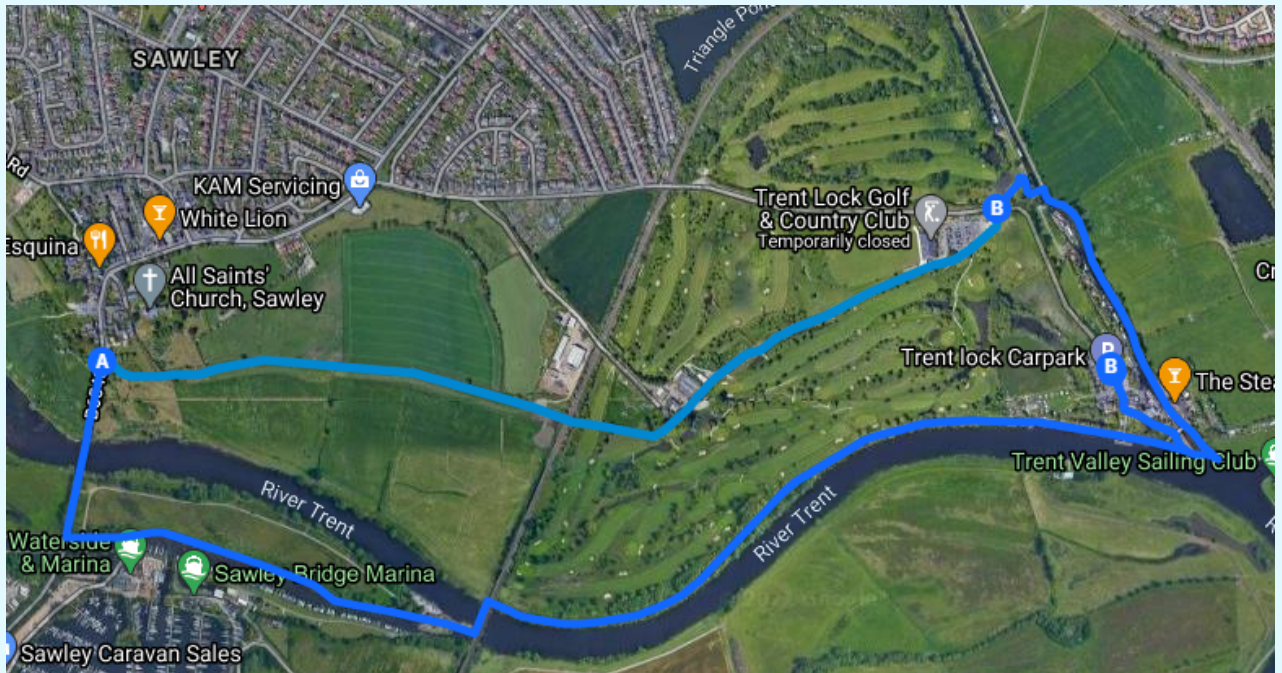
**Refreshments and toilets:** Public toilets are at the start of the route in Trent Lock car park. There are also opportunities for refreshment and to use toilets at various pubs/cafes on the way around- please see description for details.

**Brief description of route:** 60% of this walk is by the water, be it the River Trent or the Erewash/Sawley Marina Canal. If you have time, why not take a refreshment stop in the old village of Sawley when half way around? It has various places you can grab some food or a drink or pack up a picnic and sit by the water.



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### Route map:



**Starting point and finish point:** Trent Lock car park.

**Directions to starting point:** From Sawley Train Station head under the railway bridge and down Tamworth Road. After about 0.5 mile take the left turning on to lock lane there is a signpost to Trent Lock, follow this Road for around a mile at the end of it you will come to the car park.



1. From the car park walk to the left of the Trent lock pub and follow the path keeping the pub on your right. You will see the river Trent in front of you and two bridges over the canal.



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2. We suggest you walk over the bridge furthest away as it gives you a stunning view of the Trent. This is a great place to sit and take in the bluespace and maybe try a mindfulness activity to help you relax into the walk. You can see the train bridge that leads trains to a tunnel through Redhill on the opposite side. The River Soar joins the River Trent just to the right and there are also two canal openings also in view. All this with a backdrop of the powerstation which creates a slightly eerie beauty.



3. From here you turn back on yourself and walk up the Erewash Canal towards Long Eaton. You will walk past the other bridge and the lock, which has the Steamboat pub adjacent to it.





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4. As you walk up the canal you will see a little outbuilding that is owned by the Canal and River Trust and is available for school and community groups to access.



5. As you continue up the canal you will see an array of beautiful house boats.





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6. When you reach the footbridge cross over the canal. Why not take the time to look back where you have come from? There is a lovely view back down the canal towards Trent lock.
7. You will then walk through a small wooded area and cross over trent lane.





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8. At the other side of the lane you will see a stile, cross this to join the footpath that takes you onto the golf course.



9. As you walk up you will pass the first tee, just keep an eye out for people teeing off. Golfers are used to people using the path but it's worth being aware of them.



10. As you walk up the golf course you will pass some water features and eventually come to a gate allowing access for you to cross a farm with buildings and farm house on your right hand side.





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11. You keep walking on this track and it will open back onto the golf course. Again just be aware of golfers crossing your path but head for the tunnel under the railway line.



12. Coming out of the tunnel you will walk up onto the flood bank, the old part of the village of Sawley is directly in front of you. You can see the church steeple in front of you with Sawley to your right, and in mid distance you can see the river Trent on your left.





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13. **You are halfway.** Keep following the path and it will eventually bring you to the main road. At this point if you pop right there are 4 to 5 pubs all within around 500 meters, so it makes a good stop point. But to stay on the walk, cross the road and turn left.



14. As you walk up you can see where the old toll houses used to be. These were places used to collect money from people using the bridge. The Bridge was built in 1790 and the houses were demolished in the 1930's. Here is a picture of how it looked, which was taken looking back from the right as you cross the bridge.



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15. You will need to cross back to the otherside. **Caution:** Be aware the traffic here can be busy and some people tend to be driving a little fast as they come into Sawley.



16. As you cross the river you will reach the canal and turn left walking down the towpath with the canal on your right hand side.



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17. You will come to the old lock keepers cottage which has been converted into an outdoor cafe as well as a small craft beer pub. Opening times may vary so best to check via their facebook page if you are planning to refresh yourselves. <https://www.facebook.com/TheLockkeepersRest/>



18. As you walk on you will see the footbridge in front of the railway bridge where you can cross. But if you have time check out the view from underneath the railway bridge to the right of the starting point of the footbridge. A great place to take a photo, connect via a mindfulness exercise or sit and draw the beautiful scenery.





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19. On the other side of the bridge you turn right and walk down with the river on your right. It's such a lovely section of the trent. You may see people rowing from the devils elbow rowing club or people sailing from the local scout centre. They are both based at Trent Lock if you want to explore these activities, please see details:

Devils Elbow rowing club

<https://devilselbowrowing.co.uk/>

Trent Lock Scout Centre

<http://www.trentlock.org/>



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20. As you near the end of your walk you will see the sign that shows all the waterways coming together. You will see the Trent Lock pub beer garden on your right and you have reached your starting point. We hope you enjoyed this walk by the water.