

WALK INSTRUCTIONS

These instructions are to guide you from bridge to bridge, and they begin where it seems most appropriate to start the walk — at Bristol's first bridge. They are not intended to be a guided tour of the whole city, but some items of significant interest that you pass along the way are pointed out. The walk is circular, so you could choose your own preferred starting (and finishing) point if this would be more convenient. Many people will be tempted to omit the long Clifton-Avonmouth-Clifton "loop" along the course of the Avon, but this section of the walk is richly rewarding

and takes you through some delightful and varied scenery. I urge you not to miss this out! The section from Avonmouth Bridge to Clifton takes you over some rough ground and parts of it it can be very muddy in wet weather. Sensible shoes are a must.

Much use is made in these instructions of compass directions, so it is a good idea to take a compass/GPS. And just to be clear, "Downstream" = same direction as flow of river, "Upstream" = opposite direction to flow of river.

The walk begins at Castle Green. Before you start, take a look at the ruined St Peters Church. Note how (in the absence of other buildings) it gives an excellent all round view of the environs. It is likely that the Saxons made a settlement here and thus began Bristol. Now make your way down to the southwest corner of the park, to Bridge Street.

1. From Bridge Street cross **Bristol Bridge (1)** to Victoria Street

On your way across, upstream on your left you see one of Bristol's newest bridges, Castle Bridge. This will be the last bridge you cross if you do the whole walk. Until the Second World War Victoria Street was Bristol's main shopping street. Just ahead on the right is the enormous grey bulk of the Robinson Building (1963), Bristol's first high-rise office block, followed by a small row of gabled houses dating from 1675 (the date of 1485 on the wall refers to a previous building). You will pass some fine restored Victorian buildings on your left.

2. Walk along Victoria Street for 150m and turn left into Counterslip. Follow Counterslip and cross **St Philip's Bridge (2)** on the left pavement.

As you cross the bridge you see Temple Bridge upstream on your right, and behind it, Valentine's Bridge.

3. Immediately after St Philip's Bridge take the stairs to your left down to the waterside and walk towards Castle Park for 200m until you arrive at **Castle Ditch Bridge (3)**.

From here you now have a good view of Castle Bridge a little way downstream.

4. Cross Castle Ditch Bridge then turn right. Follow the path till you reach Queen Street, turn right and follow it to Passage Street. Turn left onto Passage Street (which becomes Narrow Plain) and follow it to Temple Way.

Just before Temple Way on the left is the church of Sts Philip and Jacob. Parts date from around 1200 but it was very altered in the 18th and 19th centuries.

5. Turn right onto Temple Way. Keep on the right side and follow it to **Temple Bridge (4)**.

St Philip's bridge is downstream, and Valentine's Bridge can be seen upstream.

6. Cross the bridge and at the end of the parapet wall take the ramp on your right, down to the water. Turn right and walk underneath the bridge. As you emerge, walk between the two red brick pillars and in about 200m you will arrive at **Valentine's Bridge (5)**.

7. Cross Valentine's Bridge, then immediately turn right and continue along Glass Wharf to **Meads Reach Bridge (6)**.

You will pass a pair of tall grey funnel shaped objects next to the water — this is an artwork called "The Freetank" by Roger Hiorns and refers to the glassmaking history of this area.

8. Cross Meads Reach Bridge and continue straight on towards the train sheds of Temple Meads station in front of you. In 200m when you reach the street called "Friary", turn left and walk up a ramp towards Temple Meads station.

You pass across the open end of a car park in Sir Matthew Digby Wyatt's extension (1871-8) to Brunel's original train shed (1839-41) which is on the other side of the timber partition wall at the far end.

9. Enter the station through the door with the sign 'Booking Offices' above, then immediately leave through the main doors on the right. Walk down Station Approach to Temple Gate.

The glass canopies of the station front Wyatt's 1870's building in reddish stonework. Brunel's original station building, in light grey stonework, is on your right, after the opening with "Passenger Shed" above it. On the other side of the carpark is the handsome Jacobean-style former headquarters of the Bristol and Exeter Railway (1852-4) designed by S C Fripp.

10. Cross Temple Gate at the traffic lights, turn left and follow it to **Bath Bridges — East and West (7) (8)**. Cross western Bath Bridge (newer, uninteresting), then follow the loop of the roundabout back and cross eastern Bath Bridge (older, interesting).

From the bridge, looking east, you can see Temple Meads station and the major railway bridge that carries the platforms.

11. After crossing both sides of Bath Bridge, turn right onto Cattle Market Road and pass underneath the platforms of Temple Meads station. On the other side of the platforms (the Cattle Market would have been on the left here) cross the road and continue on the small path towards **Brock's Bridge (9)**.

A few metres along this path, as you approach Brock's Bridge, you pass a channel cut into the riverbank on your right, blocked with debris. This was Totterdown Lock, which was the entrance from the river into the far eastern end of the Floating Harbour. There was a bridge over the entrance channel called Feeder Road Bridge. The channel was blocked in World War II to prevent the Floating

Harbour being drained of water in the event of a bomb hitting the lock gates.

12. At the time of going to press, both Brock's Bridge and St Philip's footbridge are not open to the public, pending further development on Temple Island. For the time being divert accordingly to reach Temple Meads Relief Line Bridge.

13. Cross Brock's Bridge, turn left. After 200m you arrive at **St Philip's Footbridge (10)**. Cross the bridge and turn right along the riverside path until you reach the **Temple Meads Relief Line Bridge (11)**. Take the stairs to your right and cross over the bridge.

14. Walk uphill to Bath Road. Turn left onto Bath Road (note the fine early 19th century signpost called the Three Lamps) and follow it towards Bath.

After about 200m, on the right you pass the Thunderbolt Pub with the spiky barge boards, a Grade 11 Listed Victorian pub formerly called the Turnpike, named after the Totterdown Turnpike gate (long demolished), located near where travellers entering the city along this road had to pay a fee. A few metres further on that side is Summer Street, which gives an interesting view up to Holy Nativity Church (1883, rebuilt 1958) with its distinctive green copper spire.

On the left you pass Totterdown Bridge which you cross later. 50m further on, opposite the bus stop, is a fine Victorian Italianate tenement building, and following that is a long handsome Victorian terrace row with attractive stone decoration on the triple height bay windows.

15. Leave Bath Road by veering left and enter The Paintworks, "Bristol's Creative Quarter". In 200m turn left at a big colourful 3D sign with PAINT in large white letters. At the river, turn right and walk upstream for 200m to **Sparke Evans Park Bridge (12)**.

16. Cross the bridge into Sparke Evans Park and descend the ramp.

A short detour in the park of 100m downstream (going west) will bring you to a copse, on the east side of which is a (very dilapidated) Edwardian bandstand, with some fine decorative cast iron columns and corbels.

17. At the bottom of the Sparke Evans Bridge ramp turn right and follow the path upstream (east) out of the park to the **St Philip's Causeway Bridges (East and West) (13) (14)**. Take the upper path underneath both

bridges then take the steps on the left up to street level.

18. Cross the east bridge on the upstream side first. Make your way clockwise around the roundabout by crossing three busy roads, and then cross the western downstream bridge. At the end of the bridge use the traffic lights to turn right and cross the two roads.

At some time in the future it may be possible to take a riverside footpath eastwards starting below the east bridge which will avoid having to walk through the Avon Meads Retail Park. Although there is a metal gate to tempt you at the start of this path it is currently (2019) a dead end.

19. Head into the retail park and follow the line of shops on your right. Pass to the left of the Showcase Cinema (railway now behind a fence on your left) and turn left under a railway bridge, then immediately right along Cole Road, with the dramatic elevated Spine Road ahead of you, until you get to Feeder Road. Turn right under another railway bridge and follow the Canal upstream to **Barton Hill Bridge (15)**. From here you can see Silverthorne Lane footbridge a little way downstream.

20. Cross Barton Hill Bridge and immediately turn right. Follow the footpath through Netham Park to **Netham Lock Bridge (East) (16)**.

21. At the lock, cross both roads and then turn right to cross the east bridge. Don't use the west bridge just yet, but, turn left and continue for 50m to **New Brislington Bridge (17)**.

From the bridge you have a good view of Netham Wier, downstream.

22. As soon as you are over the bridge take the gravel path on the left (past a stubby metal bollard) upstream along the river to **St Anne's Footbridge (18)**.

23. Cross St Anne's Footbridge and then turn left to follow the riverside path downstream back to Netham Lock.

On your left you will have a good view of the entrance to the Feeder Canal.

24. As you come to the Netham bridges again, cross the first road and then turn left to cross the **Netham Lock Bridge (West) (19)**. Turn immediately right on the right hand pavement of the Feeder Road which you now follow for some while.

In about 200m on the right you will pass a freight container in camouflage colours with a "green" roof. This houses the Feeder Canal Sand Martin Colony and is also a work of art. Carry on past Barton Hill Bridge, which we crossed earlier, underneath a railway bridge and the second St. Philips Causeway Bridge. As you pass under the latter, you can enjoy it's crisp, chunky concrete support columns and the undulating lines of the deck support girders. Next come some pipe and conveyor bridges wrapped in beige corrugated sheeting. (None of these are walkable by the public and are excluded).

25. At **Feeder Road Footbridge (20)**, cross the Feeder Canal into Barton Hill. Follow the

footpath to Silverthorne Lane, and turn left.

Immediately on your left is an impressive stone built Victorian Factory/Warehouse.

26. Follow Silverthorne Lane left around the corner, where it intersects with Gas Lane and Kingsland Road, but cross over to the pavement on the right side of Silverthorne Road.

On the corner are the very fine former offices of the John Lysaght Galvanising Works, faced in beige coloured smooth sandstone (1891-3). A few metres further on are wonderful Victorian Disneyesque main gates (Rundbogenstil, to be precise).

27. Carry on along Silverthorne Lane and at the T-junction turn left.

Straight in front of you at the T-junction is the huge stone-built former Avon Street Gas Works Retort House (1850s), now a nightclub.

28. Follow Avon Street to **Marsh bridge (21)**.

29. Cross Marsh Bridge and continue straight on Albert Road. Follow Albert Road around the bend then turn right at the next intersection towards **Totterdown Bridge (22)**.

30. Cross Totterdown Bridge, cross Bath Road and turn right. Follow Bath Road a short stretch to the Intersection with Angers Road.

31. Turn left into Angers Road and follow it all the way steeply uphill to its intersection with Wells Road. At Wells Road turn left, and in 50m cross at the pedestrian crossing in front of the old Lloyds Bank.

32. Turn right and use the crossing at the top of St John's Lane. Pass to the left of the island of shops into the upper part of Oxford Street. At the Oxford pub on the left, turn left onto Cheapside Street.

33. At the end of Cheapside Street turn right and immediately left onto Windsor Terrace. *Victoria Park is straight ahead in the distance.*

34. At the end of Windsor Terrace turn right onto St Lukes Road and follow it along the edge of Victoria Park, under a railway bridge and carry straight on to **Langton Street (Banana) Bridge (23)**.

35. Cross Langton Street Bridge and then turn left to follow the river to **Bedminster Bridges (East and West) (24) (25)**.

36. Turn left to cross eastern Bedminster Bridge (newer, uninteresting), then follow the roundabout around to western Bedminster Bridge (older, interesting) and cross the river again.

At the western bridge, if you turn round and face south, across Coronation Road behind some trees, is the handsome former Zion Congregational Chapel, (1830).

A few metres to the east of the bridge on the north bank is a Victorian drinking fountain, a listed structure, dated 1861, pre-dating this bridge by 20 years. It has a cast iron shell-shaped bowl and a marble splashback.

37. Cross Cumberland Road and carry straight on along the left side of Redcliffe Way. Turn left into Guinea Street and follow it to **Bathurst Basin Footbridge (26)**.

38. Cross Bathurst Basin Footbridge and turn left to walk along Bathurst Basin to **Bathurst Basin Roadbridges (East and West) (27) (28)**.

39. Use the pedestrian walkway on the side of east Bathurst Basin Roadbridge (older, interesting) to cross the entrance to Bathurst Basin, and then recross the water over west Bathurst Basin Roadbridge (newer, uninteresting).

40. Turn left onto Cumberland Road and follow it downstream.

At the start of Cumberland Road on the north side is a high stone wall. This is the remains of the outer wall of the city's "New Gaol", completed 1820, destroyed in the Bristol Reform Bill Riots of 1831, then rebuilt. A few metres down the road is the old gateway with an arch and two flanking towers. Public hangings took place on the walkway between the towers, sometimes in front of a crowd of thousands.

41. After a short stretch we reach **Gaol Ferry Bridge (29)**. Cross Gaol Ferry bridge.

Turn left and walk in the direction of St John's Church for about 40m and there is a gap in the railings where a track leads you down in a zig-zag 6 or 7m below the bridge. Stop before the path becomes muddy and slippery or you may end up in the water! From here you will get a great view down the river, with the bridge now high over your head.

42. Turn right and follow Coronation Road to **Vauxhall Bridge (30)**. Cross Vauxhall Bridge and its extension over Cumberland Road. Walk west downstream along the right hand side of Cumberland Road. At the intersection with Avon Crescent, cross Cumberland road to the left side. In 50m fork left along the Metrobus lane past one of the three huge redbrick Tobacco Bond warehouses (early 1900s) to **Ashton Avenue Bridge (31)**.

Here there are a good views downstream of Avon Bridge and in the distance the Clifton Suspension Bridge.

43. Cross Ashton Avenue Bridge and turn right to follow the path on the edge of Ashton Gate Park downstream to **Avon Bridge (32)**.

44. Pass underneath the bridge and then use the stairs or the ramp on the left to reach road level. Cross the Avon on the left-hand pavement of Avon Bridge, which takes you onto an exit ramp. Follow the exit ramp down to its end where on the left is the **South Entrance Lock Bridge (33)**. Cross the bridge.

As you cross the bridge, the Plimsoll Bridge looms above you on the right, just beyond is a concrete walkway you will cross shortly, and in the distance you can see New Junction Lock and its swing bridge.

45. Pass through the metal railings and turn right (past Brunel's Swivel Bridge on the dockside

on your left), then walk anticlockwise around the central pivot of the Plimsoll Bridge.

Howards Entrance Lock (1873) is on your left and the water of Cumberland Basin (1809) is straight ahead.

46. In a few metres you reach the **South Entrance Lock Walkway (34)**. Cross this concrete walkway.

47. In a few metres, turn right just after the giant anchor, to cross the grass, then turn right along Brunel Lock Road. Pass beneath **Plimsoll Bridge(35)** then use the spiral stairs on the right to climb up to road level. Turn left and cross the bridge. On the far side take the stairs down again. *As you cross the bridge, below you there is a good view of Brunel's Entrance Lock (1849). To the right of this is the now truncated entrance to Jessop's original Entrance Lock (1809), and to the right again, Howards Entrance Lock (1873).*

48. At the bottom of the stairs, immediately left there are four little steps and an open gate through which we pass onto the street pavement. Turn left, and in 100m go onto the footbridge and use it to cross Hotwells Road to Granby Hill

49. Follow Granby Hill upwards until it ends at the grand Royal York Crescent and becomes York Gardens.

Royal York Crescent dates from 1791–1820 and comprises 46 houses, possibly designed by William Paty.

50. Follow York Gardens up to the left which takes us onto Wellington Terrace which then becomes Sion Hill.

At the end of Wellington Terrace is the Avon Gorge Hotel, followed by the entrance arch of the former Clifton Rocks Railway, which was a funicular railway that ran from here down to the Portway. It ran from 1893–1934, and during WWII it was a secret transmission base for the BBC.

51. Cross to the Clifton Rocks Railway side and take the path to the left to reach the **Clifton Suspension Bridge (36)** and cross the bridge. *Just over the bridge is Burwalls on the left and the Bridge Visitor Centre on the right. Burwalls was built in 1872 for local newspaper proprietor Joseph Leech, designed by local architects Foster and Wood. In 1897, it became the family home of George Wills, tobacco baron. In 1946, it was bought by Bristol University. In 2016, it was converted into luxury apartments.*

The excellent Bridge Visitor Centre is open every day, with free entry.

52. Turn right into North Road.

Nightingale Valley is on the right and there are excellent views across the gorge of the tower of Clifton Observatory (1766) which houses a Camera Obscura. Half way down the cliff is the observation platform of the "Giants Cave".

53. When North Road dips slightly, enter Leigh Woods through a gate on the right. We recommend that you take a phone pic of the map on the Information board. You now follow route 41 all the way through Leigh Woods. Walk uphill

on the leftmost path. 200m after the Rangers hut turn left through a gap in the wall — signposted.

54. 500m after the gap in the wall you reach a tarmac road. Turn right. After 300m the road bends slightly to the left and a sign directs you gently downhill towards Paradise Bottom. 1.5km after this sign, watch out for another signpost on the left side of the track. Turn sharp right here on Route 41 towards Pill. You emerge from Leigh Woods at an elevated point overlooking the river. Turn left and head downhill. You will pass a railway viaduct on the left for the Portishead line.

Over the water you will eventually have a view of the Sea Mills railway bridge. Immediately behind it, across the tributary of the Trym, are the ruined walls of a wet dock dating from 1712. Immediately behind that you have a fine view of the Portway Viaduct (1926) which you will cross later. To the left of the Portway, in the middle distance, is the tower of St Ediths (1924). Further on you pass the low cliffs of the Avon's Horseshoe Bend on the opposite bank. The cliffs are a protected site of Special Scientific Interest because of the vegetation. Horseshoe Bend was a notoriously tricky spot for large ships to steer round. In 1874, the SS Kron Prinz, containing 200 tons of grain, grounded on the outer bank. The ship settled onto the steep mud bank and then tipped over. The cargo of grain was lost. Eventually, the ship was refloated and taken to Bristol for expensive repairs.

55. At Chapel Pill Farm, keep straight onto the tarmac road which becomes Chapel Pill Lane. Pass Ham Green Fishing Lakes on the left. At the end of Chapel Pill Lane, carry on in a straight line across the green, then dog-leg right and left and go across Watchouse Hill — probably the site of an Iron Age hillfort.

56. At Pill Sports Field, you will reach a cycle route 41 sign on a low post. At this point veer off the path to the right. Keep the netball pitch on your left and head towards the hedge. A pair of white grain elevators at Avonmouth should be directly ahead in the far distance.

From here you will get a splendid view of the Avonmouth Road Bridge which you will cross shortly.

57. Drop down towards the bottom corner of the field, keeping the hedge on your right. Here a small gap/style leads you into a lane in front of cottages. At the bottom of this lane turn left towards into the village of Pill (two pubs!) and walk all the way around the inlet, passing under the railway viaduct, and turn left into Marine Parade.

Pill (meaning inlet or harbour) was traditionally the residence of pilots who would guide boats up the Avon Gorge, between the Bristol Channel and the Port of Bristol.

58. After 150m, as Marine Parade turns to the left, continue straight on up a few steps onto the grassed ridge of the flood defences. Follow the ridge around a sharp left turn, then a sharp right turn, and keep to the right of the houses.

59. At a stile in a wooden fence, climb over onto the tarmac cycleway, turn right and proceed

onwards, upwards and over **Avonmouth Bridge (37)**.

60. After crossing the Avon, at a gap in the barrier on your right, take the steps down to ground level. Walk straight along the line of the bridge and across a small grassed area until you reach the junction of the Portway with West Town Road. Turn left and cross over the Portway at the traffic lights. Turn right, cross to the pavement on West Town Road. Continue down West Town Road.

61. Just after the railway line, cross over and take the signposted footpath into Lamplighters Marsh Nature Reserve and go through the metal entranceway. After 30m or so you will come to an interpretation board.

You have now joined the final leg of the Severn Way, a 338km long-distance path from the source of the River Severn at Plympton, in the uplands of mid-Wales to Bristol. For a two-minute diversion to the water's edge, and well worth it, at the interpretation board, head off the path at not quite 90 degrees towards the nearest bridge support pillar. You will soon see a gap in the thicket. Walk down this path for 30m and you will emerge in a clearing on the river bank with fine views up and down the river.

62. Take the path through the nature reserve until you reach the former Pill Ferry slipway and the historic Lamplighters Pub, which dates from 1760.

It was at this spot that King William III (William of Orange) landed in July 1690, on his return to England after defeating James II in the Battle of the Boyne in Ireland. The battle marked the end of James' efforts to wrest the English Crown back from the Dutch Invader. King William spent a night at nearby Kings Weston House.

63. Take the footpath ahead signposted to Sea Mills. Keep to the right hand edge of the sports fields.

Across the river you will soon see a white building with two squat towers and an arch. This is known as the Ham Green Folly, and was probably a watergate for nearby Ham Green House. In the 1920s, two nurses sunbathing near there were swept away by the wake of a passing ship and drowned.

64. When the riverside path ends, turn left into Northleach Road, then immediately right into Woodwell Road.

65. Cross the little concrete railway bridge and immediately take the path to the right. After 400m, at the top of some steps, you will have a superb view looking down onto Horseshoe Bend of the River Avon. As you reach two metal gates continue on the path signed to Sea Mills.

66. After another 500m you will see sports fields ahead and when the path forks, take the right hand fork.

67. 100m beyond the fork, the path turns right under a railway bridge. In 1 km you arrive at Sea Mills. Pass under the railway bridge.

Sea Mills was a Roman settlement, called Portus Abonae, abandoned by the 4th century AD. The

substantial stone walls in the channel of the River Trym, immediately to your right, are the remains of a wet dock built in 1712 by Joshua Franklyn, a Bristol merchant, to eliminate the need for large sailing ships to navigate the tricky route of the River Avon any further upstream. However, it never thrived due to poor transport links and was in disrepair by the end of the 18th century.

68. Now pass underneath the **Portway Viaduct (38)**.

For a pleasant short diversion and a splendid view of this beautiful bridge, carry straight on northwards along the bank of the Trym for 300m and cross over it by means of the little Trym Cross Bridge. Now walk south and return to the route by crossing over the little concrete footbridge on the north side of the viaduct.

69. Walk up the slope and cross the Portway Viaduct. The pavement across the bridge is very narrow, so take care here, although there is a cycle lane between you and the traffic. Turn left into Roman Way.

Where Roman Way joins the Portway are the remains of a Roman villa probably dating from the third century, which was part of the Roman settlement of Portus Abonae.

70. Walk up Sabrina Way for a few metres then turn right into Horse Shoe Drive. At the end of the drive take the steps down a few metres to another path and turn left. In 15m, take the right hand path at a fork and zig-zag down to the bottom of the slope and pass through a stile into Old Sneed Park Nature Reserve.

71. Keep to the right along the edge of the field and go through a gate into Bishops Knoll. Walk up the hill to another gate and turn left and continue up the hill to Bramble Lane.

72. At Bramble Lane, turn right and then keep straight on up Knoll Hill, followed by Seawalls Road. Turn left into The Avenue, then first right into Ivywell Road.

73. At the junction with Circular Road, turn right and carry on until it joins Ladies Mile. Turn right down Fountain Hill, following the raised footpath on your right. At the road junction ahead cross over the top of Bridge Valley Road to the Promenade.

74. Follow the wide footpath which directs you to the Clifton Suspension Bridge. After 400m, fork right to follow the public footpath sign. Take this path up and around (with glorious views of the gorge, river and bridge) to pass in front of the Observatory. Continue to follow this path as it now winds down to meet the junction of Observatory Road and Gloucester Row. Turn left along Gloucester Row to reach a zebra crossing. Cross over to turn down the Mall.

75. Follow the Mall to its end and turn left onto Princess Victoria street and follow it to its end. *As you walk down the Mall, on your left, opposite the Mall Gardens, you pass No 22, The Clifton Assembly Rooms, with a very imposing Grade II Classical facade of 1811 with six giant half-*

columns. It was designed by Bristol architect Francis Greenway, who was convicted of forgery in 1812 and sentenced to death, later commuted to transport to Australia, where he became the first Government Architect. Greenway's face was shown on the first Australian \$10 note (1966–93), making him probably the only convicted forger in the world to be honoured on a banknote.

76. At the end of the Mall, turn right onto Regent Street, and follow it to its intersection with Hensman's Hill where it becomes Clifton Hill. After 30m on Clifton Hill take a small path on the right which leads steeply downwards.

77. The path leads to Goldney Avenue where you turn right and then immediately left (and down) onto Goldney Road.

78. Follow Goldney Road to its end, which is a dead end for cars but not for walkers. Turn right onto the lane to go further down the hill. Note the fine distant views. The lane ends on Ambra Vale, where you continue straight and follow it down to Hotwells Road.

79. Turn right onto Hotwells Road and cross over via the traffic island to the opposite side of Hotwells Road. Take the second right into Rownham Mead.

80. Ahead of you, you will see a metal archway leading to Poole's Wharf Court. Pass under the archway and continue straight on through a gap between the houses. Pass through a metal gate and enjoy a surprise return to the harbourside. Turn right and follow the harbourside path.

In 50 m you pass a wide gap in the harbour wall which was the former entrance to the huge Merchants/Champion's Wet Dock (1773) which survived until 1967.

81. Cross **Poole's Wharf bridge (39)** and carry straight on, past the Pump House Pub to **New Junction Lock Bridge (40)**. Turn left and cross the bridge.

The shiny curved corrugated metal cabins that flank the bridge house the control rooms and pumps that open the lock gates and the bridge.

82. Go straight on to cross **Old Junction Lock Bridge (41)**. Continue straight ahead into Avon Crescent. After 100m, meters you carry on along Cumberland Road. In 50m, turn left into Underfall Yard.

The redbrick buildings on your left as you turn into the yard house the control systems for the sluice gates (underground beneath you) that control the level of the water in the Floating Harbour.

83. Turn right at the water.

You shortly pass the Cottage Pub (1868) which used to be used for storage of timber, and was the Harbourmasters Office (1975–83). There is a good view across the basin to Poole's Wharf Bridge.

84. At Bristol Marina turn right (no option!) then left across the head of the Marina. In 100m turn right into Hannover Place, and after 100m, turn left to follow the harbourside walkway. Pass the former Albion Dock on your left.

Albion Dock (1820) was the largest dry dock in Bristol, created by Charles Hill and James Hilhouse, who built many ships on the site until 1977. Abels Shipbuilders occupied it 1980–2016.

85. At Gas Ferry Road turn left.

The head office of Aardman Animations, creators of Wallace and Gromit, is straight ahead before you make the turn.

86. In 100m turn right to walk along the Harbour again for 500m.

87. At Prince's Wharf turn left to cross **Prince Street Bridge (42)**, then turn left again until you reach John Cabot's statue in front of Bush House. Turn right and follow St Augustine's Reach along Narrow Quay to **Pero's Bridge (43)**.

88. Turn left to cross Pero's Bridge then immediately turn right and follow the water to the point where it disappears beneath the waterfall. Turn right and cross the head of St Augustine's Reach to Broad Quay.

St Augustine's Reach used to extend northwards for a further 250m but was covered over in the 1930s to create "The Centre". It used to be the heart of the Port of Bristol — crowded with tall-masted ocean-going ships.

89. Turn right along Broad Quay for 100m until it meets Prince Street, then cross over and walk ahead into Queen Square. Cross diagonally through Queen Square.

Queen Square is one of the finest Georgian squares in the country, named after Queen Anne, who visited the city in 1702. It was extensively damaged by fire in the Bristol Corn Law riots of 1831. The equestrian statue of William III, in the centre of the square, is by John Michael Rysbrack, cast in 1733, and is one of the best of its kind in Europe.

90. Exit Queen Square past the Hole in the Wall pub (probably 17th or 18th century) keeping left to cross **Redcliffe Bridge (44)**.

As you approach Redcliffe Bridge the cathedral-sized St Mary Redcliffe Church (mostly 13th and 14th century) is behind it in the middle distance.

91. Straight after the bridge, turn left onto the waterside path which, in 50m, turns right. Dog-leg to the left along Redcliffe Back and Ferry Street to turn left into Redcliffe Street. Take the first right into Thomas Lane, and pass the historic Seven Stars Pub (note the plaque on the wall). Turn left onto St Thomas Street.

92. At Victoria Street turn right and immediately cross over into Counterslip.

93. Take the first left turn into Old Temple Street, which brings you to a small square. Follow the path around the building straight ahead and you will reach **Castle Bridge (45)**, the final bridge in the walk.

94. Cross Castle Bridge into Castle Park. Give yourself a pat on the back — you have now walked over all of Bristol's 45 bridges, crossing each one only once! To return to your starting point, turn left and walk 300m to Bristol Bridge.