

THE ANGLERS, TEDDINGTON LOCK AND HAM HOUSE, MIDDLESEX

A 3.5 mile circular pub walk from The Anglers in Teddington, Middlesex

The Anglers is a delightful, family friendly bar, serving up great fare from a peaceful riverside location, making it a blissful spot for a lingering meal or quick refreshment. The walking route crosses the Thames, before exploring the opposite bank with chance to see famous landmarks including Teddington Lock, Eel Pie Island and Ham House along the way.

Getting there

The Anglers is located on Broom Road in Teddington, directly alongside the river by Teddington Lock. You will probably find it easiest to arrive by public transport. Teddington train station is half a mile up the High Street (from the station go left onto Station Road, then right onto the High Street, go ahead at the lights into Ferry Road and follow this swinging right into Broom Road to find the pub). The area is well connected by bus, there are stops along Ferry Road - you will need the R68, 281 or 285. If you are coming by car, the pub has its own small car park and there is some street parking available (but check local restrictions).

Approximate post code **TW11 9NR**.

Walk Sections

Go → 1 Start to Teddington Lock



Leave the pub's front car park onto Broom Road and turn right along the pavement. Where the road swings left, turn right towards the river. Follow the tarmac slope ahead, passing the entrance gate for The Anglers pub garden on your right (a handy short cut when you return for sustenance later!). The pub sits in an idyllic spot,

Access Notes

1. The route is almost entirely flat, with no gradients to speak of.
2. There are no gates or stiles on route, but you will need to negotiate some generous staggered barriers (these are wide enough for pushchairs).
3. There are two flights of steps, but these can be avoided by using the ramps alongside. All the paths are tarmac or stone, meaning they are nice and firm all year round.
4. Dogs are welcome on all the paths, in fact this is a popular dog walking area.

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Easy Terrain



3.5 miles
Circular
1.5 hours

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alongside the river and close to Teddington Studios, so don't be surprised if you see famous faces. Past regulars included the cast of *The Office*, Johnny Depp, Tommy Cooper and many of the Six Nations rugby teams!

Keep straight ahead to cross the river via the blue and white footbridge. Across to your right you will see the large weir within the Thames. After the first bridge, continue ahead up the steps (or use the slope if you prefer) to cross the second bridge. At the far side, turn left down the steps (or use the ramp ahead if you prefer) and join the Thames Path with the river running on your left.

After just a short distance you will come to Teddington Lock on your left. The original lock was built here in the early 1800s, the footbridges were opened in 1889 and finally the barge lock followed in 1905. In 1940, the lock was an assembly point for a flotilla of small ships taking part in the evacuation of Dunkirk. In 1971, the lock was used as the filming location for the Monty Python Fish-Slapping Dance sketch. Every so often, there is a visit from a seal or two at Teddington, they mill around for a while catching fish and then head downstream and back to sea.



Teddington Lock to Thames Young Mariners



Beyond Teddington Lock, simply keep ahead on the Thames Path, with the river on your left. The woodland on your right is part of Ham Lands Nature Reserve. After about 400 metres, you will see a white stone obelisk on your left.

The obelisk marks the boundary of where the Environment Agency (that looks after the fresh water stretch of the Thames) hands over river management responsibility to the Port of London Authority (that looks after the tidal section). Teddington is well-known as the place where the Thames changes colour, signifying the highest point to which tides flow. There is an urban myth that the name derives from Tides End Town, but this is not true.

Continue ahead and later you will pass over a wide tarmac bridge which crosses the outlet channel for a lake on your right. The lake, an old gravel pit, is part of the Thames Young Mariners site where young people take part in a variety of outdoor pursuits including canoeing, sailing, kayaking, raft building, climbing and woodland skills. This makes a good spot to pause and enjoy both humans and wildlife in action.



Thames Young Mariners to Ham Street

Continue ahead on the main stone riverside path, ignoring any smaller paths to the right into the nature reserve. The path



swings steadily right for about 500 metres and, as the trees on your left thin out, you will see the eclectic housing of Eel Pie Island on your left.

The island was given its current name in the 1800s, when the eel pies served to visitors were famous. The largest hotel on the island, Eel Pie Hotel, hosted tea dances in the 1920s and 30s. The musical repertoire grew, and the venue was soon hosting jazz dances and R&B performances. Between 1962 and 1967, performers included Rod Stewart, Eric Clapton, The Who and The Rolling Stones. The hotel closed in 1967. Today, the island is largely residential but sustains a boat-building and craft workshop community.

Just after passing the end of Eel Pie Island, the views open up ahead with the former Royal Star and Garter Home sitting proudly on the top of Richmond Hill. Keep ahead for just a short distance, passing the beginnings of a car park on your right, to reach the first bench on your left. Turn right here, passing through the stone car park. Keep ahead alongside the vehicle height barrier to join the pavement of Ham Street.



Ham Street to Sandy Lane



Keep ahead along the pavement, with Ham House Meadow on your left. Towards the end of this meadow, turn left to join the tarmac avenue, lined with lime trees. You will see the outer walls of the Ham House grounds running across to your right and you will have your first glimpse of Ham House at about 1 o'clock.

Ham House was originally built in 1610 and it passed into the care of the National Trust in 1948. With only a few alterations made in the 1700s and 1800s, it is considered to be a rare example 17th century luxury and taste. If you are new to the area and you think the house looks familiar, it could be that you are remembering its appearances in film and TV. Recently, the exterior was used as Kensington Palace in the TV drama, *The Young Victoria*.

At the path junction (with the entrance for Ham House on your

right), keep ahead and follow the main tarmac path as it swings right, leading you along another stretch of lime avenue. The walled gardens of Ham House are on your right. When the wall on your right ends, turn right at the crossroads and continue to follow the line of the outer wall (on your right), soon turning left. At the end of this stretch of avenue, you will come to a junction with Sandy Lane.



Sandy Lane to End



Cross over the road and go straight ahead into the continuation of Ham Avenues. At the end of this stretch, you will pass Avenue Lodge on your left and reach a junction with the road. Turn right along the pavement, passing the large pond within the parkland on your left. At the crossroads, go straight ahead into Lock Road and follow this down to the T-junction at the far end. Cross over to the far pavement, turn right along this and then (just after the bus stop) turn left into the footpath signed to Teddington Lock.

Follow this long footpath, crossing the first road diagonally right and the second road straight ahead, along the way. The footpath leads you directly back to the footbridge across the Thames. Cross the bridge and then turn immediately left into the garden of The Anglers for some well-earned hospitality.

Disclaimer

This walking route was walked and checked at the time of writing. We have taken care to make sure all our walks are safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

Walking Safety

For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks, a waterproof jacket, waterproof/sturdy boots, a woolly hat and fleece (in winter and cold weather), a fully-charged mobile phone, a whistle, a compass and an Ordnance Survey map of the area. Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Take particular care on cliff/mountain paths where steep drops can present a particular hazard. Some routes include sections along roads – take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs, particularly around machinery and livestock. If you are walking on the coast make sure you check the tide times before

