

# Balaam's Wood LNR to Hollymoor Park

(Circular route) 4km (2.5 miles)

This circular walk starts at Balaam's Wood Local Nature Reserve on Rubery Lane, Rubery. The entrance is by the Rubery Lane and Park Way junction.

There is parking on the neighbouring Birmingham Great Park and the 49 bus passes this entrance to the nature reserve. This circular walk has only gentle gradients, is chiefly on a segregated pedestrian/cycleway and is therefore quite accessible to the less able. The walk can be completed in an hour and 15 minutes, but add extra time to stop and enjoy your surroundings.

1... Keeping the nature reserve entrance behind you cross at the pedestrian lights and follow the pathway marked as NCN 5.

2... Passing Connolly Drive turn left with the cycle route at the crossroads by the lake.

3... Follow over the old track bridge until you reach Hollymoor Way cross at the pedestrian lights and follow the pathway until it enters Hollymoor Park.

4... The park was once the grounds of Hollymoor Hospital and is in the shadow of Hollymoor Tower; which still remains as a local landmark. The park has many mature trees which are especially attractive in autumn; here you will find a children's play area and benches to rest a while.

5... Follow the pathway past the play area and straight on, you will leave the park at the top of Hollymoor Way.

6... Turn right and when you get to the bend of the road cross carefully and take the pathway opposite that runs between the fence and houses, after a few 100 metres this will open out on your right into Rover Park.

7... Walking through Rover Park gives spectacular views of the new Longbridge development.



8... The pathway rejoins Hollymoor Way opposite Hollymoor Park, cross carefully and re-trace your steps through the park and back as far as the crossroads.

9... Here turn left and Great Park balancing lake will come into view, a walk around the lake is a must for nature lovers! If you have binoculars bring them along to get a better look at the resident wildlife; there are benches here too.

10... If you wish to stop for refreshments there are many options of the Birmingham Great Park.

11... Turn right when you leave the lake and the pathway will lead you back to Rubery Lane.

The pathway is also a cycleway so pedestrians should be aware of bikes.