

THAMES RIVERSIDE AND RICHMOND PARK

What you'll see

This ride will take you alongside a picturesque stretch of the Thames to Teddington Lock, first built in 1810, its largest lock marking the furthest reach of the tidal Thames. Just a short ride further on, past pretty Ham Pond which used to be a drinking place for sheep and cattle, you enter Richmond Park. Herds of deer make the park their home and you have the opportunity to enjoy the traffic-free Tamsin Trail that circles the park or visit the spectacular enclosed Isabella Plantation. There's a café by the lock and pubs on the opposite side of the river (use the footbridge) and a café and toilets in Richmond Park. (7 miles)

- A** Start in Kingston's Ancient Market Place and head north along Thames Street to John Lewis, then turn right, following the road round to the left, keeping John Lewis on your left and Bental's on your right (take care to watch out for buses who share this route). Just before the traffic lights and the ring road cross with care to the cycle path on your right.
- B** Cross the entire ring road using the staggered crossing and, taking care to watch for traffic joining from the right, go under the railway bridge and then immediately left into Down Hall Road to the Thames. Turn right into Canbury Gardens and take the cycle path on the left by the river.
- C** The path emerges for a brief stretch on the Lower Ham Road still very close to the river. Leave the road when it swings away from the river, at the so-called Half Mile Tree, where a huge ancient elm tree used to stand at the half mile distance from Kingston, until it was felled in 1951 and replaced by the present horse chestnut. Take the higher shared use track.
- D** Turn inland at the lock taking the cycle path directly away from the river.
- E** Go straight across Riverside Drive joining a cycle path with flats on your right. Go straight across Hardwicke Road to a cycle path and turn right on Broughton Avenue and first left onto Lock Road.
- F** Continue with Ham Pond on your right, then cross Petersham Road at the crossing on the left of the traffic lights. Continue ahead to Richmond Park.
- G** Enter Richmond Park by Ham Gate. Turn immediately right at the end of the black railings to take the shared use Tamsin trail, an unsurfaced cycle path.
- H** Turn right on the road to leave Richmond Park by Kingston Gate. Take the third right after the gate into Tudor Road, cross over Park Road into Elm Road. Bear right, then left, following Elm Road with the Wych Elm pub on your right.



- I** At a T-junction turn right onto Canbury Park Road with the Canbury Arms pub on your left. Keep straight ahead on the contraflow cycle path. When you reach the busy Kingston ring road you will see Kingston railway station just to your left. Return to Market Place by using the two crossings on your right and taking the cycle path under the railway.
- J** Turn right staying on the shared path on the same side as the station. Follow the cycle path beside the railway, a bridge will take you over the ring road, to bring you back to the crossings at B from where you can retrace your route back to Market Place.