



## A Saturday walk around Highbury and Caledonian Road

### Map 1

4km or 5.5km, from Arsenal underground station to Highbury and Islington tube station or Caledonian Park

*Recommended by Garden Co-Ordinator Lisa Barr*

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Begin at Arsenal station; turn right, then enter Gillespie Park a little further down on the right-hand side of the road. Follow the path to the right past the Ecological Centre, then go through a gate on the right signposted Lower Park/Main Pond. Follow the boardwalk past the bird feeders and take the opportunity to watch the wildlife on the pond. Carry on through the next gate and continue straight on until you reach the exit on Quill Street. **Quill Street Allotments (Saturday 12-4pm)** are straight ahead on the other side of the road. Chat to the allotment holders and visit the beehives, looked after by a local resident.

On leaving the allotments, turn left and continue onto Monsell Road. Turn right down Avenell Road towards the old Arsenal Stadium, then turn left onto Elwood Street. At the end of the road turn right, then first left onto Riversdale Road. Turn right onto Highbury Quadrant, then cross to the left side of the road and follow the pavement to blocks 238-348, next to Riversdene. **Highbury Quadrant Estate Nature Garden (Saturday 10am-4pm)** is located at the back of the building; the three gardens were created during the pandemic and are a wonderful example of a community coming together to create something positive. Enjoy some homemade cake whilst listening to their stories and enjoy wandering through the three gardens.

From here you can either take the 393 bus from Stop PR on Riversdale Road to Liverpool Road or take a twenty-minute walk. To walk the route, return to Riversdale Road and turn left at the end up Highbury Park. Turn right at Aubert Park then left onto Highbury Hill. Turn right onto Martineau Road until you reach Drayton Park, then turn left and – just past the entrance to the Emirates Stadium – you will find **Olden Community Garden (Saturday 11am-4pm)** down the cobbled section of Whistler Street. Enjoy this peaceful woodland haven with its walkways and benches to take a well-earned rest.

Leaving Olden Community Garden, turn left and follow the road round and over the bridge to **Arvon Road Allotments**, which is on the other side of the railway track. There are many allotments here to admire, with friendly members to talk to and share a drink with.

Continue up Arvon Road, and then turn left onto Ronalds Road for a pleasant half-mile walk through Highbury Fields to Highbury and Islington tube station, where you can choose to finish your walk. For families, there is a small playground at the bottom of Highbury Fields.

You may wish to extend your walk by visiting Caledonian Park, in which case turn right up Holloway Road then left through St Mary Magdalene Garden. Turn right past Freightliners Farm, then walk through Paradise Park, where families can enjoy another playground. Head up Mackenzie Road until you reach the community-run **Caledonian Park (Saturday and Sunday 10am-6pm)**. You can book a tour of the historic 46m-high clock tower on arrival, and admire far-reaching views of London to Canary Wharf in the south and Alexandra Palace in the north. You may wish to spend time at the Tolpuddle Café, next to the playground, or explore many other community activities including tours and performances in the woodland amphitheatre.