

Getting to know Barnes

Barnes was listed in the Domesday Book of 1086 under its Saxon name Berne (meaning barn). Until the mid-19th century the village comprised little more than a few shops and inns and some imposing houses, mainly around the Green and Common. It grew rapidly after the building of Hammersmith Bridge and the railway, but even today Barnes, while part of one of the world's busiest cities, still offers a real taste of village life.

The 2.3 mile trail, and the 3 mile extension, has been designed to show Barnes at its best. The route is circular, so it doesn't matter where you start – just follow the silver 'Barnes trail' discs in the ground. If you walk quickly, you can complete the trail in under an hour – but why not take your time, soak up the surroundings, and enjoy the shops, cafés, pubs and restaurants as you go? Even better, use the trail as a starting point to explore more of Barnes.

The oar signs en route tell you what to look for - they are numbered and marked on the map overleaf. Four introductory oars guide visitors at the main public transport locations – the north and south-bound Red Lion bus stops on Castelnau/Rocks Lane, and outside Barnes and Barnes Bridge railway stations. The oars feature QR codes for scanning with a QR-code app and smartphone or a tablet equipped with a camera to access additional information.



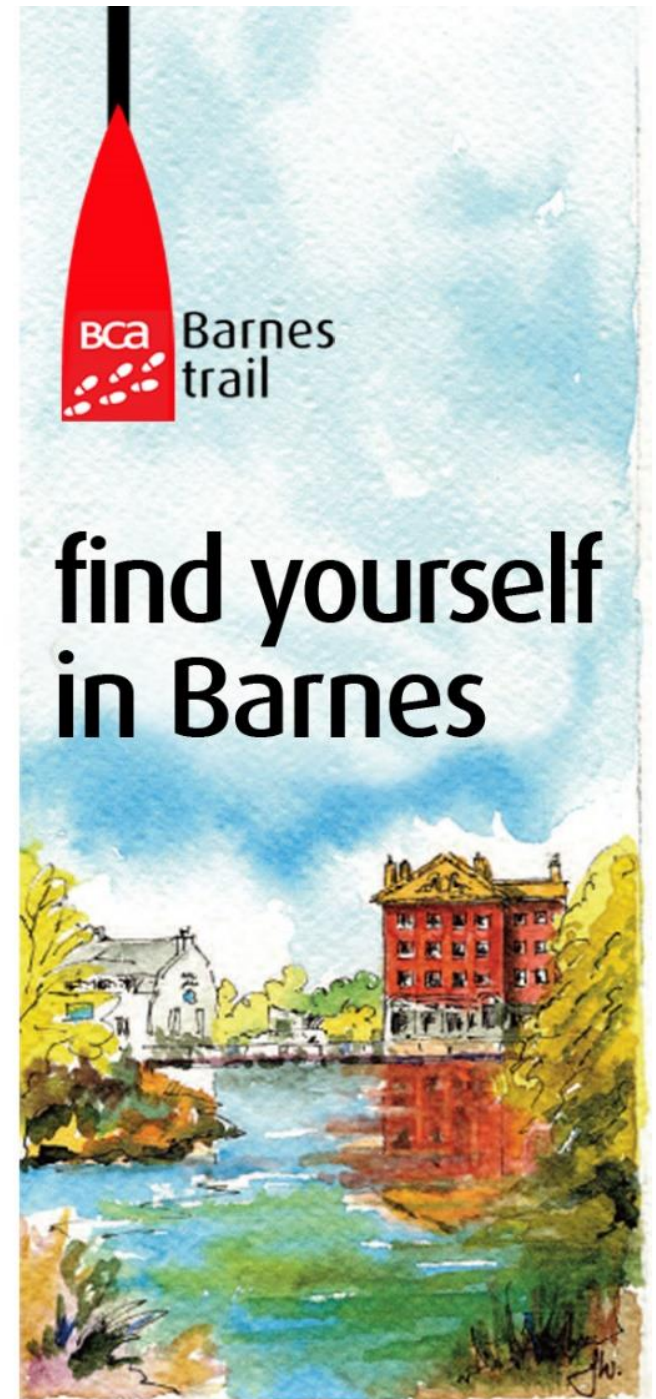
The Barnes trail map is kindly supported by Wilkins Southworth, a local practice in Barnes, specialising in all aspects of accounting, auditing, personal tax, corporate tax and offshore tax.



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Walking the Barnes trail

There are a number of convenient starting points for the Barnes trail, depending on how you arrive in Barnes. This route starts at the Red Lion pub on Castelnau, but you can pick up the trail at any point on the map.

Oar 1 Starting outside the Red Lion pub, cross Castelnau into Church Road, walking on the right hand side of the street.



The Red Lion

Oar 2 Walk past the imposing Olympic Cinema building. The oar is next to the red telephone box. There are also silver trail markers on the left-hand side of the road, for the convenience of people continuing round from Rocks Lane, but the first two oars are on the right.



St Mary's Church

Oar 3 Just a few metres further along Church Road, you will find St Mary's Church, the oldest building in Barnes.

Oar 4 Continue along Church Road, past the row of shops and cafés. The oar is on the left, across the zebra crossing.



The Sun Inn

Oar 5 Walk along the side of Barnes Green, past Barnes Pond (opposite the Sun Inn), and cross Station Road. The oar is on the grassy traffic island. Rose House, the pink building opposite the island, is the home of the Barnes Community Association and a local information centre.



Rose House

Oar 6 Follow the discs down Barnes High Street and turn left into The Terrace, overlooking the river. The oar is by the zebra crossing.

Oar 7 Pass under Barnes Railway Bridge and turn left at Ye White Hart into White Hart Lane. The oar is outside Orange Pekoe café.



Ye White Hart

Oar 8 Walk up White Hart Lane. Just before you reach the level crossing, turn left into Railway Side. The oar is on the corner. Carry on straight ahead past the allotments. The road continues as a path past The Idle Hour pub and through the low tunnel under the railway. Bear right along Beverley Path, turn left into Brookwood Avenue and cross Station Road at the zebra crossing.



The Idle Hour

Oar 9 In front of you, outside the railings near the entrance to Barnes Green, is an oar with information about the green and Barnes Common. Continue ahead and turn right 50 metres onto the green. Cross the little footbridge across Beverley Brook onto the common. Turn left across the meadow and follow the tarmac path for 600 metres, bearing left about half-way along (the silver trail marker has an indicator arrow). When you reach Rocks Lane, cross the road at the traffic lights, turn left and head north alongside Barn Elms playing fields. After 400 metres, you will be back at the Red Lion pub.



Bridge over Beverley Brook

The trail extension

The Red Lion pub marks one end of a 3-mile extension to the trail along much of the course of the University Boat Race. This is marked by wooden fingerposts as the ground is unsuitable for metal discs.

The trail extension starts round the corner in Queen Elizabeth Walk where you will find **Oar E1**. Continue ahead and then along the path to the left of the road. The half-mile stretch to the river passes between the London Wetland Centre and the Barn Elms playing fields.



When you reach the river, turn left and follow the wooden fingerposts past the Fairbairn Memorial, the Harrods Village Estate and Harrods Depository.

When you reach Hammersmith Bridge, you may like to take a 100-metre detour along Castelnau to visit the shops, restaurants and pubs of North Barnes (a mile down Castelnau takes you back to the Red Lion and the main Barnes trail). **Oar E2** is outside The Bridge pub.

The trail extension continues under Hammersmith Bridge and along the towpath past St Paul's School and Chiswick Eyot, the small island in the river, and along the side of the Leg O'Mutton nature reserve. A number of gates connect the towpath with this 600-metre-long former reservoir.

Beyond the reserve, the towpath joins up with Lonsdale Road opposite Gerard Road, from where you will see Barnes Railway Bridge, another Boat Race landmark.

Follow the flood wall to the junction with Barnes High Street. This is where the trail extension ends and you can rejoin the main Barnes trail route, either walking back along Barnes High Street and Church Road towards the Red Lion, or continuing along The Terrace and under Barnes Railway Bridge.



Barnes Bridge

The Trail Extension



Tips for walkers

Getting to Barnes:

Parking is limited but there are good public transport links. Take the 209, 419, 283, 72 or 33 buses from Hammersmith or the train from Waterloo station to Barnes or Barnes Bridge stations.

Starting points:

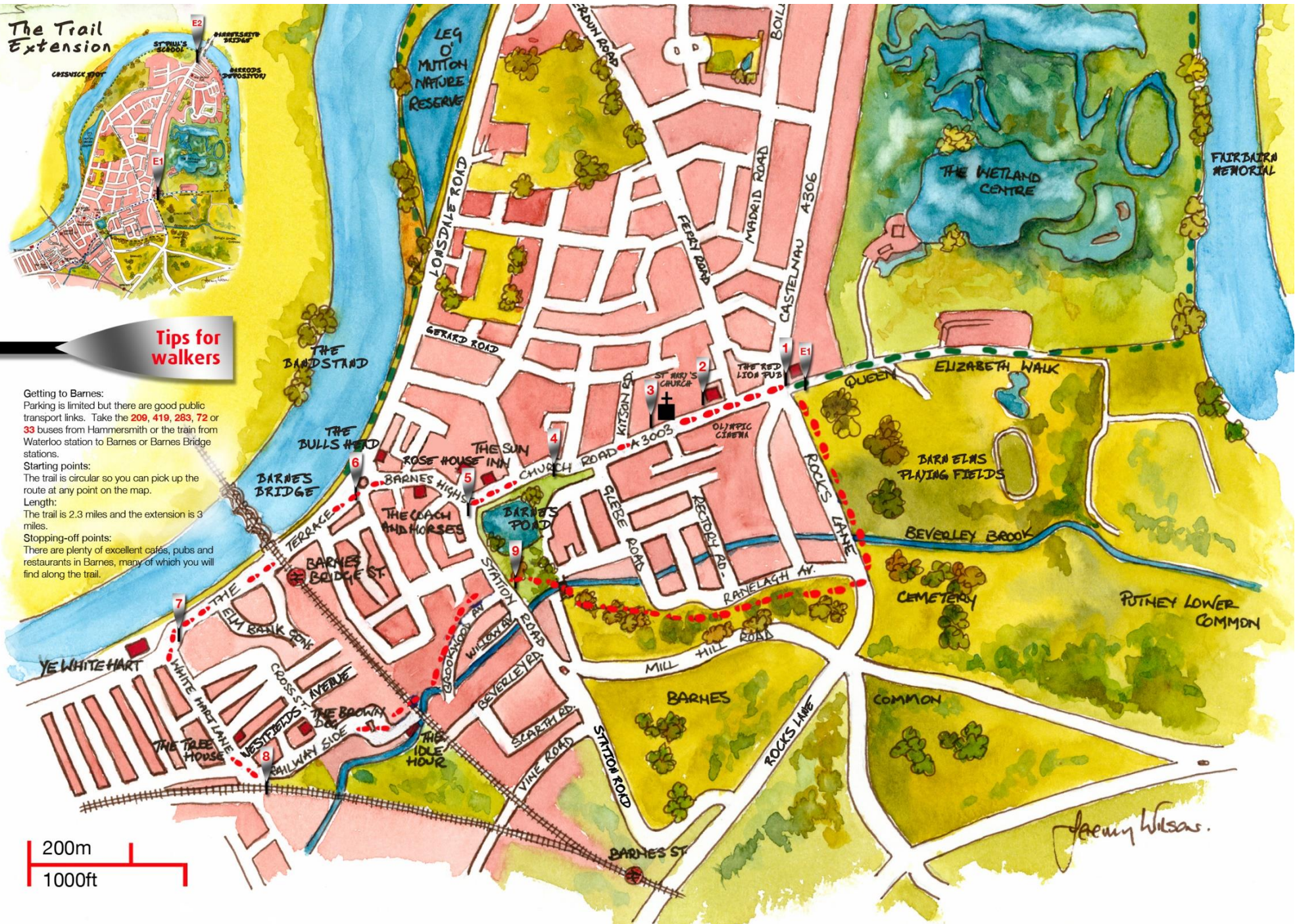
The trail is circular so you can pick up the route at any point on the map.

Length:

The trail is 2.3 miles and the extension is 3 miles.

Stopping-off points:

There are plenty of excellent cafes, pubs and restaurants in Barnes, many of which you will find along the trail.



200m
1000ft

Jaemy Wilson