

Route 9 - The Heart of Wembley, Brent River Park and BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Temple

Route Highlights

The walk ends near the Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, one of London's most spectacular temples. You will also walk through the heart of Wembley, past the Stadium and Fountain Studios, as well as exploring the more peaceful green spaces of King Edward VII Park and the River Brent.

1 Start at Wembley Central Station and head east on High Road, right if you have come out of the station, and then left onto Park Lane at the lights **2**. Walk along here until you reach the entrance to King Edward VII park on your left **3**. Walk around the park and exit at the same place, turning left onto Park Lane then right onto Dagmar Avenue **4**. Turn left at the end of the road onto Empire Way **5**, and then right at Fountain Studios onto Fulton Road **6**. Turn right down Olympic Way **7** and head towards the stadium. Do a lap of the stadium then head down the pedestrianised Wembley Park Boulevard, past the shopping outlet **8** and over Whitehorse Bridge **9**. You will come out on Wembley Hill Road **10**. Turn left here, left onto Harrow Road and immediately left onto Oakington Manor Drive **11**. Turn left onto St Michaels Avenue and walk through Sherrans Farm Open Space **12**. Exit the park on the eastern side and turn left onto Victoria Avenue and follow this around to the right as it turns onto Park View, and then turn right onto Grove Way at the fork **13**. Follow this to the end and turn left into Tokyngton Recreation Ground. Follow the path across the river **14**, and then turn right following the path along the water until you reach the end of the park where the path crosses the river again, and takes you out onto Monks Park Gardens **15**. Turn left at Monks Park, left onto Harrow Road **16**, cross over the North Circular and take your immediate left onto Conduit Way **17**. Continue along Conduit Way, it turns onto Meadow Garth, past the temple and onto Gibbons Recreational Ground **18**. Walk back the way you came, turning right onto Harrow Road, cross the North Circular and Harrow Road and follow the signs to Stonebridge Park Station **19** where this **route ends**.

Places of Interest/Heritage



King Edward Park: was opened to the public on 4 July 1914. The land was purchased by the Council in memory of the late king and to replace the loss of Wembley Park as an open space. The park

was formally laid out for sport and leisure activities and many of the facilities still exist today including the well preserved flower garden.

Fountain Studios: Home to the 'X-Factor' and 'Pop Idol', it's one of Brent's most visited attractions. Opened initially in 1985 in Surrey, they moved here 1993.

Brent Civic Centre and Library: opened in June 2013, it's officially recognised as the greenest public building in the UK. **Wembley Arena:** was built in 1934 for the British Empire Games. The arena was rebuilt and opened in 2006 as part of extensive regeneration of the area. **Wembley Stadium:** home of England Football, was built on the site which has been used for matches since the 1880s. It initially opened as the British Empire Exhibition Stadium in 1923, and became referred to as the 'twin towers' stadium. The stadium was closed in 2000 and re-opened in 2007, with its iconic arch that can be seen from all over London. **London Designer Outlet:** opened in late 2013 and houses shopping, restaurants and cinema under Wembley Stadium. **White Horse Bridge:** crosses Wembley Stadium railway station and opened in 2006. It's named after a Police horse, named 'Billy', who was used to restore order after the 200,000 spectators took to the pitch before kick off in the 1923 FA Cup Final.

Brent River Park, Tokyngton:

Formerly a concrete channel, the stretch of the River Brent through Tokyngton Recreation Ground and St Raphael's Open Space has been through a major restoration. The watercourse has been re-structured to a natural shape, and the shallow slopes have allowed wetland plants to become well established; some were planted initially and now others are colonising naturally. This quiet stretch of the river and park is a quiet environment compared to the surrounding industrial estate.



Wind Sculpture at Brent River Park: standing 4 metres high is one of two wind-themed sculptures commissioned to coincide with the opening of the new Wembley Stadium. Its base has the River Brent motif laser-cut through it and the turbine on the top is mounted on bearings and turns in the wind.

BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Temple: is the first traditional Hindu Mandir outside India and a major tourist attraction. Two thousand tons of Italian marble and 3,000 tons of Bulgarian limestone were shipped out to India to be carved by 1000 craftsmen then brought back to London where the building was assembled like 26,000 piece three dimensional jigsaw. Open to the public it's definitely worth a trip inside!

Distance

6.6 miles - 10.6 km - 15,190 Steps

Time

Fast - 1hr 50mins, **Medium** - 2hrs 30mins, **Slow** - 3hrs 40mins

Calories

Fast - 740, **Medium** - 670, **Slow** - 650

Difficulty

Route is suitable for prams and wheelchairs and accessible to all.

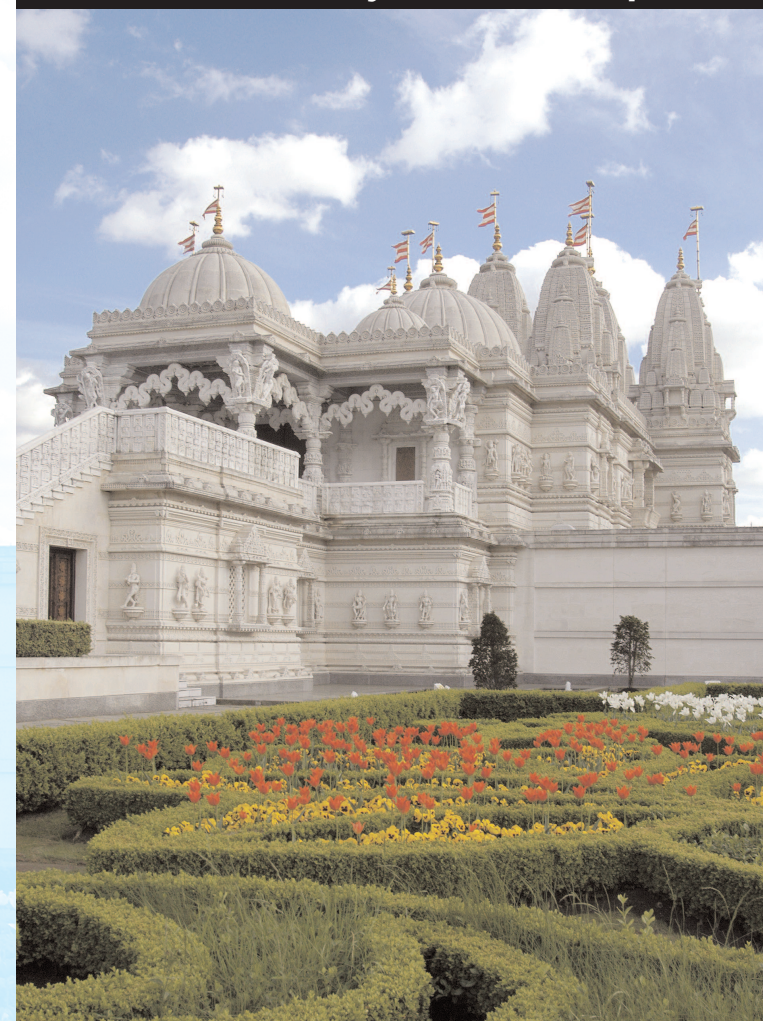
Start / end station

Wembley Central to Stonebridge Park Station

Brent Walks

A series of healthy walks for all the family to enjoy

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