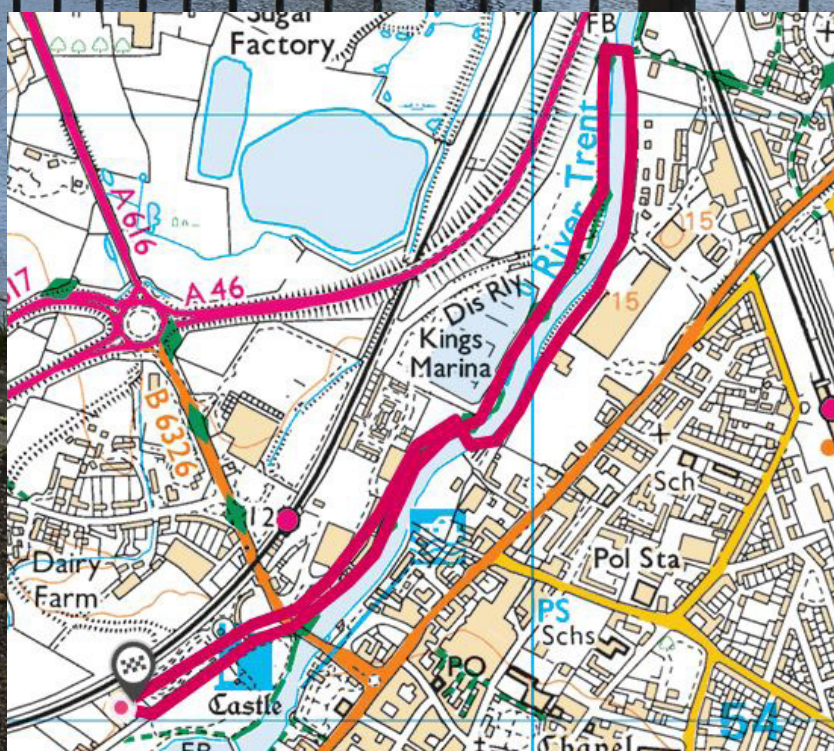


Riverside and King's Sconce Walk

Distance	Approx. 1.9 miles (3.2km)
Gradient	Mostly flat
Severity	Easy
Approx. time to walk	40-60 mins
Stiles	01 Clapper Gate
Maps	OS Explorer 271 Newark-On-Trent
Path description	Footpaths, Riverside
Start point	Riverside Car Park, NG24 1BS
Grid ref	SK 793540
Parking	Riverside Car Park, Tolney Lane, Newark NG24 1BS
Dog friendly	Yes on lead - use caution on main roads and public areas, just remember to bring your poop bags!
Public toilets	Newark Castle, Castlegate Newark NG24 1AZ
Refreshments	Yes! Newark has a fantastic choice of places to eat and drink for all budgets!



What better way to discover this wonderful market town, than by foot! This super little walk is great for most seasons and is easily accessed from the Riverside area. It's a simple walk, which discovers wildlife and history, as well as taking in the superb and diverse architecture of the delightful castle area of Newark.

We begin at the Riverside Park opposite the Castle, not only a beautiful green space to relax, it is also the venue for many events, concerts and festivals, which are held throughout the year. The views of the Castle are impressive and it's just a short walk to the town centre, which is bursting with character and charm. You also can't fail to notice the splendid Trent Bridge. Built in 1775 by civil engineer and architect Stephen Wright, it carries the old Great North Road over the River Trent, which stands on the site of an earlier bridge dating back to the 12th Century. The original river bridge was believed to have been built around 1073, under charter from Henry I.

Once on the River path, you will see the Wharf on the opposite bank, it's a lovely little area, bursting with life, offering places to eat, drink, and seating areas to watch the world go by! Passing attractive riverside residencies, we arrive at Kings Marina, which is situated almost in the heart of the town, and provides long term berthing, or visitor moorings, for narrowboats, cruisers and other vessels accessed from the Trent. It also offers habitat for a variety of wildlife too. Sections of the riverside path beyond the Marina can get muddy at times, so appropriate footwear is advisable. The River Trent is the third longest river in the United Kingdom, and has been utilised since the Roman era, having considerable influence over industry and trade throughout its history, especially in Newark. Its source is at Biddulph in Staffordshire and eventually joins the River Ouse, where it empties into the North Sea near Hull, traditionally dividing England's North from South.

Continuing along and heading towards the main A46 overpass, you will see an unusual shaped bridge, fairly steep and narrow. It's here we cross over to the opposite side of the river; the vicinity of Kings Sconce, which served as one of the major town defences during the Royalist Civil War, the other being Queen's Sconce, which is situated to the south-west of Newark. Kings Sconce was destroyed for industrial growth in the early 19th Century and is now developed by retailers and residential housing.

The walk back towards the Riverside area and Castle is lovely, passing delightful rows of riverside apartments and houses, along treelined pathways with super views of the marina, town and castle in front, plus some great photo opportunities as you approach the bridge! It offers the perfect opportunity to explore the magnificent Castle and grounds, and enjoy a spot of lunch or afternoon tea in one of Newark's many superb cafés, bars or restaurants, before making your return to the start point!

Happy Ramblings ~ Sally (local rambler)



1 **START** - Starting at the Riverside Car park, make your way towards the Riverside Park heading out towards the bridge.



2 At the bridge, walk underneath and along a wooden walkway which leads you to the opposite side of the bridge and up on to the riverside path.



3 Continue along following the surfaced path, notice the old buildings and wharf area to your right. After a short distance you will see a white metal bridge spanning the river.



Did you know?

The white metal suspension bridge is known as the Jubilee Bridge, and was built in Golden Jubilee year 2002.

Did you know?

Trent Bridge originally had stone parapets, which were removed in 1848 to facilitate the widening of the bridge.

4 Do not cross the bridge, but continue to follow the path, which now becomes an unsurfaced track, to a blue bridge. Kings Marina is to your left, where you can view the boats before continuing on, over the bridge.



5 From here, continue along the grassy track passing houses to your right and following the track along through a wooded area until you reach an open grassy area along the bank, with a steep white bridge in the distance and in front of the A46 road.



6 Proceed to the bridge, which is signposted. Go through the white clapper gates and over the bridge to the opposite side. Cross this with care, as it is high at its centre and narrow!



7 Once over the bridge, turn right and continue along the gravelly path, passing metal fencing to your right, with houses and other buildings to your left. The path now becomes an attractive surfaced walkway, with iron railings on either side, passing riverside apartments, with super views over the river and towards Newark.



8 After a short distance, the path becomes treelined, winding with the course of the river, with places to stop and enjoy the view along the way.



9 The path becomes a large surfaced area, with the marina now to your right and a large white metal bridge ahead.



10 Proceed along to the bridge and cross over to the opposite side of the river, where you will re-join the riverside path.



11 From here, follow the path heading back towards the bridge. This is a super place to stop for a moment and view the castle and bridge - don't forget your camera!



12 Continue back under the bridge along the wooden walk way, which leads you back to the Riverside Park area and car parks.



Did you know?

The steep narrow concrete bridge known as Fiddler's Elbow Bridge, was built in 1915. It has a span of 90ft and is only 5'6" wide!