**Route 3: Space Park**

Long, approx. 5.5km (one way) or 10km (loop via City Centre)

Enjoy the Georgian splendour of New Walk before a waterside walk along Leicester’s River Soar and Grand Union Canal, crossing through the formal gardens of Abbey Park towards Space Park Leicester.

Start at Museum Studies (18) on University Road, and join New Walk. Walk towards the City Centre, past the Oval and Leicester Museum and Art Gallery. Continue down to the junction at Welford Place. Head left onto Newarke Street until the Magazine, a 15th-century gateway.

If you are joining the walk from Leicester Royal Infirmary (21) head down Oxford Street, past the Jain Temple, until you reach the Magazine.

From the Magazine, cross under its arch and carry on past Newarke House Museum to the river. Cut through Castle Park until reaching a pedestrian bridge opposite Leicester Castle.

Cross the bridge to reach the river path and follow this along the River Soar. Keep walking, and cross the footbridge over the weir, right onto the Grand Union Canal towpath. Cross a further weir and canal locks until reaching Abbey Park.

Walk through Abbey Park before cutting left, and over the bridge towards the café and toilets. Continue along the footpath adjacent to the River Soar, past the ruins of Leicester Abbey. Follow the river path under Abbey Park Road Bridge and walk the wooded footpath along to the National Space Centre, past the Abbey Pumping Station Museum. Turn left onto Corporation Road to reach the Space Park (22).

City Centre return (dotted line): Retrace through Abbey Park, cutting down towards the canal. Cross the bridge, pass Morningside Arena, and head down Charter Street and Archdeacon Lane. Cross the flyover to Belgrave Gate and continue along Charles Street at the back of the shopping centre. Turn right onto Humberstone Gate, until the Clock Tower. Turn on to Gallowtree Gate, which merges into Granby Street. Continue along, turning right onto Belvoir Street, and follow this until reaching the junction at Welford Place to re-join New Walk.