Discover Lyde Green

This map shows the parks, nature reserves and other green spaces across Lyde Green for you to discover and enjoy.

All the outdoor spaces highlighted on the map are free to enter and open to the public at all times, except for allotments. Most of the green spaces are wheelchair accessible, with many offering suitable paths too.

We've marked out some possible walking routes on the map. Drop into your local library and pick up an 'Out and About' pack of walking routes for the whole of South Gloucestershire. You can also find local recommended walking routes at **oneyou.southglos.gov.uk/move-more/walking**

1 LEAP VALLEY

Leap Valley is a real hidden gem, tucked away off Badminton Road. It forms part of a wildlife corridor linking the River Frome through to Emersons Green and can be accessed through footpaths from Badminton Road (just along from the Methodist Church), Aintree Drive/Beverley Avenue on the David Wilson Estate or from Fouracre Crescent/Bury Hill View.

This site is a wonderful place to view wildlife because it contains a variety of habitats – from woodland with bluebells in the spring, to wetland with snipe and water rail, a pond and stream, as well as lots of grassland and hedgerows. In the Summer it buzzes with life – come here on a sunny day and you will see lots of bees and butterflies feeding on the flowers.

Head to the 'Pirate Park' play area, where your little ones can swing, see-saw, explore the pirate ship, and climb giant mushrooms. Visit their website where you can view and download a copy of the Leap Valley Nature Journal which is packed full of interesting information about the plants, animals, and bugs that live in the area. The journal has 'I-Spy' and 'Things to do' pages, as well as lots of information about the habitats, seasonal changes, and all the animals and plants that can be found in Leap Valley.

Also, it's worth keeping your eye out for events – in the past, there have been bird-box making sessions and bat walks organised by the Friends of Leap Valley.

2 WESTONS HILL PLAY AREA

There's lots for little ones to explore in this play area in Emersons Green, with a basketball hoop, multi-activity unit, seesaw, swings, and more. Find mature trees, pathways for walking, cycling, and running, and a pond.

3 BRISTOL AND BATH SCIENCE PARK & 'THE LAWNS'

Next door to Lyde Green, the Bristol and Bath Science Park is a world-class business hub and conferencing centre. The airy 'Forum' café and meeting area is open to the public and a favourite local spot for coffee – check out their innovative art and sculptures whilst you're there, or even have a jam on the free 'Play Me' piano or guitar! Outside, you can enjoy the adjacent public Lawns on a sunny day, or play a spot of ping pong on their free public table tennis table – just ask reception for the bats and ball. See if you can find the little copse of fruit trees behind the hedgerow for a spot of foraging.

The Science Park is also part of the electric car revolution with South Gloucestershire's first Rapid Charging Hub providing fast electric vehicle charging for the public.

4 ROMAN VILLA

In 2012 archaeologists stumbled upon the remains of a major roman villa beneath where the community now stands. The site, which spanned almost ten-acres, was home to a high-status villa and industrial buildings. Containing large quantities of jewellery – including bronze brooches, babies bracelets, rings, and necklaces – soil samples from the dig suggested that metal working and textile dyeing are likely to have taken place there. The dig also revealed the remains of cremations and burials, and it is believed that the site dates back as far as Neolithic times and was occupied throughout the Iron Age into the Roman period.

5 LYDE GREEN PARK & BMX TRACK

Next to the sports field you'll find this park, which has a BMX track and a selection of playground equipment to slide, swing, climb, tunnel, and ride.

6 KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELDS

This is a great area to visit if you are looking to get fit and want to save money on a gym membership – in addition to a variety of pitches for football and cricket, there are changing rooms and a selection of adult gym equipment. There is a good selection of children's play equipment, and parking is available nearby. Locals also recommend it as a good spot for watching the fireworks in the Autumn.

7 EMERSONS GREEN VILLAGE PARK

There's lots for little ones to do at this park, which has a variety of equipment including swings, roundabouts, nets and webs, seesaws, spring mobiles, slides, and more. Located in close proximity to Emersons Green Retail Park, it's a great place to visit with children after a trip to the shops.

8 EMERSONS GREEN SKATE PARK

Skateboarding has long been part of the history and culture of the area, and this urban sport is a fun and creative way to engage with local architecture and community. Emersons Green skate park was opened in 2011, and is a smooth concrete park located next to Emersons Green retail park. A quick search on Youtube provides plenty of inspiration as to how to use the space, which is loved by skaters of all age ranges and abilities.

9 PENNYCRESS ROAD PLAY PARK

This small play area is great for toddlers and very young children.

10 LYDE GREEN COMMON

The Common has been a loved spot for picnics, games and dog walks for as long as locals can remember. On Common Land you have the 'Right to Roam' which means you can walk, run, watch wildlife and climb about without having to stick to public footpaths.

In the Autumn the hedges around the Common are a great spot for blackberry picking (and eating). Friends of Lyde Green Common was set up by a group of residents to protect and care for the common land, and help the community get to know this special public green space. See the 'Get Involved' section overleaf to find out more.

11 BRANDY BOTTOM COLLIERY

Time travellers are advised to take a trip to the quaintly named Brandy Bottom, where they can explore the rich coal mining history of the area. Though the life of a coal miner was hard, working long hours for low wages in dangerous conditions, their work once formed the backbone of industrial Britain. Coal was hugely important during the industrial revolution, where it was used to power engines, heat buildings, and generate electricity. The buildings of the Brandy Bottom Colliery are rare examples of the surface layout of a 19th century steam-powered coalmine, and are considered to be of national importance. Fans of industrial architecture and those interested in history are well-advised to take a trip to this evocative place.

12 SHORTWOOD CIRCLE & VIEWPOINTS

This modern stone circle sits upon an artificial hilltop, created when the Avon Ring Road was built. There's a number of viewpoints on the re-sculpted landscape around this area, along with winding pathways, hidden picnic areas and a bridleway.

13 PAGE PARK

There's lots to do for all ages at this award-winning local park (5 Star Award, South West in Bloom Best Parks). There's a café, a selection of well-equipped play areas, a sensory garden with an aviary, a clock tower and bandstand, a bowling club, several football pitches, tennis courts with floodlights, and a cricket square.

Page Park has benefitted hugely from the Friends of Page Park, an active and passionate group of volunteers who have been awarded The Queen's Award for their exceptional commitment to the park and community. The Queen's Award (which is the MBE for voluntary groups) is the highest award given to voluntary groups across the UK. The group have totally transformed the park, and are highly active in organising a large variety of events for all ages. Visit **friendsofpagepark.co.uk** to find out more.

14 BRISTOL & BATH RAILWAY PATH

This excellent, safe, and popular route connects Bristol and Bath, and was constructed by Sustrans between 1979–1986. Not only is the railway path an easy and fast way to access central Bristol, it's also very picturesque – as Bristol's longest wildlife corridor, this is a great place to spot badgers, sniff wildflowers, listen to birdsong, and pick blackberries.

15 RODWAY COMMON

Stretching across 30 acres, Rodway Common is an open space in Mangotsfield. Beloved by dog-walkers and pigeon fanatics alike, the common is a popular place for walkies and also forms the starting point for many pigeon races. In 1899, the common was the site of Rodway Hill Golf Club, and this was just a short walk away from Mangotsfield Station, now disused. A zig-zag path connects the common to the Bristol & Bath Railway Path.

16 POMPHREY HILL

There's lots of ways to get active at Pomphrey Hill, with football pitches, a cricket square and artificial wicket, and 6 high spec changing rooms. In addition to this, the site is home to the Pomphrey Hill Pavilion, which is the base for 5 South Gloucestershire sport clubs. Run by the Pomphrey Hill Community Sports Association, the venue has two function rooms, and a licenced bar and kitchen. There's lots to do in the area – whether you are a parent with young children, a keen sportsperson, or simply looking for fun ways to get fit and lose weight. It's a great place to get active and make friends.

17 MANGOTSFIELD RAILWAY STATION

Now part of the Bristol to Bath Railway path, by day this old railway station is a popular sunny stop off point for a bench and refreshment break for walkers and cyclists. By night, locals know it as a particularly spooky spot – inspiration for many a ghost story. Indeed, Arnold Ridley of Dad's Army fame wrote *The Ghost Train* after hearing ghostly sounds while stranded at the station one night…

OVERSCOURT WOOD

Walk to Overscourt Wood Discover breathtaking views of Bristol and the Mendips and get lost in 207 acres of new woodland and open space at this Forestry Commission woodland, which forms part of the Forest of Avon. There are a range of circular walks with commanding views, or venture off the beaten path to meander through tall grasses, stalk old hunting grounds and explore carefully planted woodland. A great place to explore, it's linked to Lyde Green by a waymarked route, starting here (!). The centre of the wood is a gentle 1¾ hour ramble away.

WALKING ROUTES

The Colliery Walk The Greens Walk

The Colliery Walk Recommended by Lyde Green locals, this walk is a great route to stretch your legs in the lovely green spaces next to Lyde Green, whilst immersing yourself in the local history mining history at Brandy Bottom Colliery.

The Greens Walk Take a tour of the Lyde Green and Emersons Green neighbourhoods with this route following quiet roads and traffic-free paths – ideal for buggies too! Along the way you can take a break in one of the lovely local parks, and – if going anti-clockwise – stop off for a treat or your shopping in Emersons Green Retail Park before heading home.

CYCLE PARKING

On the map we have highlighted some of the local attractions that have lots of cycle parking available, but across the area there are lots of places to park your bike – the vast majority of local attractions, green spaces, amenities and schools have convenient cycle parking and lots more is being added all the time.

KEY

- Green Spaces
- Grassland
- Woodland
- Paved routes (off-road)
- Unpaved routes (off-road)
- Coming soon
- Bus stops
- metrobus stops
- Schools
- Places of worship
- Libraries
- Car parks
- Car club bays + car parks
- Electric vehicle charging points + car parks
- Bike parking
- Community Centres
- Post Office
- Shopping / retail
- Restaurants / eating / drinking
- Toilets
- Playgrounds

1000ft 1/4 mile
100m 500m

Every effort has been made to represent an accurate reflection of the area on this map. We apologise for anything we may have missed out. Information correct at time of printing December 2020.