

Hackney Wild Walks

Woodberry Down & West Reservoir: wizards, water & wildlife

This 2.1km walk goes through some very new gardens and past a very old reservoir. Learn about how London used to get its water and spot loads of trees, birds and boats.



Key:
★ Start
— Each pink line = approx 100m

Have you got to the end of the street? That's the first 100m under your feet! Next road to take is Kayani Avenue. Walk to the end, where the buildings are new.

Start at Bus Stop V, Woodberry Grove on Seven Sister's Road. Head towards Manor House, and turn first left down a small path between Knaresborough and Kilpeck House. Careful not to miss the entrance – it's quite small.

Turn left into Woodberry Grove, then left after the shops. Almost back to the start point, just up on the right.

Here is your first view of the West Reservoir – it was opened in 1833! It is man-made and lined with bricks from the Old London Bridge. Turn right onto the New River Path.

Wow, is this a wizard's magic ball? If you look closely what can you see?

Remember those rocks you saw on the way, If you can see them again, you've not gone astray. But this time continue along the river. For a mystical sight that might make you shiver.

A knotty tree on your right, look closely now and you might see a sprite...

Keep focussed now, fingers crossed for luck, Peer through those reeds you might see a duck!

Can you see the towering castle? Who do you think lives there? A queen, a king, a princess? Or is it a wizard's magic lair? The tower was built as a pumping station, Sending water to homes, providing hydration. Now it's a place to climb and abseil, With very high walls for brave people to scale.

The West Reservoir Centre is the halfway point of the walk. Enjoy the lovely peaceful views and visit the free toilets and the café. You can sign up to kayak, sail or even swim in the open water. Cool! Once you have enjoyed your break turn back the way you came.

