

British Trust for Ornithology (BTO)  
Nunnery Lakes Walk

Information	
Start point	Bridge Street car park • Grid Reference TL868830
Parking	Free car parking in Bridge St car park Free parking opposite Mill Lane Free parking at BTO
Distance	2.6 miles
Details	One short moderate gradient, 70% soft, 30% hard surface 

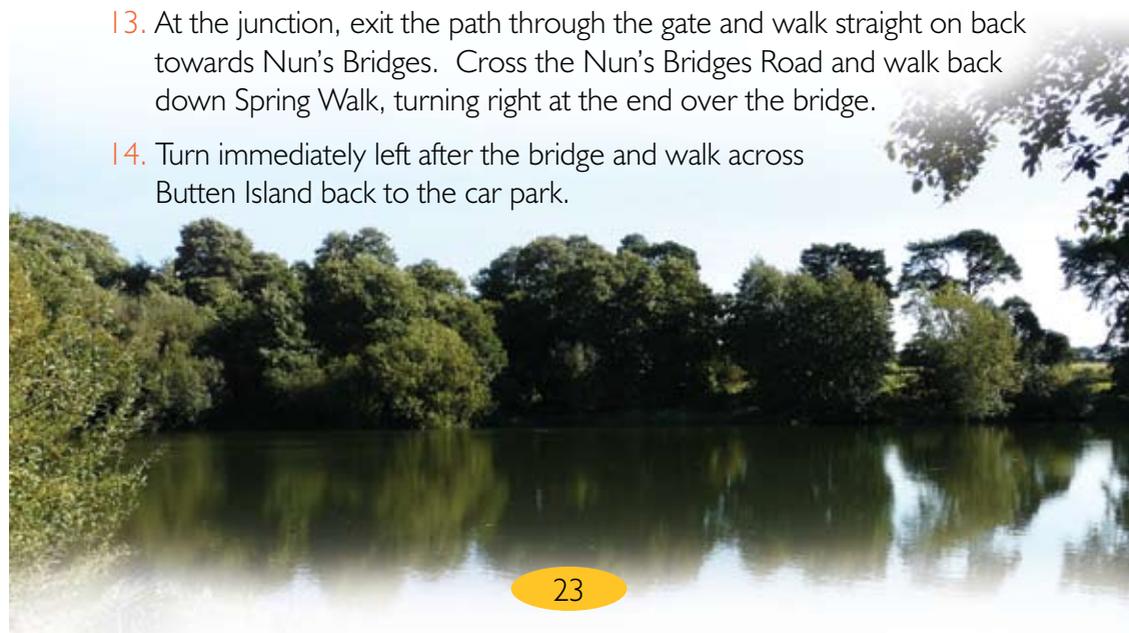
## Walk instructions

1. Start at the Bridge Street car park, walking over the three-way bridge and bearing right to Butten Island (signposted). Keep left and follow the path straight on, passing the statue of Maharajah Duleep Singh.
2. At the end of the path, turn right through the opening in the wall and walk over the footbridge. Turn immediately left towards Nun's Bridges. You have entered Spring Walk.
3. Follow Spring Walk round to the left over the sluice gate.
4. Pass The Lady Gentle Memorial Meadow on your left before you approach Nun's Bridges Road.
5. Cross Nun's Bridges Road to the path opposite and follow straight on, passing a bridge to your right.

N.B. A small amount of parking is available in the car parking area opposite Mill Lane. This cuts off the first part of the walk and avoids the main car park.

6. Walk through the kissing gate and take the right hand track at the fork following the river. You have entered the BTO reserve and are now using a BTO permissive path. Please keep dogs on leads.

7. Walk through the next gate and turn left signposted Arlington. After a short distance turn right through the kissing gate on to the permissive path.
8. On reaching the clearing, there is a seat and an information board. Take the track to the right, crossing the wooden bridge and following a wider grassy path.
9. At the junction of tracks, turn left. Walk through the gate, shutting it behind you (keep dogs on leads as there may be livestock grazing) and continue straight on. The wide grassy track bears left.
10. Walk through the gate and through a shady woodland area. The path becomes a boardwalk. The boardwalk comes to an end and you climb a very short moderate incline.
11. Exit back to the clearing with the information board and seat, turning right and returning the way you came. Exit the BTO permissive path through the gate and turn left.
12. Turn right just before the large bridge where it is signposted Town Centre and Nuns Bridges (scenic route). Walk through the gate.
13. At the junction, exit the path through the gate and walk straight on back towards Nun's Bridges. Cross the Nun's Bridges Road and walk back down Spring Walk, turning right at the end over the bridge.
14. Turn immediately left after the bridge and walk across Butten Island back to the car park.



# BTO Nunnery Lakes Walk

A walk connecting the town with the wealth of wildlife within the British Trust for Ornithology reserve around Nunnery Lakes. This walk is a combination of flat, firm footpaths in the town and softer grassy and woodland tracks around the reserve.

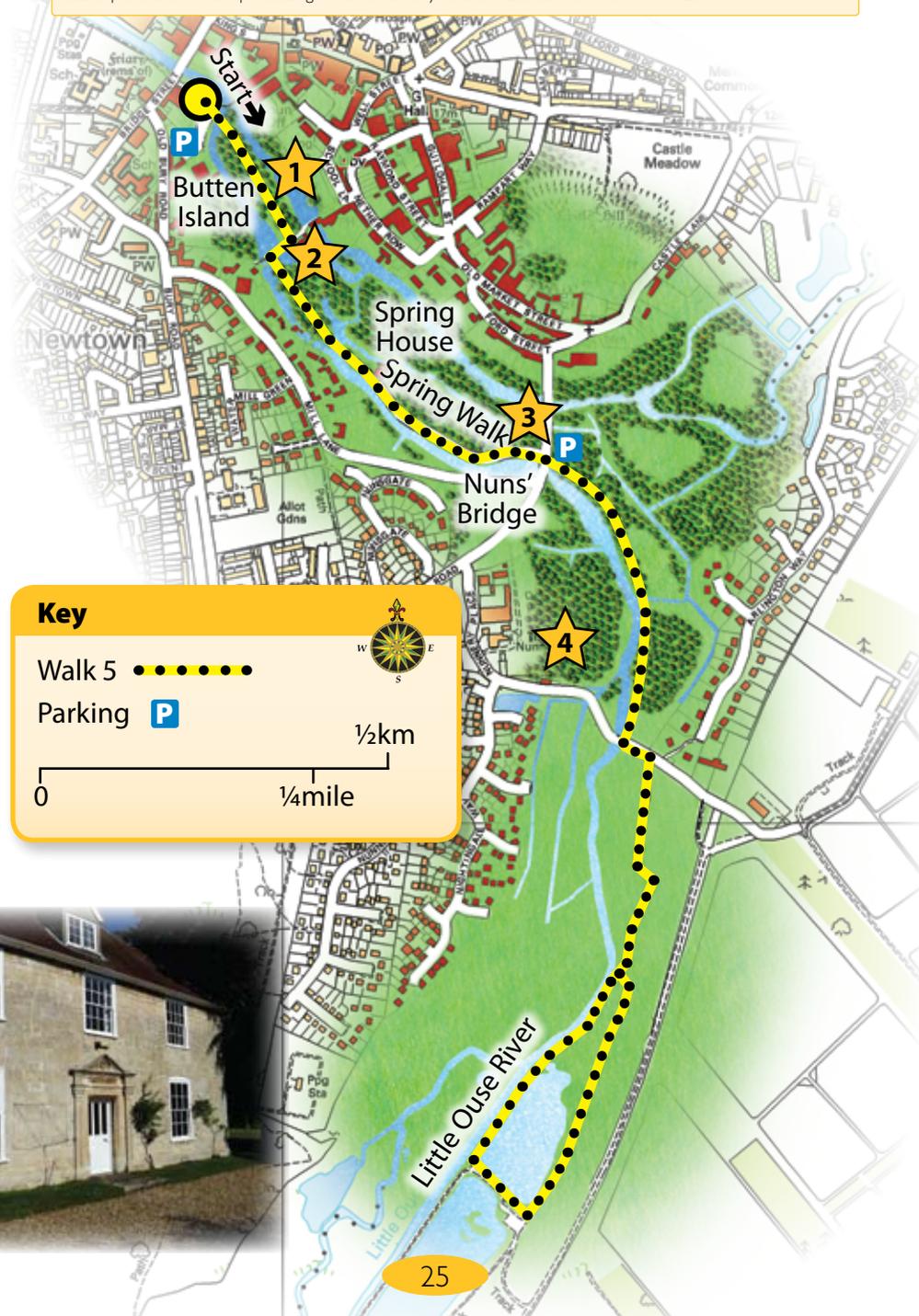
### Look out for...

- 1** The statue of the Maharajah Duleep Singh on Butten Island
- 2** The old coffee mill and Bridges Walk
- 3** Nuns Bridges and the Icknield Way
- 4** The old Nunnery of St George, now the BTO headquarters

- Banded demoiselles - a species of damselfly
- Kingfishers
- Great spotted, lesser-spotted and green woodpeckers
- Scarce species of Breckland plants such as tower mustard and mossy stonecrop



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### British Trust for Ornithology (The Nunnery) ▶

The headquarters of the BTO incorporates remains of the medieval Nunnery of St George. The 12th Century convent church and a small eighteenth-century manor house were incorporated in to the BTO headquarters in an award-winning restoration project.

This varied site is home to a wide range of wildlife, including several rare or endangered species. There are about 60 species of breeding bird on this site.



• Oystercatcher



• Kingfisher

Photograph by John Harding



• Great spotted woodpecker

Look out for...

- Kingfishers
- Three species of woodpecker; greater spotted, lesser-spotted and green
- Waders on the wet meadows – lapwing, redshank, curlew, oystercatcher and the scarce little-ringed plover
- Reed and sedge warblers in the reed fringes along the river during the summer
- Tufted duck and the scarcer goosander on the lakes during the winter months

All photographs by Jill Pakenham except where indicated otherwise



• Redshank



• Curlew



• Green woodpecker

Photograph by John Flowerday



• Sedge warbler

Photograph by Dawn Balmer



• Lapwing