



Trailblazer Guide to the Thames Path, third edition 2022.

A review by Wendy Tobitt- Thames Path National Trail volunteer

Open the new edition of the Trailblazer Guide to the Thames Path National Trail at any page and you're immediately 'on the trail'.

Beautiful hand-drawn maps and helpful text describe what you can see along the entire 185.2 miles route of the Thames Path following the river from its source to the sea.

The third edition of the Trailblazer Guide is the first guide to the Thames Path that includes the Trail's extension in London to the Woolwich Foot Tunnel, where it links with the England Coast Path National Trail.

This handy book contains a vast wealth of comprehensive information to help readers plan their Thames Path walk for the full length or a weekend stroll.

The Guide is carefully laid out so it's easy to read whether you're walking westwards towards the source, or eastwards towards London. GPS waypoints marked on the maps help keep you on the right track at tricky junctions.

It's divided into daily stages with start and end points that have public transport and accommodation; but these are only for guidance because everyone walks at different speeds.

Freehand maps by cartographer Nick Hill are particularly useful with annotations such as 'can be very muddy needing a wide detour' and 'follow waymarks through woods'.

The suggested itineraries and maps are written by walkers for walkers, and it's their entertaining style that makes the Guide so enjoyable to read, with fascinating nuggets of Thames-side history, culture and sport.

Many Thames Path National Trail walkers recommend previous editions of the Trailblazer Guide. This third edition maintains the high standards of accurate information with superb maps; it is a thoroughly enjoyable companion to the Trail.

Full version of this article is published in Thames Guardian, the magazine of the River Thames Society
<https://www.riverthamessociety.org.uk/>

Trailblazer Guide to the Thames Path, 3rd edition with 89 large-scale walking maps and guides to 99 towns and villages. Distributed in the UK by Heartwood Publishing, price £12.99.