

Portishead in Bloom Guided Walk 1

Length: Approx 4.5 kms

Time: Approx 1hr 15 mins

Grade: Easy

Start: Rodmoor Gardens

Parking: Roadside on Beach Road West or Rodmoor Road

Refreshments: Café at lakeside, Café at Lido

Take some time to enjoy the beauty of Rodmoor Gardens, looked after by PIB **(1)** on map. In the bottom left corner are some steps down to The Nuttery, also looked after by PIB.

Walk out onto Rodmoor Road, turn left and walk down as far as Esplanade Road, turn left. On your left you will see three beds cared for by Harbourside WI. This road can be busy with parked and parking cars, so it is advisable to walk on the grass at the edge of the green. Continue to the end of the road and turn right behind the toilets and café onto the esplanade. Walk right along the esplanade, enjoying estuary and beach views on the left, and lake on the right, as far as the Lido **(11)** on map.

In front of the Lido is a rose bed cared for by the Lions. Another bed in front of the building is cared for by Portishead in Bloom. Continue along Esplanade Road. Opposite you will see Esplanade Meadow and hedge. When you reach a barred gate on your left (opposite Battery Lane), turn off the road. Here you can enjoy some fine views over Battery Point and the estuary.

The path you are on leads into woodland.

Option *(Almost immediately you will see some steps on your right. If you feel like a climb up to the crest of the hill, you can follow this along and through the woodland and down steps at the other end that lead to Pier Road, where you can rejoin the level walk. Take care where the steps cross Woodlands Road soon after the beginning).*

The level walk continues through the woods for a short distance and the path comes out onto Woodlands Road. Follow this quiet road (but be careful there is no footway) until you reach the end with the viewing point on your left. **(24)** on your map. Again some fine estuary and Severn Bridge views from here, as well as a couple of benches to take a rest.

Turn right onto Pier Road and walk as far as Woodacre on the left. Turn down here and follow the road as it bends to the left. Soon after this you will see a large rock at the edge of the road between two blocks of flats. Look out for this as there is no other sign to show you that you are at the top of Spanish Steps **(3)** on your map. You will know you are on the right path when you see two benches and a PIB sign. PIB care for the top and bottom beds here.

Go down the steps, cross Burlington Road at the bottom into Jubilee Park, several beds here are looked after by PIB. Walk straight and then bear left past the swimming ladies (look up) and walk down through gardens to Lower Burlington Road. Opposite you will see the block of flats called Waters Edge **(17/18)** on the map. Beds and a planter outside these flats are looked after by individual PIB volunteers.

Turn right to walk along Lower Burlington Road as far as Gateway Terrace. Continue in the same direction on Gateway Terrace until you reach Beach Road East, on your right. Here you will see two large beds looked after by PIB **(16)** on your map. Walk up Beach Road East to the roundabout. Here take a left and immediate right to continue up Beach Road East. At the intersection with Woodhill Road, you will see a bed cared for by PIB **(5)** on map. Turn left and walk to the end of Woodhill Road where it reaches Nore Road. Here turn right and walk to Battery Road on your right. Here stop and admire the bed opposite, on the corner of Slade Road and Nore Road, that is cared for by one of the PIB volunteers **(9)** on map.

Turn right to walk along Battery Road. At the end, on the opposite corner, you will see your starting point.

