

DURHAM RIVERSIDE

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Start: opposite Federation House (which is situated half way along Green Lane), Old Elvet, Durham City.

Distance: 3 miles.

Walking Time: 1-1/2 hours.

1. From opposite Federation House, walk down Green Lane for approximately one hundred yards. Bear left, walking towards the blue 'Cricket Club' sign. Walk past the sign and follow the track down towards the rugby ground. You will pass a boathouse on your right. The path curves round to the left. You will now see the rugby ground on your left. Follow the riverside path, passing the cricket ground, football pitch, a small children's play park and a bowling green.
2. After the bowling green you will come to Baths Bridge. Cross the bridge, and turn left. Follow the footpath with the River Wear on your left. You will pass underneath New Elvet Bridge. After passing through a narrow walkway, with the Prince Bishops car park to your right, and a boathouse to your left, you will enter a small open square.
3. Walk towards the top left corner of the square, walking under the archway nearest the river. Walk under Elvet Bridge. The walkway you are now following is called Fearon Walk. Walk for approximately half a mile along the main riverside path until you come to a folly on the right, (a small stone building which has four stone pillars at the entrance). Here, take the footpath to the right, leading up a bank, away from the river's edge. As you walk up the bank you will pass tennis courts on your right.
4. At the top of the bank turn left onto Prebends Bridge. Cross the bridge, and take the first left, heading back on the other side of the river. Make sure you keep to the main riverside path.
5. The path gradually inclines as it heads towards St Oswalds Church at the top of the bank. On reaching the top, walk past a set of steps on your right that lead into St Oswalds churchyard. Keep walking along the main footpath that also leads into the churchyard. Cross the churchyard and follow the path down toward the remembrance monument. Walk down three steps and onto Church Street.
6. Turn left, following the footpath downhill towards traffic lights. At the traffic lights turn left, passing the Students' Union Building to your right. Cross Kingsgate Footbridge. Walk up the steps at the end of the footbridge, and take an immediate left turn onto a cobbled path which will take you down some very steep steps. At the bottom of the steps turn left, heading back towards Baths Bridge. You will walk under Elvet Bridge again and into the small open square. Go through the narrow walkway with the Prince Bishops car park to your left and the boathouse to your right. Go straight ahead until you reach Baths Bridge again. Cross over the bridge and turn left. Just after the bowling green take the footpath to the right, the small children's play area will be on your left. You will then pass the university playing fields on your left. At the top, walk past a house to your left. Just after the house, take the footpath to the left, still keeping beside the playing fields. You will reach a gate in the fence on the right. Walk through the gate and you are back at your starting point in Green Lane.

