



## Green Chain Walk

Section 1 (Thamesmead to Lesnes Abbey)

Version 1 : June 2010



Transport  
for London

walk  
London

**Start:** Thamesmead (TQ472812)  
**Station:** Bus stop on Crossway  
**Finish:** Lesnes Abbey (TTQ478786)  
**Station:** Abbey Wood  
**Distance:** 2.6 miles (4.2 km)



**Directions:** From the Green Chain major signpost follow the path away from the Riverside. Follow the path along Manor Way through the underpass beneath Crossway and continue to Manorway Green open space. Turn left along the path and then right to cross the canal footbridge and enter Fieldfare Road.

Cross the end of Fieldfare Road and pass between numbers 70 and 71 to the Green. Turn left and cross the footbridge into the tump. Leave the tump at the other end, continue through Curlew Close and first left into Gargeney Walk. Cross the footbridge, turn right and follow the canal under the road (Crossway). Keep the canal to your right, follow the path through Crossway Park to the Green Chain signpost just before the pond.

Continue around the pond, bear right and leave the park to cross Eastern Way by the concrete suspension footbridge. Turn left along Belvedere Road then right to Southmere Lake. Turn left before the lake behind the pavilion, to Green Chain major signpost.

Alternatively turn left at the signpost and follow the path to turn right under Eastern Way. Descend to Belvedere Road, follow the road and turn left to reach the same Green Chain signpost at the lake edge.

This whole area, close to the Thames, used to be swampy ground, known as Plumstead Marshes. Southmere Lake was constructed in the late 1960s at the same time as the first part of Thamesmead. The lake is 2 metres deep at its deepest parts and is well stocked with fish, including large pike and carp.

Follow the lakeside path through Southmere Park past the adventure playground. Take the path (Abbey Way) directly southwards crossing Yarnton Way by the footbridge and on over Wolvercote Road. Continue along Abbey Way, cross over Alsike Road, the railway and Abbey Road by the footbridge, and enter Lesnes Abbey Park.

Continue up to the Abbey ruins. Follow the wooden marker posts around the ruins, through the gardens and enter the woods to reach the Green Chain major signpost and join section 2.