



Find out about your revolutionary neighbours and treasonous former residents.

1 Brandon Estate
Brandon is a triangular area bounded by the railway line to the east and two major roads: Kennington Park and Camberwell New Road. The tower blocks that dominate it today were developed in the 1960s, and have been featured in the 2005 series of *Doctor Who*.



The Brandon Estate,
photograph by Robert Larkin-Frost

A Henry Moore sculpture *Two Piece Reclining Figure No. 3* can be found in the park here. Although Moore was widely loved by the time this artwork was donated in 1964, his abstract work in the 1930s was considered the ultimate in extremism. A revolutionary and roundly criticised in the press, he was pushed out of the artistic establishment. It was only in the 1940s that his work gained broader public appeal.

2 Pasley Park
Travel back 175 years, and on this spot you would have been standing in a zoo. The 'Royal Surrey Zoological Gardens' featured lions, tigers and bears as well as a theatre. Set up by The Surrey Literacy, Scientific and Zoological Society in 1831, the high-minded aims of the public zoo were quickly overshadowed by nightly shows and displays with fireworks, large painted backdrops and models. The popularity proved short-lived, and

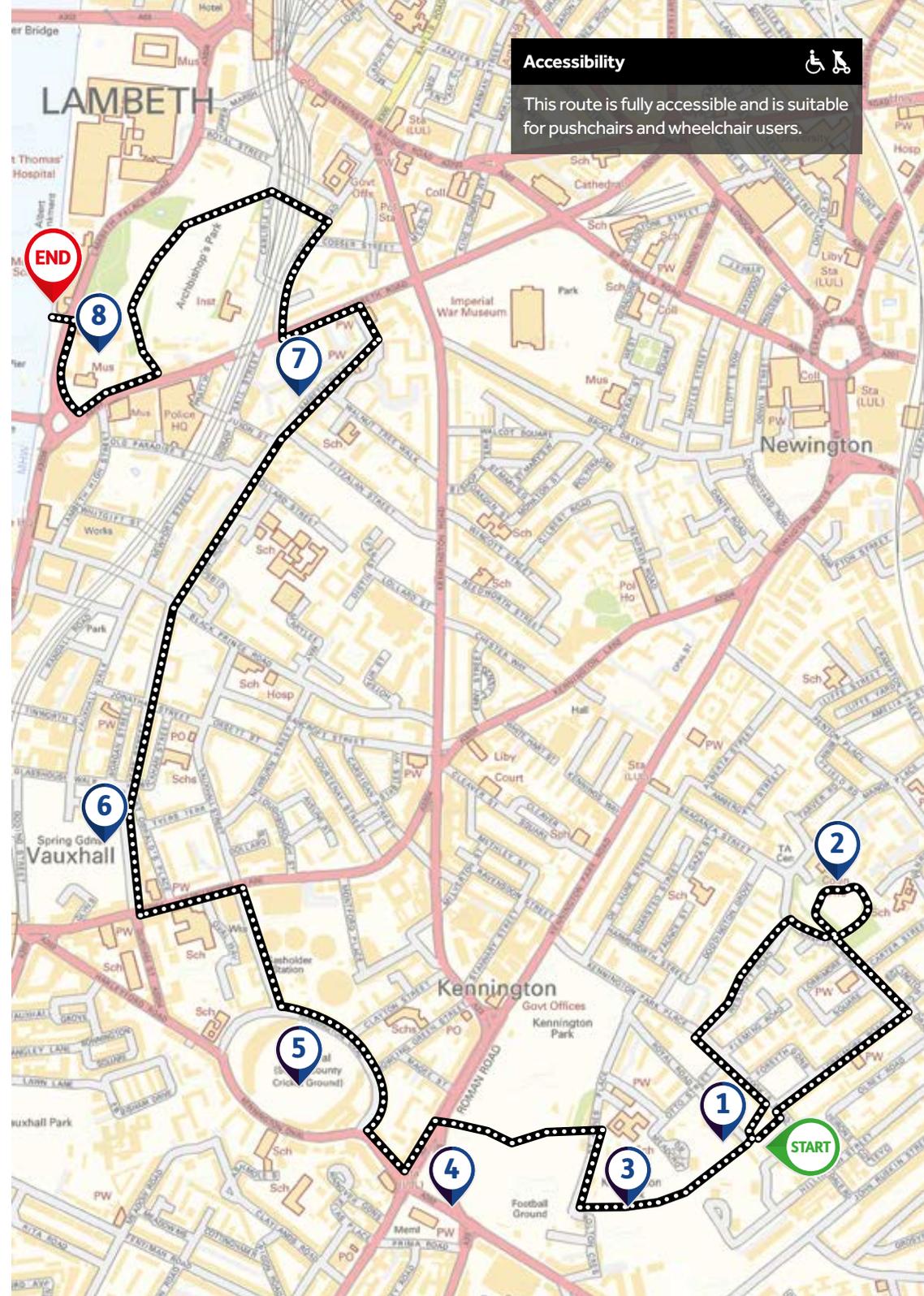
by 1856 the animals had been sold to pay for the Surrey Music Hall to be built, with capacity for 12,000 people. A fire also led to this venture being abandoned and most of the site was sold in 1877 for residential development.

3 Kennington Park
Previously known as Kennington Common, this ground is an ancient place of assembly. Gatherings, demonstrations, fairs and even executions have been recorded here since 1600, but may well have happened long before.

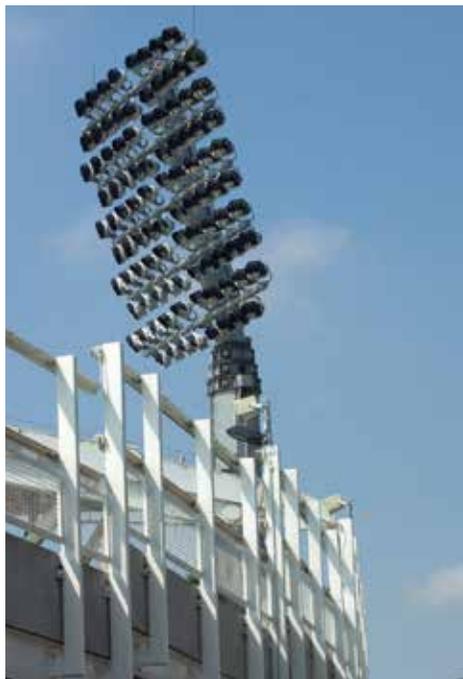
1948 was known throughout Europe as the Year of Revolutions, and this was the site of the greatest demonstration in the UK. On April 10th around 150,000 people gathered in support of the working-class Chartist movement, which campaigned for political reform. The rally was the culmination of a decade of agitation. From Kennington a third and final petition was processed to Parliament. Although the meeting was peaceful, previous violent encounters meant an additional 100,000 special constables were recruited to maintain order. In the end, the government undermined the Chartists' credibility by stating only a third of the estimated six million signatures were genuine. The movement eventually lost impetus after measures brought in by parliament to ban public meetings and planned insurrections removed the key leaders.



Henry Moore Sculpture, Brandon Estate,
photograph by Ishwar Maharaj



Accessibility
This route is fully accessible and is suitable for pushchairs and wheelchair users.



Oval Cricket Ground, photograph by Robert Larkin-Frost

4 **Kennington Gallows** Just opposite St. Mark's Church is the site on which public executions took place until 1799. A south London version of Tyburn (now the site of Speakers' Corner by Marble Arch), the first recorded execution was of Sarah Elston in 1678, burned to death for murdering her husband. Most famously, 17 Jacobite rebels were hanged, drawn and quartered here in 1745, as the standard punishment for high treason. After hanging for a brief time, the bodies were cut down for disembowelling and finally beheading and quartering.

5 **The Oval Cricket Ground** Home to Surrey County Cricket since 1845, the Oval has a history of firsts in the game as well as some rebellious activity. Perhaps most famously, in 1882 it witnessed the first English defeat at home to Australia. The next year, England were presented with a small urn containing the remains of that game's wicket, and so the Ashes tournament was born.

In 1868 there was a 'rebel' tour by an Aboriginal Australian Cricket team. Arriving with mixed reception, they were highly regarded by the end of their stay. Sadly on their return to Australia new laws prevented the movement of Aborigines without government approval, and so future tours were abandoned.

6 **Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens** In the 1660s, the newly restored King Charles II ostentatiously did away with puritan austerity. Pleasures such as gambling, dancing and drinking, not freely permitted within London and Westminster, could be enjoyed over the river in Lambeth. The Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens opened in 1661, to provide an area where men and women could meet; it quickly developed a reputation for bawdy and drunken behaviour.

In 1728 the park was taken over by Jonathon Tyler, who built pavilions, lodges, groves, grottos, temples and rotundas adorned with pillars, statues and great paintings. Over the centuries many different attractions were on offer, and the Gardens remained surprisingly popular all the way up to the 20th century.



Lambeth Walk, photograph by Robert Larkin Frost

7 **"Treasonous" Catherine Howard** Here is the reputed birthplace of Catherine Howard (c.1523-1541), the fifth wife of Henry VIII. The Howards owned the estate around Lambeth Walk, and so it is supposed that Catherine was born very near here.

Known to Henry as his "rose without a thorn", she quickly fell from favour after foolish behaviour and previous indiscretions spread to rumours of her adultery. This equated to treason in the 16th century, and so she was beheaded at the Tower of London in December 1541, less than two years after their marriage. Her body was buried near to her cousin Anne Boleyn, Henry's second wife who was also executed.

James' Catholic daughter Princess Elizabeth on the throne instead. Guy Fawkes, as an experienced soldier, was put in charge of the explosives under the House of Lords, where he was discovered. A letter warning Catholic Lords to stay away had raised alarm bells.

The conspirators were executed for high treason, and to this day we "Remember, remember the 5th of November, gunpowder, treason and plot. There is no reason why gunpowder treason should ever be forgot."

8 **Lambeth Palace** This is an opportunity to look over the River Thames towards the Houses of Parliament and consider one of the most dangerous acts of rebellion in the history of Great Britain: the gunpowder plot. On November 5th 1605, a plot to assassinate King James I and members of parliament was uncovered. Led by Robert Catesby, a dozen conspirators had planned an uprising to put



Lambeth Palace, photograph courtesy of Lambeth Palace

What the walkers say... "It gave me a real sense of community by meeting other people and finding out about the place and its heritage."