



Green Chain Walk

Section 10 of 11

Beckenham Place Park to Crystal Palace



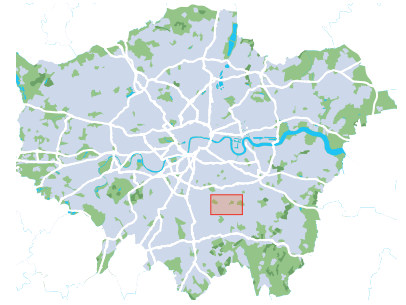
Section start: Beckenham Place Park

Nearest stations to start: Beckenham Hill

Section finish: Crystal Palace

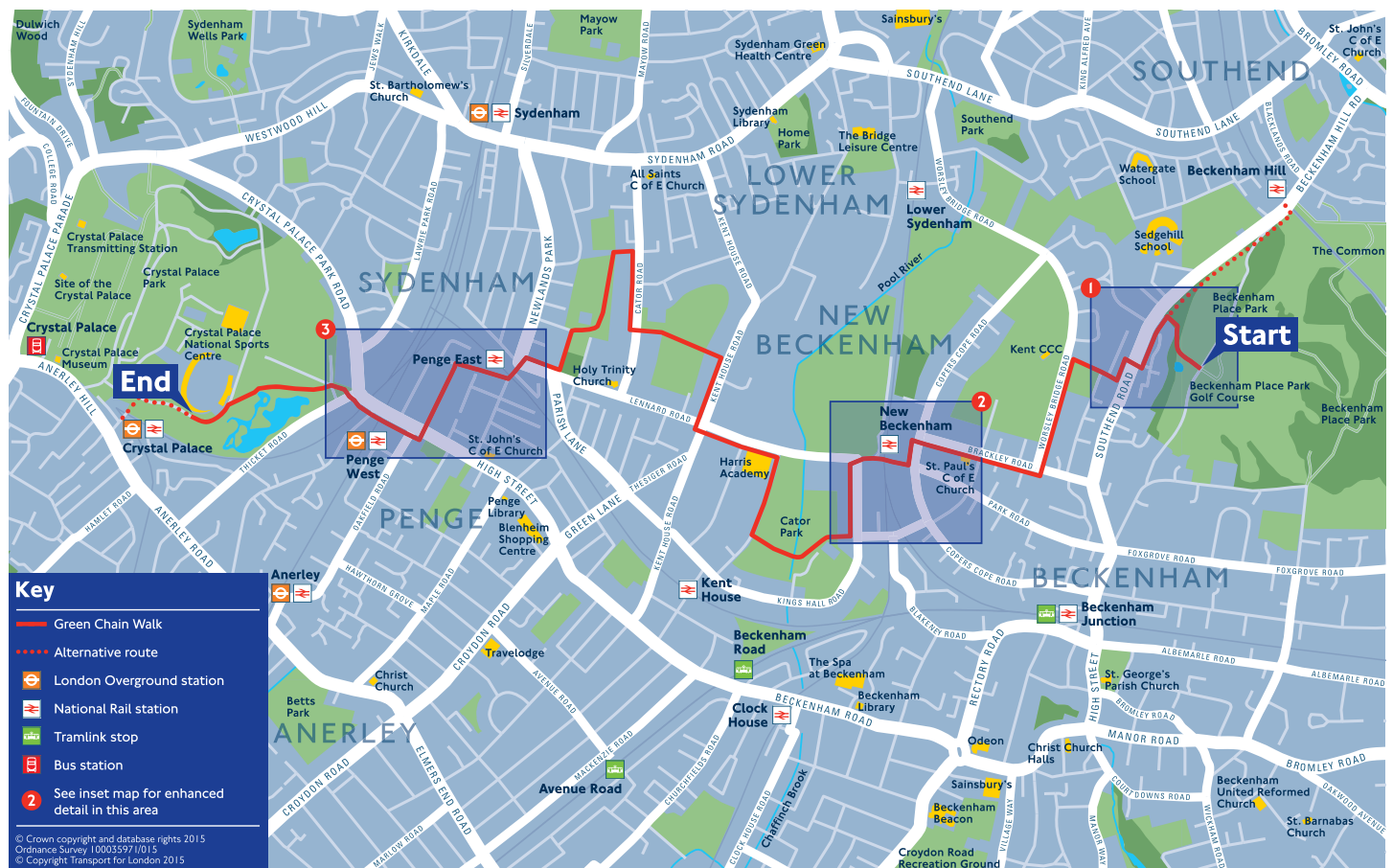
Nearest stations to finish: Crystal Palace

Section distance: 3.9 miles (6.3 kilometres)




Introduction

This section runs from Beckenham Place Park to Crystal Palace, a section steeped in heritage, with a Victorian Dinosaur Park at Crystal Palace Park and a rather unusual Edward VIII pillar box at Stumps Hill, made at Carron Ironworks.




Directions

If starting at Beckenham Hill station, turn right from the station on to Beckenham Hill Road and cross this at the pedestrian lights. Enter Beckenham Place Park along the road by the gatehouse on your left and use the parallel footpath to Beckenham House Mansion, which is the start of section ten.

 **1** From Beckenham House Mansion, take the footpath on the other side of the car park and head down to Southend Road. Upon reaching this, turn left and follow the road, crossing over to turn right into Stumps Hill Lane.

At the Green Chain major signpost turn left along Worsley Bridge Road. At the T-junction turn right into Brackley Road towards St. Paul's church on the opposite side.

Continue along Brackley Road to turn left into Copers Cope Road. Take the first right off Copers Cope Road to pass through the subway under New Beckenham railway station and into Lennard Road.

 **2** From Lennard Road take the first left into King's Hall Road.

Continue along King's Hall Road then turn right between numbers 173 and 175. Enter Cator Park, follow the marker posts to the Green Chain major signpost where the paths meet. Bear right and follow the path to leave the park at the north west corner back into Lennard Road.

Did you know?

Cator Park is named after the Cator family which once owned land which encompassed a vast area around Beckenham and Blackheath. John Cator (1723-1806) had bought Blackheath Park and its mansion in 1783. He had been made Lord of the Manor of Beckenham in 1773 and was to supervise the building of Beckenham Place which became his home. Doctor Samuel Johnson was a friend and frequent visitor.



Turn left along Lennard Road to the traffic lights and then right into Kent House Road.

Follow Kent House Road and turn left between numbers 148 and 150 and cross the playing fields to Cator Road. Turn right along Cator Road to where it becomes Trewsbury Road.


Turn left into an unmade road which leads to Alexandra Recreation Ground. Follow the marker posts through the park past the Green Chain major signpost to emerge in Maitland Road.

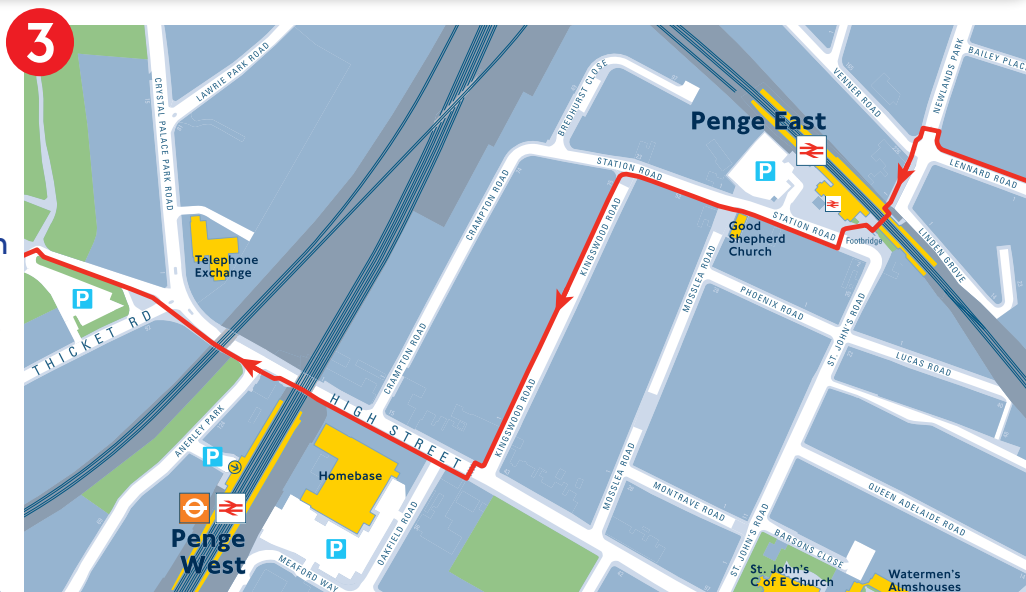
Follow Maitland Road and turn right to follow Lennard Road (again!) to its junction with Newlands Park. Here turn left and cross the footbridge at Penge East Station.

Did you know?

Penge was a fashionable entertainment district in the 19th century and saw notorious murders in the 1870s. Notable residents have included Bill Wyman of The Rolling Stones to Prime Minister Andrew Bonar Law.

 **3** After descending the footbridge turn right and follow Station Road, turning left into Kingswood Road, to reach Penge High Street. Cross the street at the pelican crossing and turn right to go under the two railway bridges to reach Thicket Road.

 Cross Thicket Road and enter Crystal Palace Park. Follow the signs and marker posts bearing left to the lake, then right and left to pass the Irish Elks statues.



Did you know?

The park includes a famous collection of 1850s animal sculptures and their surrounding landscape, known as the Dinosaur Park. This is to be found on the south side of the park, between Main Avenue and the famous athletics stadium.

Continue ahead over the stone bridge. Turn left, left again over the iron bridge, and left around the lake edge containing the monsters. Turn right at the junction and follow the path past the entrance to the children's farm to reach the Green Chain major signpost overlooking the National Sports Centre stadium. Section ten ends here. To reach Crystal Palace station, continue past the sports centre and turn left at the car park.