

WELCOME TO UNLOCK WALK 42 POWER AND PLEASANCE

KENNINGTON, CAMBERWELL, NORTH BRIXTON, STOCKWELL AND BATTERSEA

The title for this year's walk comes from a common theme we identified in many of the places and landmarks along our route.

There's the US Embassy which opened in Nine Elms in 2017 despite Trump thinking it was in a lousy location. There's the headquarters of the UK's Secret Intelligence Service, also known as MI6, by Vauxhall Bridge. There's the New Covent Garden fruit and veg and flower market. There's Battersea Power Station, formerly a place of smelly industry and

now of luxury apartments and shopping - a property development that spearheaded many changes to the whole Nine Elms area, the skyline of which has changed beyond recognition in the past fifteen years with the erection of numerous towers. All these are symbols of the power of commerce, politics, state and money. The word 'power' has multiple definitions which as well as 'energy', and 'strength', include 'the ability or capacity to do something or act in a particular way'.

Over history, and now, the area is full of people who seek to make change for the better through protest, community development, building bridges, and love and service.

One definition of 'Pleasance' is "a feeling of extreme pleasure or satisfaction; enjoyment; the pleasure felt when having a good time; pleasantness; the feeling caused by agreeable stimuli." (vocabulary.com). There's much on our walk that can be associated with that

word - parks and playgrounds; sports facilities including the Oval cricket ground; eating and drinking venues and places of entertainment and retail therapy. Hopefully the walk itself will be a source of pleasure for you, not just in the exercise, and (re)discovering a vibrant part of London, but also in spending time with your fellow travellers, and in meeting new people and learning about them and local church communities.

The route of 2025 walk continued to evolve right into late autumn as for various reasons it took longer than usual to recruit churches to be checkpoints this year. We are fortunate as the whole area is full of interest and history and has numerous churches. The distance between the two checkpoints of St Peter's in Vauxhall and St Georges' in Battersea is long, but there are many places to sit to rest, and in-between are the US Embassy (with toilets in the nearby Waitrose) and Battersea Power

Station. Although the latter is not a checkpoint as such, we plan to have a 7th 'church' fact-sheet available at the churches either side with information about Nine Elms Arts Ministry which runs events and in and around the power station pointing people towards God's love.

We hope you enjoy the walk, hopefully in some spring sunshine. We recommend that you use the notes and quiz questions to help you notice all there is to see and learn about. Please spend time at the checkpoints finding out about the

churches, and pray for the places and people you encounter.

Thank you for your support in participating in the Unlock Walk and in raising much needed funds to support Unlock's work - harnessing the power of stories to connect people with the Good News of the down-to-earth Christ and his upside down kingdom. The walk will be in the lead up to Easter and we pray that it will help you reflect on the transforming power of Jesus' love and the joy of new life in all its fullness that He brings.

GETTING THERE

As usual you are encouraged to start anywhere and go either way, to avoid a bulge at checkpoints. The area is served by the Northern and Victoria underground lines which link with numerous London mainline stations, and have stations on or fairly close to the walk route.

NORTHERN LINE

(On) Oval, Battersea Power Station**
(Close) Stockwell, Nine Elms**

VICTORIA LINE

(On) Vauxhall**
(Close) Stockwell, Brixton**

NATIONAL RAIL

(On) Vauxhall
(Close) Loughborough Junction, Wandsworth Road.

**= Lifts

BUS SERVICES

The walk route is touched or crossed by all the following services:

2, 3, 35, 36, 40, 42, 45, 50, 59, 68, 77, 85, 87, 88, 133, 148, 155, 156, 159, 176, 185, 196, 211, 288, 333, 344, 345, 360, 415, 436, 452, 468, P5.

The single decker P5 runs every 15 minutes linking stations Elephant & Castle, Loughborough Junction, Brixton, Clapham North/High Street, Stockwell, and touching the walk route at many points. Numerous bus routes link these and other National Rail stations directly to the walk area.

FARES

London buses are cashless. You will need a bus pass, a contactless card or mobile phone, or else an Oyster or Travel Card. A single bus journey is charged at £1.75 (change of buses allowed if within 1 hour of start of journey) and multiple bus journeys are capped at £5.25. For a mixture of bus and train journeys paid with an Oyster or contactless payment card or mobile phone, daily capping works out cheaper than buying a Day Travel Card. The capping or cost of an off-peak travel card will depend on which zones you need to cover; the walk route lies entirely within Zone 2. Children under eleven travel free.

PARKING

Residential roads on or near the southern part of the walk route have free on-road parking on Saturdays. (The car park at the Power Station costs £16 for up to 6 hours, then £30, pay on exit.)

WALKERS WITH WHEELS

The entire walk route is step-free and push chair friendly with no steep hills and reasonable ramps as alternatives to steps. There are lifts as well as escalators both inside and outside Battersea Power Station to facilitate movement between levels. Four underground stations marked ** above have step-free access to/from platforms and mini-ramp access to/from trains. No local National Rail stations have step-free access. Every London bus route is wheelchair accessible with automatic ramps and designated wheelchair spaces.

WALKERS WHO ARE WEARY

If you don't mind missing some of the quiz questions and scenery it is possible to shorten the route by a bus ride. Between Checkpoint A and B use bus service 36, 185 or 436 and stops E or A (Archbishop Tenison's School), N or E (Vassall Road) marked on the map. Along Nine Elms Lane between Vauxhall Bus Station (Stand E) and Battersea Power Station use bus service 156, 344 or 436 and stop A or E marked on the map near the Power Station.

BATTERSEA POWER STATION

Can be confusing inside. It may be helpful to know there are two ground floor levels. The door on the east side gives access to the Upper Ground Floor (UG). On the south end there are doors at both Ground Floor (G) and Upper Ground Floor levels, but in either case there is a step-free paved way to/from the Underground Station.

Further information is available on the Transport for London website at: tfl.gov.uk

LENGTH OF ROUTE

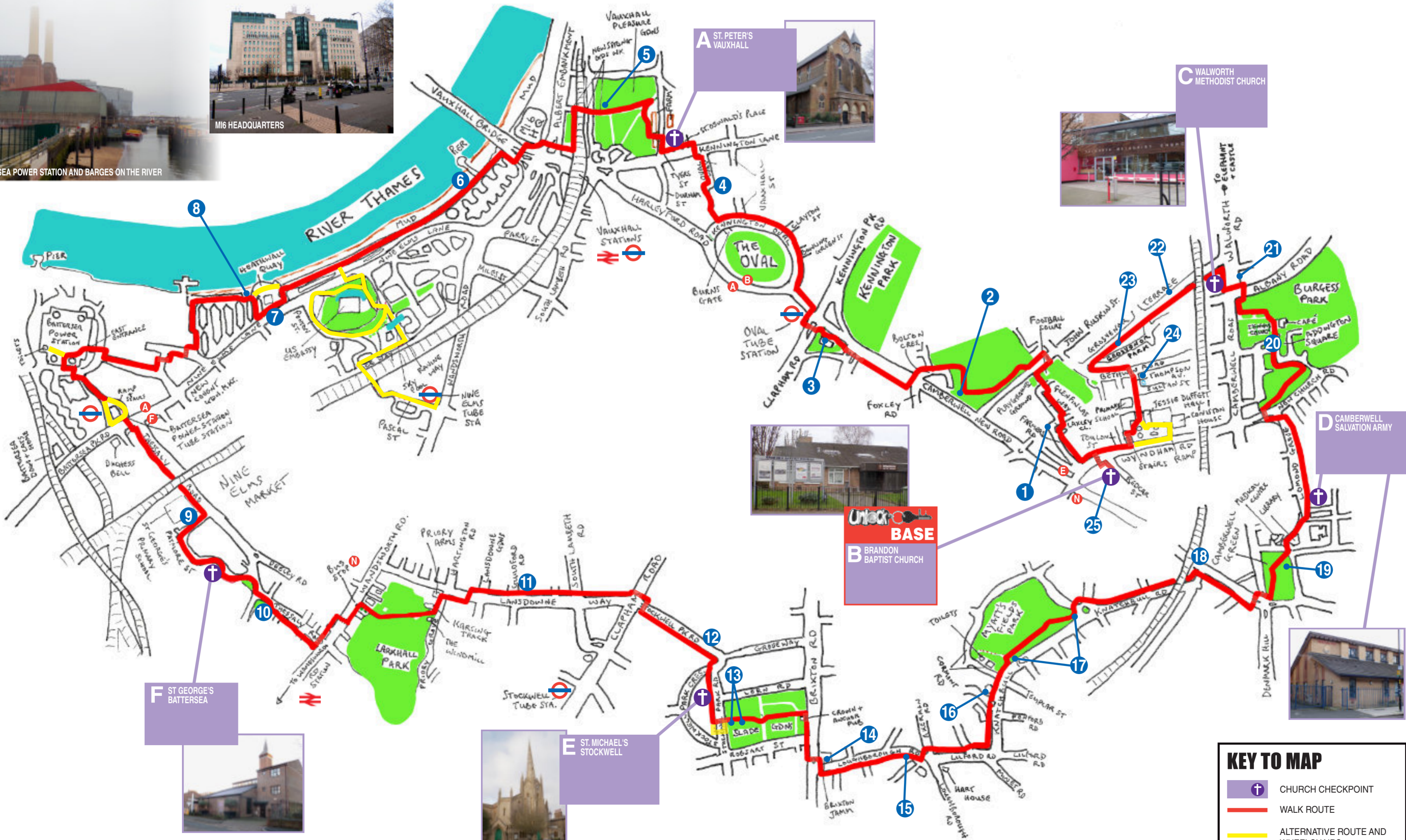
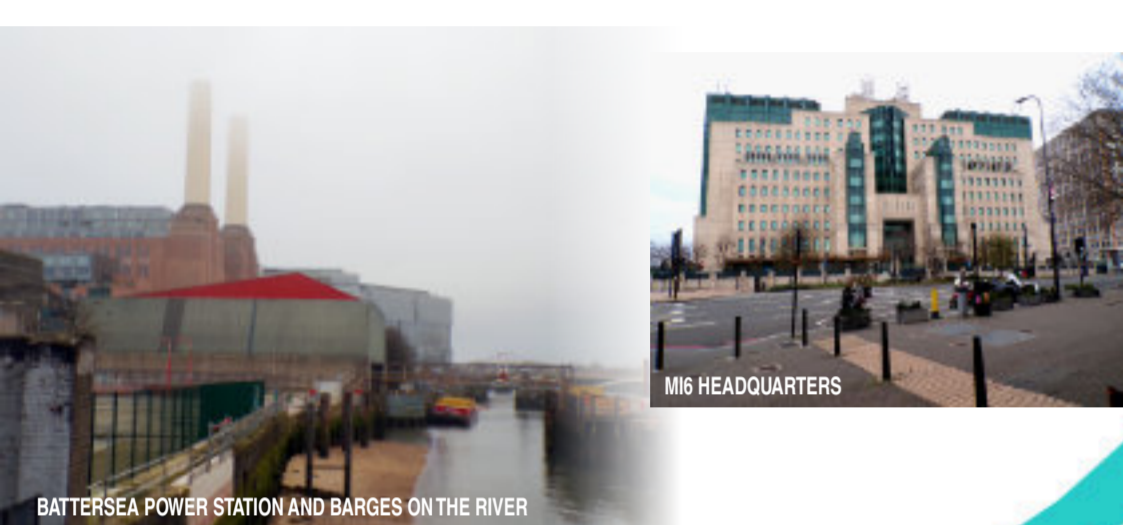
Approx 7.8 miles. Map not to scale

Date of next year's walk is
18 APRIL 2026

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to the walk team of Alison Gelder, Geoff Coggins, Ian Smith, Sarah Watkins-Idle and Tim Watkins-Idle.
Ashley Emery - design able-design.co.uk

Whilst every care has been taken in the design and compilation of this map & notes, Unlock cannot accept any liability arising from any inaccuracy within any part of this document or for any injury sustained whilst doing the walk.



KEY TO MAP

- CHURCH CHECKPOINT
- WALK ROUTE
- ALTERNATIVE ROUTE AND WHEELCHAIRS
- QUESTION FOR QUIZ SHEET

BATTERSEA POWER STATION AND BARGES ON THE RIVER

MI6 HEADQUARTERS

F ST GEORGE'S BATTERSEA



E ST. MICHAEL'S STOCKWELL



UNLOCK WALK BASE

B BRANDON BAPTIST CHURCH



A ST. PETER'S VAUXHALL



C WALWORTH METHODIST CHURCH



D CAMBERWELL SALVATION ARMY

