



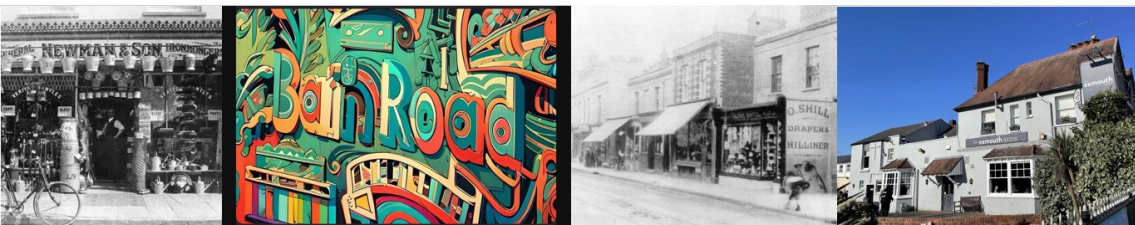
## Self-guided walk The Upper Bath Road: 200 Years of Trading History

This walk explores the Upper Bath Road, the town's main southern shopping area. Here, rapid urban development overtook an earlier industrial enterprise and absorbed the fields, streams and country byways.

A horse-drawn tram road was built through what was a rural landscape in 1810, from the quarries on Leckhampton Hill. This influenced the later street pattern and provided employment.

Meanwhile, after 1813 the New Bath Road cut a swathe through the farmland to become the town's principal southern highway. Shopkeepers settled along the road to serve the inhabitants of the mansions and elegant terraces to the west and a growing working-class population.

Beginning at the Norwood triangle, the route takes us southward to The Norwood Arms, before turning into the Upper Bath Road shopping district. It then heads north to Thirlestaine House, at the junction of Bath Road and Suffolk Road, stopping to look at some landmark buildings and touch upon their history. The area is very well provided with places to shop and for refreshment.



The walk takes about 90 minutes to complete but you can shorten it by selecting your own route.

It is best followed using a smartphone to access our website which has historic information and images for each location, and an online map which displays the route.

1. **Norwood Triangle** Walk south up Norwood Road until you reach The Norwood Arms.
2. **Norwood Arms** Walk north along Bath Road on the left hand pavement.
3. **Linc Charity Shop, 218 Bath Road** Continue along Bath Road until you are opposite the Lee Longland furniture shop.
4. **Lee Longland, 210-216 Bath Road** Walk until you are opposite the Red Cross clothing shop.
5. **British Red Cross, 198 Bath Road** Walk along to stand by the wall of the Exmouth Arms garden.
6. **Exmouth Arms, 167 Bath Road** Proceed along the Bath Road and stand outside the Sue Ryder shop. Look first across the road, to your right.
7. **My Coffee, 186 Bath Road**
8. **Bloodworths, 180 Bath Road** Walk further along the pavement to Bath Road Cards.
9. **The Big Fish, 166 Bath Road** Cross the road and walk northward until you are at the front of Thirlestaine House, the large neo-classical mansion.
10. **Thirlestaine House**

You have now reached the end of your walking tour. Stroll back to browse the shops, pubs and cafes and enjoy a well-earned refreshment.

For more information about all of the places mentioned above, and more, see our Cheltenham South Town website [www.cheltenhamsouthtown.org.uk](http://www.cheltenhamsouthtown.org.uk)





Visit our website to access the historic information and images which accompany this walk

<https://cheltlocalhistory.org.uk/resources/self-guided-walks/walk-bath-road/>