

**⚠ Please beware.**  
Steep inclines and drops in this area.  
Please note that this walk is  
**not suitable for buggies**

**POINTS OF INTEREST**

**Blaise House**  
Designed by Bristol architect Willaim Paty for John Scandret Harford and completed in 1798. A solid simple design, made more imposing through building the cellars above ground and heaping earth to their roof level, forming gradual slopes in every direction from the terrace. More ornate additions representing a Greek classical influence were made to both exterior and interior of house from 1832-3 by C R Cockerell on instruction from J S Harford Jr.

**POINTS OF INTEREST**

**The Giant's footprint**  
Local legend suggests that the footprint was created in a fit of rage by the Giant Goram. In fact it is an area of horizontally bedded carboniferous limestone, exposed through glaciation some 10,000 years ago. The cavities are created where rock has been dissolved through the passage of water down vertical joints.

**POINTS OF INTEREST**

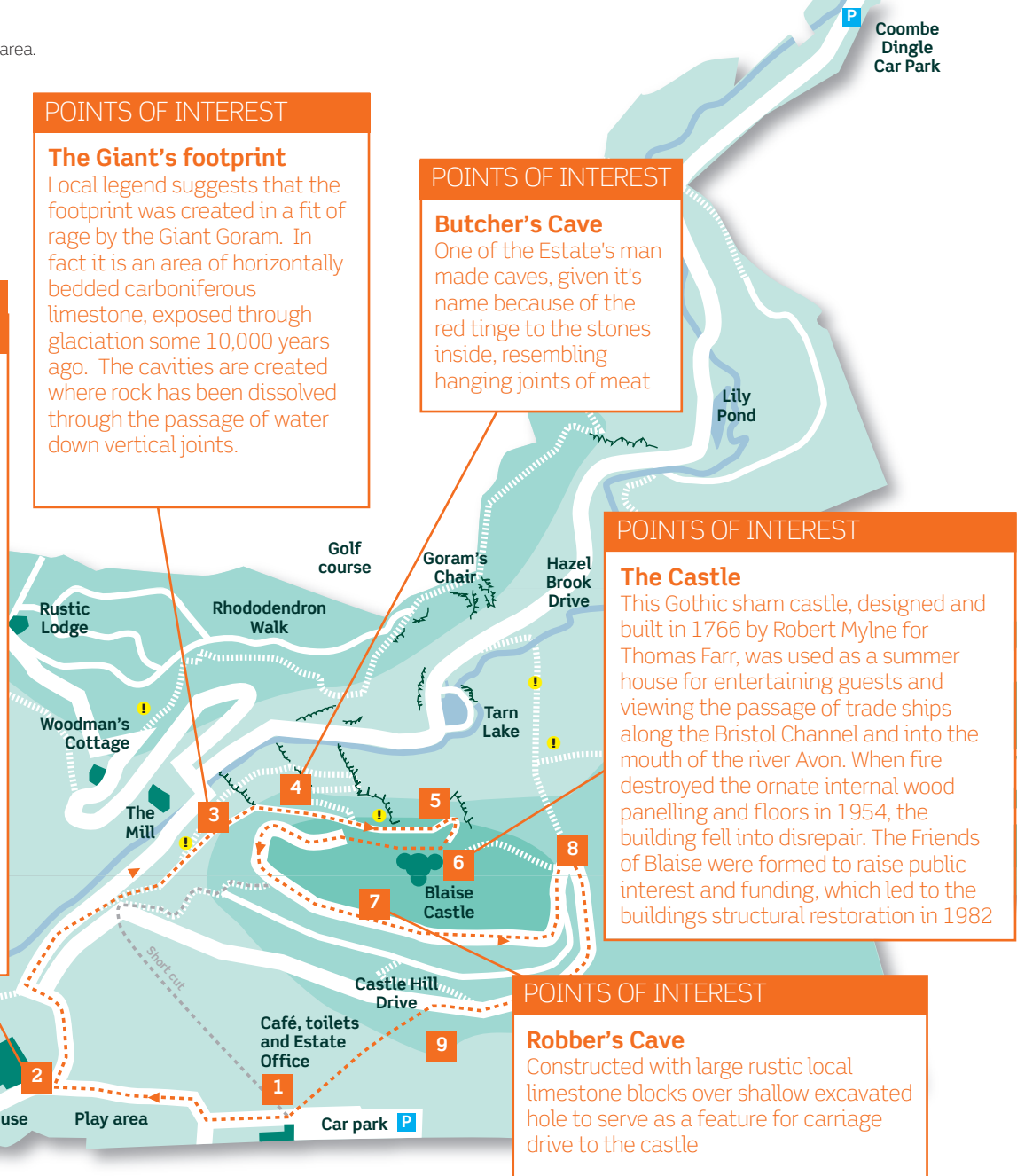
**Butcher's Cave**  
One of the Estate's man made caves, given it's name because of the red tinge to the stones inside, resembling hanging joints of meat

**POINTS OF INTEREST**

**The Castle**  
This Gothic sham castle, designed and built in 1766 by Robert Mylne for Thomas Farr, was used as a summer house for entertaining guests and viewing the passage of trade ships along the Bristol Channel and into the mouth of the river Avon. When fire destroyed the ornate internal wood panelling and floors in 1954, the building fell into disrepair. The Friends of Blaise were formed to raise public interest and funding, which led to the buildings structural restoration in 1982

**POINTS OF INTEREST**

**Robber's Cave**  
Constructed with large rustic local limestone blocks over shallow excavated hole to serve as a feature for carriage drive to the castle



**P** Coombe Dingle Car Park

orange walk

# Blaise Castle Estate

## Castle Walk



route/distance

**Approx. 1¼ miles/40 minutes.**  
Incorporates historical features and stunning views over the gorge.

route difficulty

**Medium.** This walk uses mainly woodland trails with some steep inclines (marked ⚠ on map) that can be muddy.

points of interest

The Giant's Footprint, Butcher's Cave, Lover's Leap, The Castle, Robber's Cave.

**We hope you enjoy your walk!**  
Why not try these other walks through Blaise Castle Estate? Pick up a leaflet at the Estate Office or download at [www.bristol.gov.uk/blaisecastleestate](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/blaisecastleestate)

**pink walk** Approx. 3 miles/1¼ hr. Hard walk  
**Rhododendron Walk**

**green walk** Kings Weston  
Approx. 1½ miles/35 mins. Easy walk

**blue walk** Gorge Walk  
Approx. 1½ miles/50 mins. Hard walk

**purple walk** Royalls Walk  
Approx. 1¼ miles/50 mins. Easy walk

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Bristol Parks



# Welcome to Blaise Castle Estate

Blaise Estate is a Grade II listed historic landscape with recorded human activity dating back 2,000 years. It became a 'pleasure park' to a variety of wealthy private owners and has been influenced through the landscape designer Humphrey Repton. It was purchased by the Corporation of Bristol in 1926 for £20,175.

The Heritage Lottery funded project to restore the historic landscape and public park began in 2000, with an investment of approx. £6.5 million. Modern visitor facilities such as a cafe, play area and performance space were introduced whilst the historic culture of the site was conserved.

These circular guided walks have been developed to provide reassurance and information for those who wish to experience all the estate offers. This includes spectacular views, the castle folly, lakes, scheduled ancient monuments, the 18th Century mansion, unique rock formations and designed landscape features.

Varying in length, all walks will contain relatively steep ascents/descents. Care should be taken on cliff edges and steep slopes.

Any feedback is always appreciated. Enjoy!

## contact us



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**FRIENDS OF BLAISE**

Bristol City Council is grateful to the generous financial contribution made by the Friends of Blaise towards production of these leaflets



Blaise House

**1** Start at Blaise Cafe. Walk towards the Blaise House, along surfaced path with play area on left hand side.

**2** At path junction near house bear right onto path leading slightly down hill, continue on surfaced path leading down into the gorge, until you reach a set of steps on the right hand side.



Giant's Footprint

**3** Take the steps leading up to the Castle. After a short distance on the right hand side you will come to a limestone pavement rock formation, known as the Giant's Footprint.

**4** Carry on up path, passing Butcher's Cave on the right



Butcher's Cave

**5** There are two view points; the first, located on the South Bastion, takes in Sea Mills, Leigh Court and Leigh Woods. Those from the top of the path known as Lover's Leap, offer up Stoke Bishop, Sneyd Park and Dundry in the distance.



Lover's Leap

**6** Walk up to the Castle. With your back to the Castle's doors, turn left, heading towards the path leading into the woods, passing an interpretation board.



Robber's Cave

**7** Follow this path on a gradual descent, then either head down the steps on the right hand side for a short cut onto the parkland, or continue over small rise passing Robber's Cave on the left hand side.

**8** Continue following this path, down a slight descent and bearing right onto Castle Hill Drive

**9** Continue onto main field and back to Cafe.

*A map of these directions is printed over leaf.*