

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

**POINTS OF INTEREST**  
**Goram's Chair**  
 A pair of rugged limestone outcrops, which according to local legend provided a resting point for the giant Goram in his endeavours to create the gorge.

**POINTS OF INTEREST**  
**Beech Cathedral**  
 A stand of Beech ascending the steep valley slope, planted during the 18th Century and managed to provide a unique landscape feature.

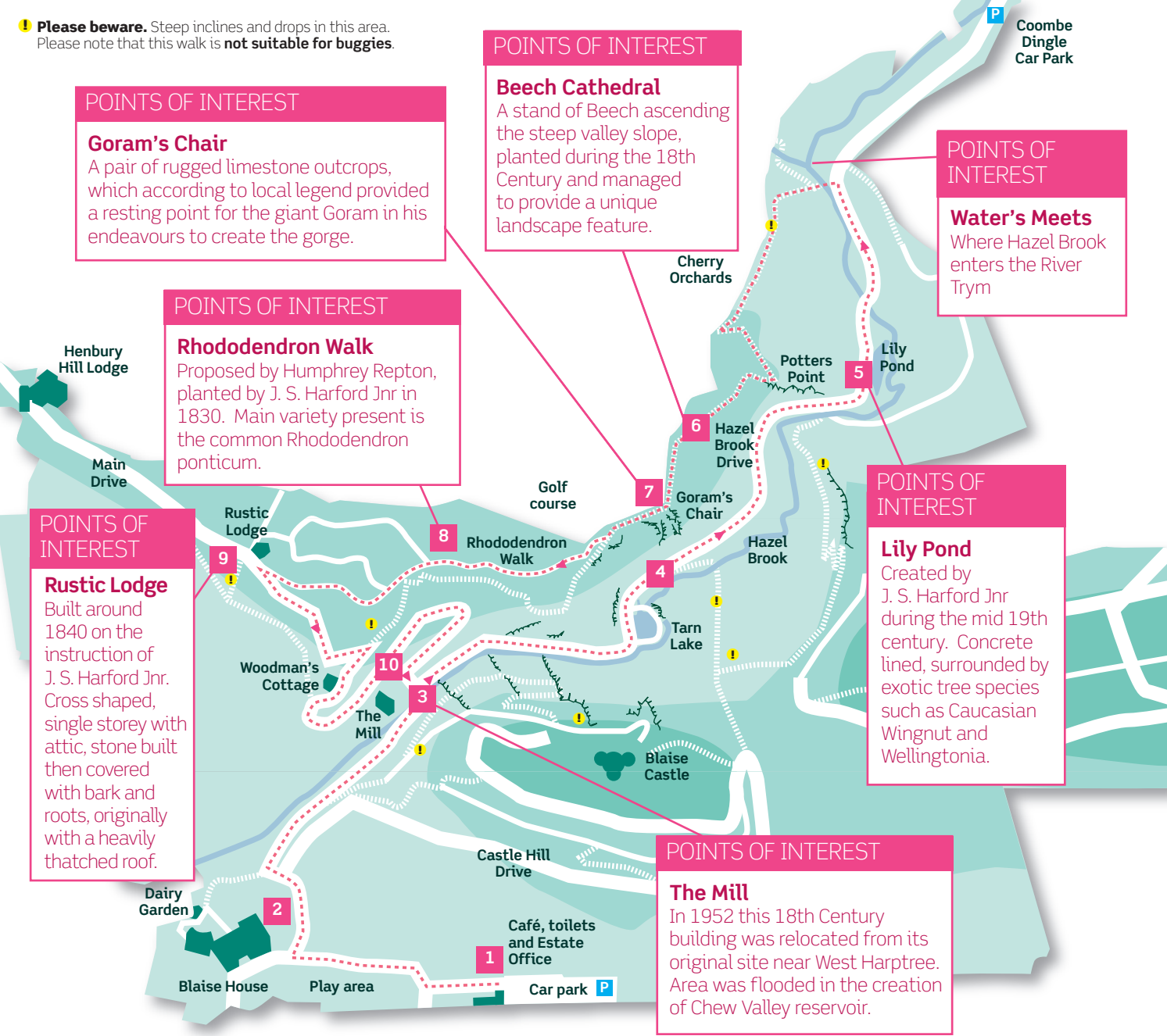
**POINTS OF INTEREST**  
**Rhododendron Walk**  
 Proposed by Humphrey Repton, planted by J. S. Harford Jnr in 1830. Main variety present is the common Rhododendron ponticum.

**POINTS OF INTEREST**  
**Water's Meets**  
 Where Hazel Brook enters the River Trym

**POINTS OF INTEREST**  
**Rustic Lodge**  
 Built around 1840 on the instruction of J. S. Harford Jnr. Cross shaped, single storey with attic, stone built then covered with bark and roots, originally with a heavily thatched roof.

**POINTS OF INTEREST**  
**Lily Pond**  
 Created by J. S. Harford Jnr during the mid 19th century. Concrete lined, surrounded by exotic tree species such as Caucasian Wingnut and Wellingtonia.

**POINTS OF INTEREST**  
**The Mill**  
 In 1952 this 18th Century building was relocated from its original site near West Harptree. Area was flooded in the creation of Chew Valley reservoir.



pink walk

# Blaise Castle Estate

## Rhododendron Walk



**route/distance**

**Approx. 3 miles/1¼ hours.** Incorporates many of the estates dramatic natural features and historical buildings

**route difficulty**

**Hard.** The walk uses both surfaced paths and woodland trails covering a mixture of terrains. Includes steep assents (marked ! on map).

**points of interest**

Goram's Chair, Tarn Lake, Beech Cathedral, Lily Pond, Rhododendron Walk, Rustic Lodge, Woodman's Cottage.

**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/blaisecastlestate](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/blaisecastlestate)

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

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

**orange walk** **Castle Walk**  
 Approx. 1¼ miles/ 40 mins. Easy walk

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

PEOPLE PARKS & NATURE working together

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 down into the gorge with iron railings on left hand side.



Beech Cathedral

**3** Cross over Mill Bridge at bottom of hill, turn right and proceed along the surfaced path running parallel to Hazel Brook.

**4** Continue past Tarn Lake, up a slight hill with Beech Cathedral rising majestically to the left.

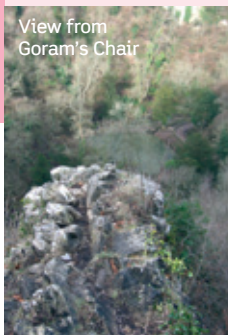
**5** Pass Lily Pond and cross the brook. Nearing the brow of a small rise, bear left off the the drive down some steps leading to the brook.



Lily Pond

**6** Turn left, crossing concrete sluice. Bear right following brook, looking out for a flight of steps, flanked by a wall coming down from left. Proceed up steps (known as Jacobs Ladder), starting a steep ascent. Fields to the right are part of Cherry Orchard Farm.

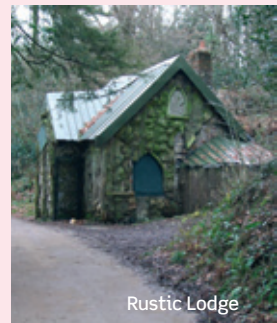
**7** At marker, turn left into woods through gap in wall to follow a winding path uphill. Continue left along a level path which emerges from the right to Potters Point. **Please take care** as sheer sided but offers fine views up the Gorge and across to Kings Weston Down.



View from Goram's Chair

**8** Retrace steps until marker, bearing left up hill, parallel to the ridge. At top follow path to the left, keeping wall (and Henbury Golf course) to the right. The path divides either side of the wall at the top of Beech Cathedral and continues to the pair of rocky outcrops forming Goram's Chair. Lovers Leap and the Castle can be viewed opposite.

**9** Continue along path, keeping left at all forks, until reaching Main Drive by the Rustic Lodge. Turn left and follow the surfaced path, past the Woodman's Cottage back down in to the gorge.



Rustic Lodge

**10** Cross the Mill Bridge and follow Main Drive back to the Cafe.

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