

# Uncover local routes and kick start your passion for walking



## It's Friday, and the weekend weather is looking dry ...

... so you've decided to plan a walk for the weekend. You cycle through the options you know – the canal tow-path route you did once in summer, the footpath route your mate showed you recently, across the fields and up into the woods; or climbing one of the peaks near you via the popular “easy route” where you can follow others up. All great options, all well-trodden, all somehow failing to get you excited about heading out.

That's a common feeling adventurer Anna McNuff can relate to: “When you've lived somewhere for a while and you think you know places to go, your brain thinks “this is dull.”

If you're new to walking, it's easier to stick to what you know but that doesn't always make for the most exciting outings. You could be living in the heart of an AONB – the Chilterns, the Pennines, the Suffolk Coast – and still find it uninspiring because you've walked the same half-hour footpath loop with the dog a million times over. If you really want to get into walking, the trick is not necessarily to go bigger... or further. Finding some new-to-you footpaths and linking them up differently could breathe new life into your local adventures, and build your route planning confidence in the process.

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But short of pouring over a paper map that you struggle to interpret, and cross-checking with Google satellite images, how do you start planning routes that actually get you excited to start earning your walking stripes?

If you're komoot ambassador Anna, you check komoot: “I committed to looking at where other people have gone –

I basically did a search [on the komoot map] around Gloucester and ended up finding all these new places!”

Outdoor writer and fellow ambassador Sian Lewis has a similar experience of komoot's route planner. She taps into the insider knowledge fellow users share via komoot Highlights and finds Tours “literally on my doorstep, and it's quite surprising what's there.”

She gets ideas thanks to fellow users like Anna who leave “breadcrumbs” along her route: “I think it's really cool that I can take pictures as I go along, and upload them. It's like Hansel and Gretel leaving little breadcrumbs on the trails for other people.”

Like Sian and Anna, you can discover your local area by tapping into community insights. Use komoot's route planner on web or mobile to plan and tailor your walks in just a few clicks. From an interactive elevation profile that warns you how steep the climbs are, to the estimated time to complete your hike based on the distance, elevation, and your fitness, you'll have all the information you need to lace up your boots in confidence. Plus the reframe you need to get excited enough about planning local routes that you'll be route planning like a pro in no time!



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