



Kilkenny to Bennettsbridge

Nore Valley Walk



Directions to Trailhead

From Kilkenny: The river walk leaves Kilkenny City under Ossory Bridge

From Bennettsbridge: Under the six arch bridge – take the steps down to the riverbank by Tynan’s Butchers shop.

Note: 2km outside Kilkenny City the trail leaves the river bank and heads along a laneway and onto the Sion Road. Follow this road for 1.5km then cross a green stile, through a field and back to the river bank.

Difficulty	Moderate
Length	12km
Duration	2-3 hours

Overview

This stretch of the Nore Valley walk takes roughly 2 hours at a relaxed pace. Follow the river as it meanders through meadows, shady glades and past ancient mills; woollen, grain, paper and saw mills from where Kilkenny’s famous ‘black marble’ was honed (Maddockstown). Rich in riverside flora and fauna – spot a swift, a heron or catch a fleeting glimpse of kingfisher or an otter emerging from the riverbank. Described by *The Irish Times* as ‘a delightful walk’ and by *The Irish Independent* as ‘one of the most delectable river walks in Ireland, an unfolding tale of kingfishers, otters, Sleeping Beauty castles and wicked young princelings – pure distillation of magic in the floodlands of Kilkenny’.