

# THAMES PATH

NATIONAL TRAIL 



## The Thames Barrier

**The Thames Barrier** is the main structure that protects London from tidal surges and fluvial flooding. The Thames Barrier is where the Thames Path National Trail currently finishes, or starts, depending on which direction you're walking the Trail

Completed in 1983, it spans 520 metres across the River Thames at Woolwich and has 10 steel gates that can be raised into position across the river. When fully raised each gate is as high as a five-storey building.

Over £321 billion worth of property and 1.42 million people are protected from flooding by a complex network of tidal defences including flood walls, embankments, smaller barriers, pumping stations and flood gates. These structures are all having to work harder as climate change accelerates.

In February 2021, the Government published this 10-year review of the Thames Estuary 2100 Plan

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/thames-estuary-2100-te2100/thames-estuary-2100-key-findings-from-the-monitoring-review>

The Thames Barrier Information Centre is open to visitors

<https://www.visitgreenwich.org.uk/business/thames-barrier-information-and-conference-centre/>

May 2021

## THE THAMES PATH NATIONAL TRAIL PARTNERSHIP

Natural England ■ Environment Agency ■ County Councils of Buckinghamshire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Surrey, Wiltshire ■ Borough Councils of Reading, Swindon, Windsor & Maidenhead ■ Wokingham District Council ■ West Berkshire Council ■ Transport for London ■ Corporation of London ■ City of Westminster ■ London Boroughs of Greenwich, Hammersmith & Fulham, Hounslow, Kensington & Chelsea, Lambeth, Lewisham, Richmond upon Thames, Kingston, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, Wandsworth ■ Other organisations; National Farmers' Union; River Thames Society, The Ramblers, Sustrans, Cycling UK, Thames Estuary Partnership, London Thames Landscape Strategies, Port of London Authority, National Trail Volunteers