

Ifield Mill Pond and Watermill walk



60 minutes



Distance

Compassion Close to Ifield Mill Pond – approx. two miles (3.3km)

Compassion Close to Ifield Mill Pond returning via Bewbush Water Gardens – approx. 2.3 miles (3.8km)

Time

Compassion Close to Ifield Mill Pond – approx. one hour

Compassion Close to Ifield Mill Pond returning via Bewbush Water Gardens – approx. one hour 15 minutes

Level of difficulty

Level two (medium). The route follows mainly flat tarmacked or wooden paths and is generally on level ground. There are some steep steps to cross over the railway.

Bus

No. 1 Bus stops in Gasson Wood Road, approx. a five min walk from the Mill Pond entrance at Waterfield Gardens.

Parking

Free parking bays in Compassion Close, RH11 8FN. There is also free roadside parking in Collins Road.

Dogs

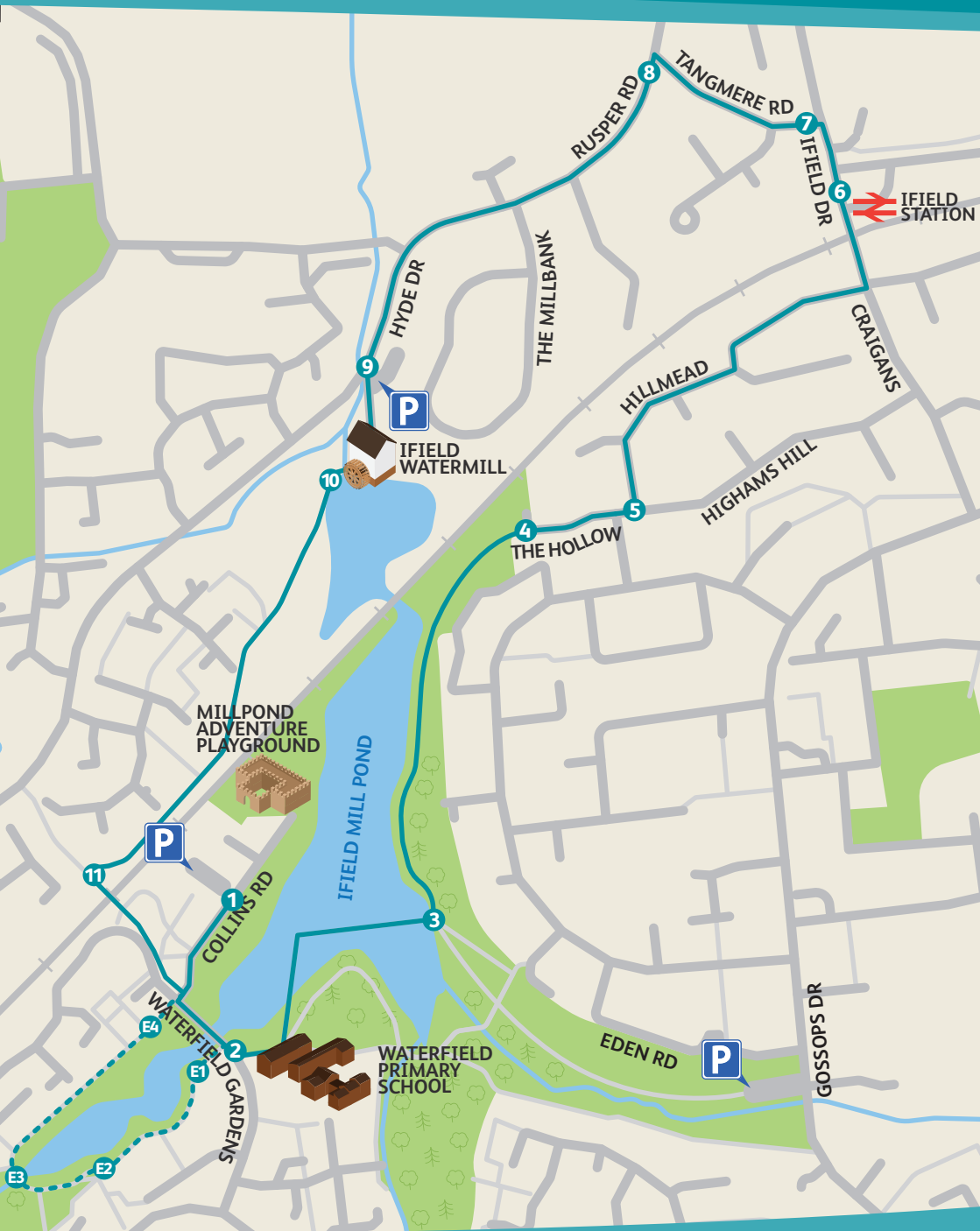
Dogs are allowed off lead in the park so long as the owner has them in sight, can bring them to heel at any time and they do not cause a nuisance to other park users.

Refreshments

Available at Millpond Adventure Playground.
Check www.crawley.gov.uk/play for opening times.

Public toilets

Available at Millpond Adventure Playground, Collins Road, RH11 8FN during their opening hours.



60 minute walk

This route begins and ends at the same points as the shorter self-guided walk around Ifield Mill Pond, heading in a different direction from the far end of the boardwalk.

1 From the parking area in Compassion Close, walk away from the Adventure Playground along Collins Road with the woods on your left. At the end of Collins Road, turn left onto Waterfield Gardens and walk approximately 70m until you reach the sign for Ifield Mill Pond.



2 Take a left turn onto the shared use path then almost immediately take the left most path onto the boardwalk. Continue to the end of the boardwalk.



3 Turn left and walk along the tree lined path, keeping the pond on your left. You will emerge from here into the end of a cul-de-sac called The Hollow.



4 Walk forwards along The Hollow, quickly joining Highams Hill.

5 Turn left uphill into Hillmead. Walk along Hillmead, passing Meadowcroft Close and Parkfield Close. At the end of the road, turn left onto Craigans and walk towards Ifield Station. Cross the railway tracks using the footbridge.



6 Walk away from the station along Ifield Drive, using the pavement on the left.

7 Take the first path on the left into Tangmere Road. Walk to the end of the road.



8 Turn left onto Rusper road. Walk along Rusper Road, passing The Millbank and then continue along the same path which becomes Hyde Drive until you reach a public footpath sign on your left.



9 Walk between the two yellow posts and cross the car park with care. Continue left along the driveway until you reach Ifield Watermill.



For more information and to find other self-guided and guided walks in your area, visit www.crawley.gov.uk/healthwalks

10 Veer right uphill passing a weir on your left. Follow the asphalt path, continuing on to pass between houses on your right and trees on your left.



E2 Walk along the riverside path, ignoring all paths to your left. Follow the path as it curves to the right until it reaches a footbridge. Cross the footbridge and follow the path to the right.



11 Continue on this path as it turns left over a footbridge and then carry on straight downhill until you reach Collins Road. Turn left here to return to your start point.

E3 Keeping the hedge to your left, follow the path straight until you reach Waterfield Gardens.



Walk extension

E1 To extend your walk: on reaching Collins Road, continue straight ahead to Waterfield Gardens. After 70m, turn right, crossing the road onto the riverside path signposted Bewbush Water Gardens.



E4 Cross Waterfield Gardens and rejoin your route in Collins Road.

Don't forget to stop at the historic Ifield Watermill.

A visit is highly recommended and volunteers there will happily share their knowledge of the Mill's history!



Opening Times

When open, visitors can go into the Mill between 2.30-5pm. Usually open on the third Sunday of the month between April and September but more information can be found at www.crawleymuseums.org

Get walking

Why walk at all?

Walking is a great form of exercise. It can help toward better physical health and can make you feel more positive too. It is available to almost anyone, of any age or fitness level and it's free!

What do you need to wear?

- A comfortable and supportive pair of shoes
- Thin layers: these are more useful than bulky clothes as you can easily add or remove them as needed, depending on how you are feeling
- On rainy days, a waterproof and an umbrella
- On hot days, a sun hat and ensure that you have applied sun cream
- Always carry a bottle of water.

One small step to a way of life

If you are used to walking and want to increase your challenge, Gatwick Greenspace Partnership offers a variety of lead walks of about three hours (approx. six miles) in length. For more information go to www.gatwickgreenspace.org.uk

If you would like to become a trained walk leader for health walks in Crawley, please contact alan.heaton@crawley.gov.uk or visit www.crawley.gov.uk/healthwalks

An information leaflet about wildlife in the area and the Ifield Watermill is available for adults to download at www.crawley.gov.uk/healthwalks. Activity leaflets for children can be downloaded from this address too!

Get motivated to walk by joining a health walk in Crawley. Walks can be found at Tilgate Park, Goffs Park, Langley Green and Worth Park. For all the latest information visit www.crawley.gov.uk/healthwalks

