

GETTING THERE AND BACK

You can reach the suggested starting point on public transit by taking the BLOOR/DANFORTH subway to Broadview Station. The same subway line serves the two suggested tour end points, Broadview and Castle Frank Stations.



Riverdale Park

FOR MORE INFO

For more information on Discovery Walks, including brochures, please call Parks and Recreation Information at (416) 392-1111. For more information on area history, inquire at the Riverdale Branch of the Toronto Public Library.

Discovery Walks is a program of self-guided walks that links City ravines, parks, gardens, beaches and neighbourhoods. Other Discovery Walks include: Central Ravines, Belt Line and Gardens; Eastern Ravine and Beaches; Western Ravines and Beaches; Northern Ravines and Gardens; and Garrison Creek.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

The City of Toronto would like to thank the Toronto Public Library, Toronto District School Board, Toronto Field Naturalists, Toronto Transit Commission, Heritage Toronto, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto Public Health, Community History Project and the Task Force to Bring Back the Don for their support.

Discovery Walks name and logo are official marks of the City of Toronto.

DISCOVERY WALKS

DON VALLEY HILLS & DALES

One In A Series of Self-Guided Walks



Chester Springs Marsh

Photo by Gera Dillon



Explore the scenic hills and dales of the **③ NEC** (Necropolis) and the **④ WILSON PLACE** (Wilson Place). Discover panoramic views, an urban farm and the splendid park-like atmosphere of Toronto's oldest cemetery.

THE ROUTE

This Discovery Walk leads you on two overlapping loops through the Don Valley and nearby neighbourhoods. Although you can begin this Discovery Walk at any point along the route, a good starting point is the Broadview Subway Station (see middle right side of map). From the subway station, the tour guides you through the Lower Don Valley. Along the way you can visit Riverdale Farm, Prince Edward (Bloor Street) Viaduct, Chester Springs Marsh and Todmorden Mills. Side trips allow you to explore the Cabbagetown and Rosedale neighbourhoods.

① DON RIVER AND VALLEY

Discover the Don River Valley, its steep-sided tributary ravines, river, forests and wide vistas. These natural features have captivated and attracted explorers like you since the earliest days of human habitation in this area. Many native tree species still appear in the nearby well-wooded valleys including oak, pine, beech, basswood, maple and ash.

② RIVERDALE FARM

Talk to the animals at this City-owned farm, which is operated as it would have in the 19th century. Watch the resident farm staff go about their daily chores like gardening, milking cows and gathering eggs. See horses, pigs, sheep, goats, chickens and ducks. Visit heritage structures including an original 1858 barn, all within a setting that includes impressive floral and herb gardens, and a pond habitat restoration project.

⑤ PRINCE EDWARD VIADUCT



Enjoy the panoramic view of the river valley from the viaduct, one of Toronto's most impressive human-made structures, built across the Don Valley in the late 1910s. The bridge's lower deck was first used in the 1960s when the Bloor/Danforth subway was created.

⑤ TODMORDEN MILLS

Learn the history of the Don River Valley at the historic Todmorden Mills Museum. Since 1795, Todmorden Mills has been the site of a saw mill, grist mill, paper mill, brewery and distillery.

⑥ CHESTER SPRINGS MARSH

Many environmental restoration projects have recently focussed on the Don Valley. All the projects are working towards bringing back a clean, green and accessible Don River Valley. Explore the recently constructed Chester Springs Marsh, a project that has restored some of the area's original wildlife habitat.

 Enjoy this Discovery Walk at different times of the year. You'll be surprised how it changes from season to season. 



THE HIKERS' CODE

- Stay on the trails
- Do not disturb wildlife
- Keep dogs on a leash
- Be cautious when crossing roads
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy
- Wear suitable clothing
- Walk with someone — it's safer and more fun
- Be aware of other trail users.

REMEMBER

- All walks involve stairs and/or slopes
- Walking surfaces vary and can include hard pavement, woodchips, grass, limestones, frns, sand and/or bare earth
- Steps and paths are not lighted and not cleared of ice and snow
- Use at your own risk

"Walking provides an enjoyable time for sharing and socializing with friends and family."

Active Living Canada and Toronto Public Health

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Don River and Valley
- 2 Riverdale Farm
- 3 Necropolis (Cemetery)
- 4 Prince Edward Viaduct
- 5 Toadnorden Mills and Museum
- 6 Chester Springs Marsh

ACCESSIBILITY: The 2.5km (approximate) section of this walk, south from Pottery Road and following the course of the Don River, has level access and a hard-paved surface. Accessible washrooms are not available.

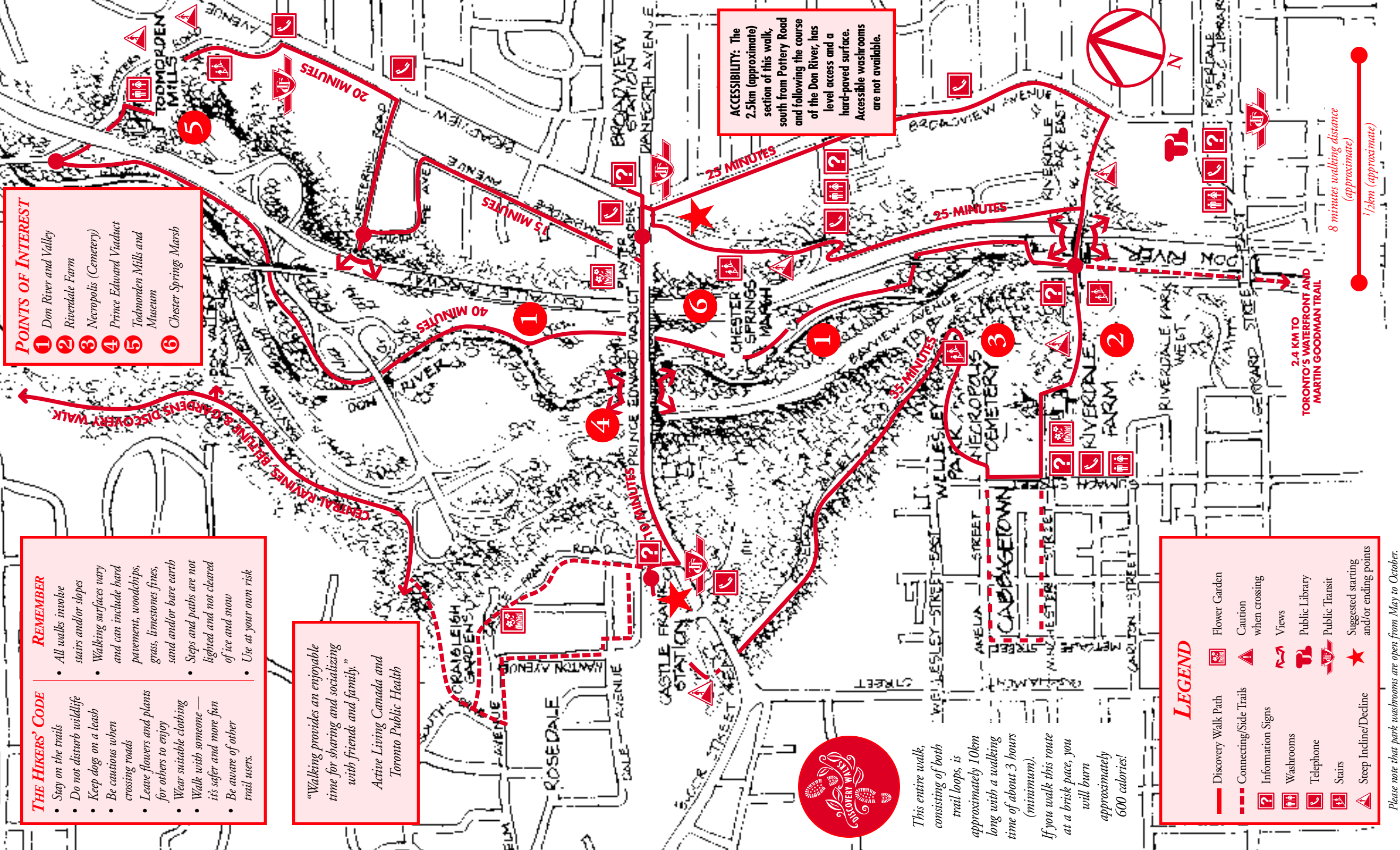
This entire walk, consisting of both trail loops, is approximately 10km long with a walking time of about 3 hours (minimum).

If you walk this route at a brisk pace, you will burn approximately 600 calories!

LEGEND

- Discovery Walk Path
- - - Connecting/Side Trails
- ? Information Signs
- ☎ Washrooms
- ☎ Telephone
- ☎ Stairs
- ⚠ Steep Incline/Decline
- 🌸 Flower Garden
- ⚠ Caution when crossing
- 👁 Views
- 📖 Public Library
- 🚏 Public Transit
- ★ Suggested starting and/or ending points

Please note that park washrooms are open from May to October.



2.4 KM TO TORONTO'S WATERFRONT AND MARTIN GOODMAN TRAIL

8 minutes walking distance (approximate)
1.2km (approximate)