

Alewife Walking Tour

June 2017

Cambridge, Massachusetts



Highlights

1. *Fitchburg Cutoff Bikepath*

The Fitchburg Cutoff Bikepath is a 0.8-mile multi-use path that runs from Brighton Street in Belmont to Alewife Station, and [connects to three other multi-use paths](#): the Minuteman Commuter Bikeway, the Alewife Brook path, and Linear Park. The path follows a minor portion of an abandoned rail line known as the Fitchburg Cutoff, which previously linked the Fitchburg Railroad main line (now the MBTA Fitchburg Line) with the Boston and Lowell Railroad main line (now the MBTA Lowell Line). Between September, 2010 and August, 2013 the path underwent major renovations, including a new pedestrian bridge at the Alewife terminus.

2. *Alewife Brook Reservation Wetlands*

The 3.4-acre [Alewife wetlands](#) as seen today were created as part of the City's sewer separation and stormwater management project to reduce overflow into Alewife Brook and prevent future flooding. Construction of the [project](#) began in September, 2011 and the wetlands opened to the public in October, 2013. The wetlands are designed to store, attenuate, and treat the separated stormwater before discharging it to the Little River. In addition, the wetland has helped restore the area's natural hydrology, protect and enhance wildlife habitat, and improve recreational, educational and other cultural opportunities. In 2014 the Alewife Stormwater Wetland project was named a [Public Works Project of the Year](#) by the American Public Works Association.

3. *Cambridgepark Drive*

Cambridgepark Drive houses many new and planned residential and office developments, as well as pedestrian and bicycle facilities. It is the main access point to facilities in the Alewife "Triangle," north of the MBTA commuter railway. The street was restored and drainage improvements were made as part of the Alewife Stormwater Wetland [project](#).

4. *Minuteman Commuter Bikeway/Linear Path*

The [Minuteman Commuter Bikeway](#) and Linear Path are two multi-use paths accessible from Alewife, with entrances to both just north of the Alewife T Station. The Minuteman runs 10 miles north from Alewife to Bedford, passing through Arlington and Lexington centers. Construction of the Minuteman was completed in 1993 on top of an inactive railroad right-of-way, and it has become one of the most popular and successful rail-trails in the US. In 2008 it became the fifth inductee into the Rail-Trail Hall of Fame. Linear Path feeds into [Linear Park](#), which runs 1.3 miles east of Alewife to Davis Square, where it connects to the Somerville Community Path. The park and path were built in 1985 above the MBTA Red Line after it was extended from Davis Square to Alewife.

5. *Discovery Park*

[Discovery Park](#) is a 27-acre office and laboratory campus off Route 2, north of the Alewife Brook Reservation. It boasts an abundance of green space and is designed to minimize its negative impact on the environment. In 2011, the campus received the GoGreen Award from the City of Cambridge for Stormwater Management Design. Discovery Park currently features 400,000 SF of development and has permits for an additional 250,000 SF. Its tenants include Forrester Research, The Smithsonian Astrophysical Institute, Fog Pharmaceuticals, and Genocera Biosciences.

6. *Lanes & Games*

The popular [Lanes & Games](#) bowling alley on Route 2 has been operating for over 30 years, with 54 bowling lanes, a game room, and a restaurant and bar. This summer the bowling alley and the adjacent Gateway Inn will permanently close, with plans for new a residential development to take its place. The [project](#) is proposing to demolish the two existing buildings to construct a multi-family residential development in two buildings. These will include a total of 320 dwelling units with 243 off-street parking spaces, 336 long-term bicycle spaces, 38 short term bicycle spaces, and landscaped areas accessible to the building residents and general public.

For more information on this and other walks, visit:
bit.ly/CambridgeWalkingTours

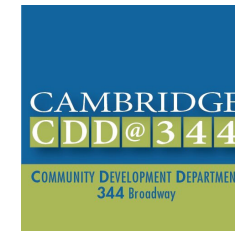
The Cambridge Pedestrian
Committee Presents:

Alewife Afoot

*The fourth edition of the annual
summer walk series*

A 2.4 Mile Walking Tour
*with a brief discussion of the Alewife
Stormwater Wetland project*

9:30 AM Start
Saturday, June 10, 2017
Alewife T Station
Steel Place Entrance



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