



easy / moderate / difficult

This invigorating walk takes you through a treed area, crosses the Fort Edmonton footbridge and (if you so choose) challenges you with some steep stairs. However, the stairs have sturdy handrails on both sides (200 steps). Enjoy the stunning design of the bridge and the great views of the river and its valley. Wolf Willow Ravine separates the neighbourhoods of Westridge and Oleskiw.

TRAILHEAD: John Janzen Nature Centre

NOTE: The distance from the John Janzen Nature Centre to Whitemud Road is only 1.1 km. Add 0.4 km to reach the east end of the footbridge.

WALK A To the east end of the Fort Edmonton footbridge.

DISTANCE/DIFFICULTY: 3 km round trip; easy

- From the John Janzen Nature Centre, walk west on the paved multi-use River Loop trail. When you reach Whitemud Road, curve right on Whitemud Road for a short distance until you reach the Fort Edmonton footbridge sign.

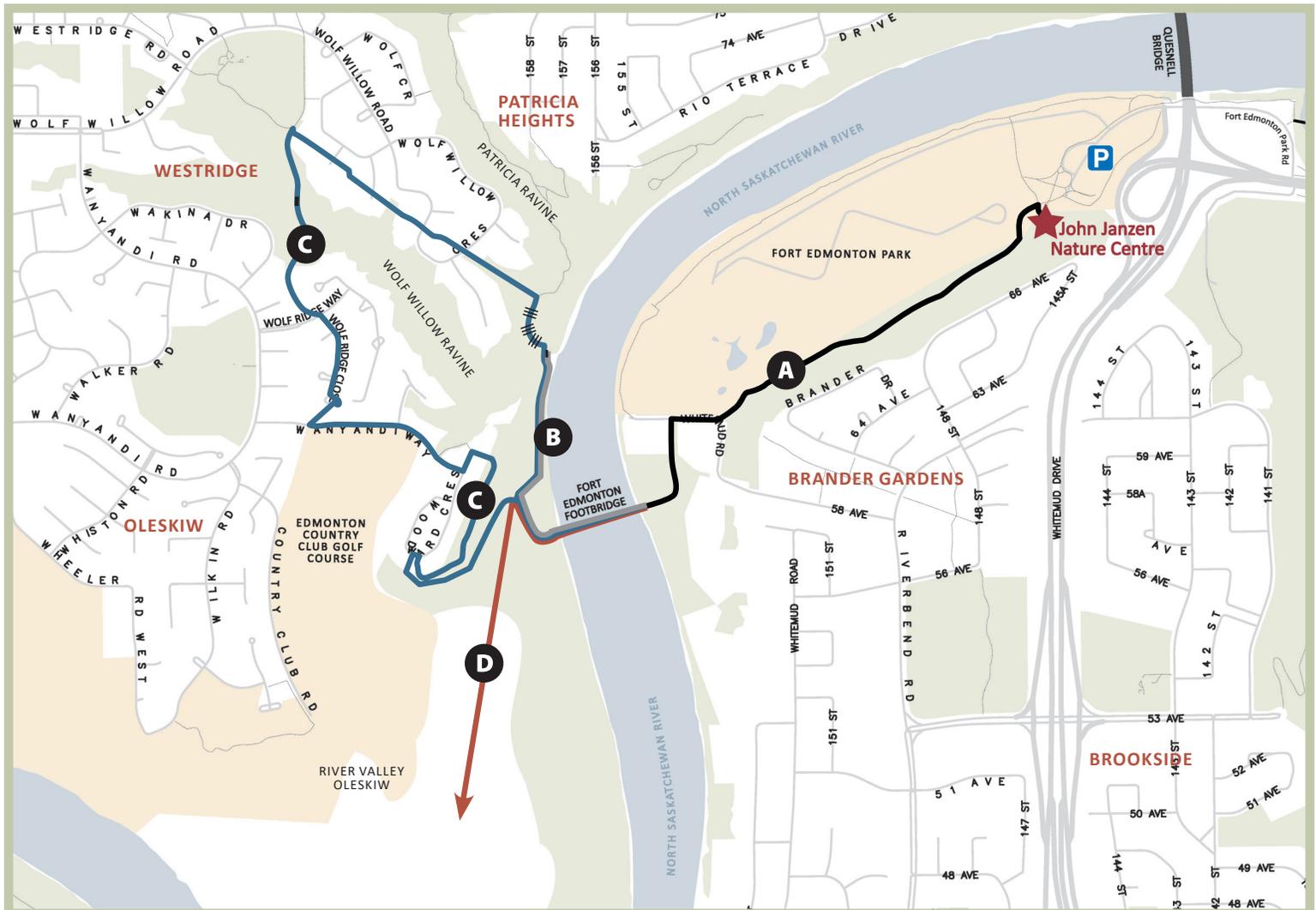
- Head left (southwest) on the paved path to the footbridge. Enjoy the view. Return to the nature centre.

WALK B To the steep stairs.

DISTANCE/DIFFICULTY: About 4.6 km round trip; easy

- From the John Janzen Nature Centre, walk to the Fort Edmonton footbridge (see Walk A). Continue across the bridge to its west end.
- Turn right (north) on the granular path. Walk to the small black metal bridge over the lower part of Wolf Willow Ravine and proceed to the bottom of the steep stairs.
- Return to the nature centre.

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WALK C By way of the upper bridge over Wolf Willow Ravine.

DISTANCE/DIFFICULTY: *About 7 km round trip; difficult (moderate hill and steep stairs)*

NOTE: The following directions may seem complicated, but once you are on this adventurous urban/nature walk you will find them easy to follow.

- From the John Janzen Nature Centre, walk to the west end of the Fort Edmonton footbridge (see Walk A).
- Look for the wide granular path that goes right and then angles left up to the top of the bank. Proceed to Woodward Crescent, which is in the Oleskiw neighbourhood.
- At Woodward Crescent turn sharp right (east) and walk north on the path in front of the houses overlooking the river (a great view).
- Turn left (west) at the end of the granular view-path between two fences to walk on the paved path to Woodward Place. Walk left in Woodward Place and then turn right (west) on Wanyandi Way. Walk west on the south sidewalk along Wanyandi Way. (The Edmonton Golf and Country Golf Course is on your left.)
- There is a Walk sign just west of the entrance to this neighbourhood (called Wolf Willow Ridge). At the Walk sign turn right to cross Wanyandi Way into a lane between the houses. Continue (north) in the lane, to Wolf Ridge Close. Continue walking north through Wolf Ridge Close until you reach Wolf Ridge Way, which is identified by a narrow centre boulevard.
- Note a small brick house (sewage pump station) on Wolf Ridge Way. This is the key to finding the wide pedestrian bridge that crosses the upper part of Wolf Willow Ravine into the Westridge neighbourhood. Turn left onto the sidewalk to the left side of the small station.
- Head north down the treed walk over the wide footbridge and up to a four-way intersection of walking trails. Note Westridge Park on your left. Turn right to a concrete sidewalk that continues east through the Westridge neighbourhood for about 1 km.
- When you arrive at the junction of Wolf Willow Point and Wolf Willow Crescent, join a granular walkway (over an underground pipeline right of way, note the pipeline markers), and continue east for about 200 metres to a sign that indicates Patricia Ravine to the left and Fort Edmonton to the right.
- Take the fork that leads to Fort Edmonton and admire the view. Go down the steep stairs into the valley. Cross the lower footbridge over Wolf Willow Ravine.
- Head back to the Fort Edmonton footbridge and the John Janzen Nature Centre.

WALK D Towards the south.

DISTANCE/DIFFICULTY *About 1 to 2 km one way; moderate*

- From the John Janzen Nature Centre, walk to the west end of the Fort Edmonton footbridge (see Walk A).
- Turn left at the fork and proceed for a short distance on a dirt road to a large open meadow.
- The paths in the meadow are not complete. You can walk as far as the area below the Edmonton Golf and Country Club or to the river. The two paved paths up to the golf course are not open to the public. Return to the nature centre.

AMENITIES

- none on the trail
- snack machine and washrooms at the John Janzen Nature Centre
- restaurants at Westridge and Callingwood shopping centres
- emergency phones at both ends of the foot bridge

DESCRIPTION

The Fort Edmonton suspension footbridge, completed in 2011, uses cables to support the walkway. It is only the second such bridge built in Alberta. The other one, located at Dunvegan (near Peace River), supports a roadway for vehicles. The Fort Edmonton footbridge has two viewing platforms (belvederes) on either side and compasses on the deck. You might be surprised at where North is.