

Secret River Trail

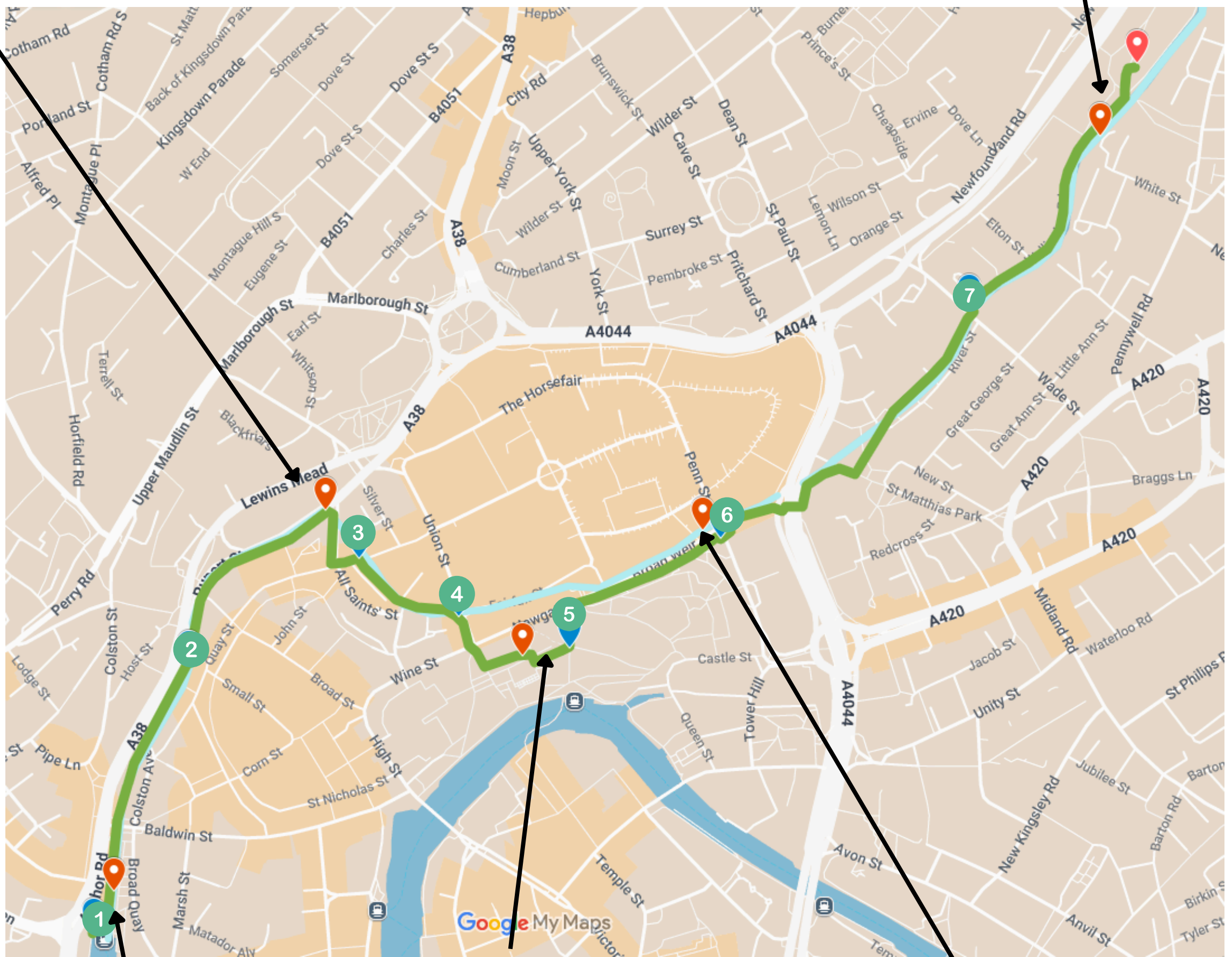
Much of the river Frome flows under the city. Follow this route to trace the route of the underground river.

In May 1971, the 1867 Rupert Street river Frome culvert gave way, caused by digging the foundations on the left for the new police courts in close proximity. The river was exposed right here!

If you follow the Frome along to Eastville, you might be lucky enough to spot a Kingfisher. It is estimated that there are only 10 nesting in the Bristol area.



You can also spot Pipistrelle, Daubenton's and Noctule bats.



The end of the Frome is not here! To reduce sewage pollution and silting, a new culvert was constructed in 1825 to redirect flow from the Frome into the Avon close to Gaol Ferry Bridge.

The Avon and Frome used to wrap around the castle to form the moat.



Part of Broadweir was also referred to as 'The Watering Place' by William Worcestre in his descriptions of the city in 1480. A drawing from 1821 showing horses entering the river to water at Broadweir.



Directions

- 1.** Start next to Cascade steps, continue straight ahead along the walkway between Anchor Road and Broad Quay.
- 2.** Where the path forks, just after The Cenotaph, slight left onto Rupert Street. Continue along Rupert Street until you reach Bridwell Street. Turn right down Bridwell Street, then turn left down Nelson Street for a few metres.
- 3.** Turn right down Fairfax Street. Before you reach the bridge, turn right and go up the stairs on the right-hand side of the road next to the pet shop. The top of the stairs come out on Union Street.
- 4.** Turn right at the top of the stairs to continue down Union Street. Cross Wine Street at the rainbow crossing. Take the left-hand path through Castle Park for a few metres, then turn left towards the church.
- 5.** Once you've passed through the church, turn left just after the Round Pool in front of the church. Walk towards the main road in front of you then turn right and walk with Newgate/Broad Weir Road on your left and Castle Park on your right.
- 6.** Cross the Road and slight left onto Castlemead. When you reach the A4044 road, cross over and turn left then slight right into Champion square. Continue along Skinner Street then cross the zebra crossing to Wellington Road when the river is no longer underground.
- 7.** Continue along Wellington Road with the River Frome on your right. This turns into Riverside Park where you will walk along the Frome Valley Walkway.