

Attractions on route

1 Britannia Stadium

Home to Stoke City Football Club. Even if you're not a football fan you can still enjoy the panoramic and impressive views of the North Staffordshire countryside from the stadium.

2 Trent & Mersey Canal

The most ambitious part of canal pioneer James Brindley's plan to connect the main rivers of England. Its importance was recognised by its early name of the 'Grand Trunk' Canal.

The canal was promoted by pottery producers such as Josiah Wedgwood, eager to abandon the rutted roads of the area for this new, smooth form of transport. It runs through the heart of The Potteries.



3 River Trent

Historically one of England's major trading rivers, the River Trent rises in the Staffordshire hills near Stoke-on-Trent. It grows in stature as it flows through Burton-on-Trent, Shardlow, Nottingham, Newark and Gainsborough to Trent Falls, where it joins the River Humber. The River Trent has been an historic highway as far back as the Bronze Age when it formed part of the trade route between the Continent and the metal-working industry in Ireland. The Romans recognised the value of the river as a route from the sea to the centre of England, and later it acted as an easy route for Viking invaders to attack Nottingham.

4 Trentham Estate

Home to Trentham Gardens, Trentham Monkey Forest, Aerial Extreme and Trentham Shopping Village – this is a destination with something to please everyone! Quench your thirst and satisfy your hunger in an array of restaurants and cafés.



This is one of a series of circular leisure rides. The Leisreury Cycle Rides leaflet gives an overview of all the routes you can choose from and also lists the dates you could join other cyclists for a guided ride around the routes. Each route map can be downloaded from cyclestoke.co.uk or you can request a copy by telephone on 01782 238692 or email cyclestoke@stoke.gov.uk



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What to wear and what to take

Consider wearing a helmet (which meets BS EN 1078 standards).



Cycle gloves can protect your hands and improve grip. Wear light or bright colours if possible to increase your visibility to other road users.

Wear comfortable clothes, you don't need to kit yourself out in lycra if you don't want to. You can cycle in your everyday clothes, including a skirt. Make sure that clothes and shoe laces don't hang down and catch in the chain. Consider several light layers, so you can take one off if you warm up while pedalling. It's always a good idea to take waterproofs just in case the weather changes.

Don't forget to take snacks and drinks especially if out with the family to keep energy levels up.

Always carry a bike lock to keep your bike safe on the route - you may want to stop off to visit some of the attractions, do some shopping, or take a break. Lock through the frame and the front wheel to the bike stand, or a fence pole if cycle parking isn't available.

Take a bike pump, it's good practice to keep your tyres inflated to the maximum recommended pressure and (it makes pedalling easier and punctures less likely).



Safety Advice



Ride considerately on greenways and towpaths by giving priority to pedestrians and warning them of your approach. On towpaths follow the "waterways code" ride in single file away from the canal edge and take care at potential hazard points such as low bridges, bridges with low side barriers, blind bends, moorings and cobbled sections. Also take care when crossing roads and using the "on road" sections and at the locations shown on the map by the red caution symbol.



Before cycling on a towpath you must get a cycle permit and check that cycling is allowed on the section you wish to use. Check with the local waterway office on 0845 671 5530 or visit waterscape.com to get free permits and more information.

Whilst every care has been taken in the production of this leaflet, the author cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information contained herein and accepts no responsibility for any error or omission. Stoke-on-Trent City Council shall not be liable for any death, personal injury or damage to property arising from the use of the route indicated in this guide except to the extent that liability cannot be excluded by law. Users of all routes shown in this map do so entirely at their own risk. We cannot guarantee that all routes and brideways will always be passable.

Your views If you have any comments or suggestions about the route email cyclestoke@stoke.gov.uk or telephone 01782 238692

REVISED ROUTE now even less road riding

Level: Easy
Time: 2 hours
Miles: 7 (loop)

FREE

Circular Cycle Ride 1

Britannia Stadium to Trentham

cyclestoke.co.uk



About the route
A seven mile circular route which is mainly off road and uses the Trent & Mersey Canal towpath, River Trent Path, and the new shared use footway along the A34. 'Off road' means traffic free greenway not mountain bike jumps! The paths are mainly flat with a good surface, so you can enjoy the fine waterscape during your ride. The River Trent Path is a fantastic traffic free alternative to the A500 between Stoke and Hanford - 2011's route has been improved to take advantage of the new shared footway along the A34. This cuts the road riding of this route further compared with 2010 and takes a nice route to Trentham before taking the greenway to the Trent & Mersey Canal back to the Britannia Stadium.



