

Attractions on route

1 Britannia Stadium and Trent & Mersey Canal

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.

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.

2 Wedgwood Factory

Wedgwood Museum is home to one of the most interesting ceramic collections in the world. The galleries tell the story of Josiah Wedgwood, his family, and the company he founded two-and-a-half centuries ago.

Combine your visit with a trip to the shop, cafe or **Wedgwood Visitor Centre** and view production on special factory tours when available.

Or view a film on the history of the Wedgwood firm, watch the work of hand-painters, ornamenters, master potters, furniture painters, jewellery makers and more in the craft demonstration area - you can even have a go yourself. You can throw your own pot, paint plates or china flowers.



This route has lots of options to suit the type of riding you enjoy. Add two more miles to your route with the optional detour to Trentham Estate.

To stay off the roads

To avoid roads you can leave the canal at bridge 104 and take a very short road section to Wedgwood, where you can then choose to spend some time at the museum, visitor centre, cafe and shop, then retrace your route back along the canal back to the start point at Britannia.



How far do you want to go?

7 miles: If you are happy to include some road riding on quieter roads, after Wedgwood, follow the directions to complete the circular ride main route as shown on the map.

9 miles: If you'd like to increase the mileage of the route, stay on the canal a little longer and follow the directions for the possible extension through Barstow. This includes more road riding, and an incline, but takes you alongside Barstow Old Hall, before bringing you along the lake side to rejoin the route on Wedgwood Drive. This makes a nice extension where you can clock up 9 miles.



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Remember always follow the Highway Code

Check over your right shoulder regularly. Do not cycle on the pavement, unless it is signed for cyclists. Be considerate when passing other users, such as pedestrians and horse riders, especially if approaching them from behind. They may not know you are there. Always allow plenty of room and do not pass too quickly.



This is one of a series of circular leisure rides. The Leisurely 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



Safety Advice



Ride considerably 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.

Disclaimer: 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 pathways 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

email: cyclestoke@stoke.gov.uk
telephone: 01782 238692
visit: cyclestoke.co.uk

Follow CycleStoke on TWITTER and FACEBOOK

Wedgwood visitor Centre. Rejoin the route near to the Hall and ride along the lake side to Barstow. This includes more road riding, and follow the optional route through map. If you'd like a longer ride, then continue on the canal the directions to complete the circular ride as shown on the some road riding on quieter roads, after Wedgwood, follow to the start point at Britannia. If you are happy to include cafe and shop, then retrace your route back along the canal take a very short road section to Wedgwood Visitor Centre, To avoid roads you can leave the canal at bridge 104 and shops and cafes.

Britannia to Wedgwood About the route

This route takes you along the canal towpath to the Wedgwood Estate passing pleasant countryside on the way. The route offers plenty of options to suit the type of riding you enjoy.

The circular ride takes an anticlockwise route leaving Britannia Stadium heading south along the canal towards Barstow. An optional detour allows you to visit Trentham Estate with its splendidly restored formal gardens and its shops and cafes.

To avoid roads you can leave the canal at bridge 104 and take a very short road section to Wedgwood Visitor Centre, cafe and shop, then retrace your route back along the canal to the start point at Britannia. If you are happy to include some road riding on quieter roads, after Wedgwood, follow the directions to complete the circular ride as shown on the map. If you'd like a longer ride, then continue on the canal the directions to complete the circular ride as shown on the map. If you'd like a longer ride, then continue on the canal the directions to complete the circular ride as shown on the map.

cyclestoke.co.uk

Circular Cycle Ride 7

FREE

Miles: 7 (loop)

Time: 2½ hours

Level: Easy

Britannia to Wedgwood





Britannia to Wedgwood

Miles: 7 (loop)

Time: 2½ hours

Level: Easy

anti-clockwise route



For a longer ride combine this with route 1 or 10 in the series, see the Leisurely Cycle Rides leaflet for more ideas.



Based on a simplified map. For help on using short cuts, extensions or combining routes, please use the more detailed Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle-under-Lyme Cycling Map and Guide 2011

1 Britannia Stadium and Trent & Mersey Canal

- Leave car park and go down path via bridges over railway and canal
- Turn right on to Trent & Mersey canal towpath and go back under bridge
- Continue under next bridge passing housing on left and right to a feature signpost for the former North Staffordshire Railway next to the old railway bridge

... Optional detour to Trentham Estate (2 miles)

Push your bike up the ramp by the steps and follow the path (of the old railway) to the end (Pacific Road). Turn left along the road and turn left at the end (New Inn Lane). Pass first road on right (Werburgh Drive) and shortly after turn right on to riverside path (Longton Brook) through open space area. At next road (Bainbridge Road) turn left over brook and cross over road to continue on riverside path. At end turn left on cycle path on footway to pedestrian crossing over A34 (Stone Road). Cross over to Trentham Estate.

Return by same route to end of Riverside Path (New Inn Lane)

Cross over New Inn Lane to path through open space immediately opposite. At end of path turn left along road (Goodwood Place) to end and then turn right (Wetherby Road). At end (The Lea) turn left and continue as it bends round. Turn down third road on left (Earls Road) and at end turn right on to canal towpath

- Continue under next 4 bridges (Longton Road, Burrington Drive, old bridge and Jonathan Road)
- Pass Trentham canal lock and the Wedgwood factory on left

... Possible extension through Barlaston (2 miles)

Continue on the towpath until the Plume of Feathers pub. Pass through the car park to Station Road. Turn left and go over the canal and level crossing. Continue uphill (you may wish to push your bike on the footway) and take the third road on the left (Longton Road) at the green. When Longton Road turns sharp right continue straight on into a tree lined avenue (Queen Mary's Road). Pass Barlaston Old Hall on your left and continue downhill to a T-junction (Wedgwood Drive)

Either

- a) Turn left here to call in at the Wedgwood visitor centre, café and shop, or to return to Britannia via the canal

Or

- b) turn right and rejoin the main route
- Leave towpath via ramp/steps immediately after passing under next bridge (104)
- Turn right over bridge along Wedgwood Drive and go over level crossing

2 Wedgwood Factory

- Pass **Wedgwood factory** on left and if you have time for a stop then follow the signs on the left to the **Wedgwood Visitor Centre**, café and shop.

For a traffic free return ride retrace the route back along the canal to the Britannia Stadium

Otherwise continue on main route passing lake on right

... Rejoin point for extension through Barlaston

- Continue to pass housing on left to T-junction
- Turn left (Blurton Road) and at next junction turn left again (Barlaston Road)
- Take next road on left (Waterside Drive) and continue, passing school on left
- Follow road bend to right and take second road on left (Shepley Grove)
- Fork left (Sherborne Close) and go through road closure to industrial estate
- Turn right (Crowcrofts Road) and follow bend to left parallel to main road
- At end turn right (Alderflat Drive) and use traffic light pedestrian crossing (Longton Road)
- Use next toucan crossing to cross (Stanley Matthews Way) to shared cycle/footway on right hand side
- Follow shared cycle/footway to roundabout, cross over and continue
- At next roundabout cross over back to start

Take extra care here
Please turn over for information about safety.