

# Attractions on route

## 1 Park Hall Country Park

Park Hall Country Park is a large site with woodlands, heathland and ponds. It is one of the city's most important natural sites. It was declared as Stoke-on-Trent's only National Nature Reserve in 2002 and the sandstone canyons are a Site of Special Scientific Interest for their geology. There is a visitor centre and small shop on site.

## Gladstone Pottery Museum

Stoke-on-Trent is world famous for its pottery. This unique museum allows you to discover how bone china tableware was made. The only complete Victorian pottery factory in the country from the days when coal burning ovens made the world's finest bone china, allows you to travel back in time and see traditional skills, original workshops, the cobbled yard and huge bottle kilns. The Tea rooms and gift shop sell exclusive handmade pottery, books and gifts. Entry fee applies to museum.

## 2 Longton Town Centre

The most southerly of the six towns that make up Stoke-on-Trent. Until the last decade of the 18th Century it was known only for its coal mines and iron works but from the 19th Century it developed into a major centre for bone china production. The town still has 20 remaining bottle kilns, and the ride takes you close to some of these including the six large bottle kilns at Gladstone Pottery Museum (Gladstone and Roslyn works). Three kilns at the rear of Sutherland works (Hudson and Middleton) Normacot Road, one bottle oven on the corner of Warren Street/Normacot Road and two bottle kilns at the Albion works to the rear of the Phoenix Works, Kings Street.

## 3 Fenton

Another of Stoke-on-Trent's six towns, Fenton is home to four of the City's few surviving bottle ovens. Fenton's former town hall, now a magistrates' court, overlooks the impressive formal layout of "Albert Square".

## 4 Stoke Railway Station

The Victorian station buildings opened in 1848. Designed by H.A. Hunt of London, using an architectural style referred to as 'robust Jacobean manor-house'. Directly opposite the station entrance is the statue of potter **Josiah Wedgwood** (1730-1795). The statue was sculpted by Edward Davis and erected in 1863. Wedgwood holds an exact copy of the Portland Vase in his hand.

## 5 Hanley Park

A "heritage" park dating from 1897 with lake, fountain, modern sculpture, sports facilities and equipped playgrounds near university and railway station.

## The Caldron Canal

The canal was built between Etruria and Froghall in 1776 and carried limestone from quarries at Cauldon Low to the pottery industry in Stoke-on-Trent.

## 6 Berry Hill Fields

The largest area of open space in the city, this Local Nature Reserve has a long history of mining and agriculture. The site is an important habitat for a wide range of plant and animal species. Berry Hill Fields have great archaeological significance. It is believed that, during the 13th and 14th Centuries, the site contained a principle manor house surrounded by an estate. The Lawn Farm moated site is regularly examined by the city's Field Archaeology Unit.



## 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](http://cyclestoke.co.uk) or you can request a copy by telephone on 01782 238692 or email [cyclestoke@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:cyclestoke@stoke.gov.uk)



This route is 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



## 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 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](http://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.

**01782 238692**

If you have any comments or suggestions about the route email [cyclestoke@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:cyclestoke@stoke.gov.uk) or telephone

**Miles: 10 (loop)**  
**Time: 3 hours**  
**Level: Moderate**

**FREE**

# Park Hall, Longton and Berry Hill

Circular  
Cycle Ride  
**5**



[cyclestoke.co.uk](http://cyclestoke.co.uk)

## Park Hall, Longton and Berry Hill

About the route

The ten mile route along greenways and canal towpaths has a very short on road section so is a great traffic free ride. Stoke-on-Trent is world famous for its pottery. From the 18th century to the 1960s, bottle ovens dominated the skyline. Experts calculate that in the heyday of the pottery industry there were up to 4,000 bottle kilns with as many as 2,000 still standing in the 1950's. Only 47 still stand today and all are protected as listed buildings. The ride passes several on a two wheeled journey through Longton and Fenton and gives you the opportunity to visit Gladstone Pottery Museum. The route also passes the Victorian railway station building and statue of potter Josiah Wedgwood, the delights of Hanley Park with its lake, fountains and modern play areas, before joining the Caldron Canal towpath, built to serve the potters. It then passes Emma Bridgewater pottery before leaving the canal and taking the Berry Hill Greenway through local nature reserve Berry Hill fields and back to the starting point.

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