

Attractions on route

1 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 Newcastle Town Centre

The thriving market town of Newcastle-under-Lyme is a shoppers delight to visit on market days. The town centre

developed 'Castle Walk' with its traditional cobbled street and Iron Market are home to a variety of high street stores. Sitting amongst the shops are traditional cafes and a tea room where you can take a rest and enjoy a pot of tea and a scones.

Lyme Valley Park have recently constructed facilities for young people, which include a skate park, ball court and BMX track and a playground for the younger ones adjacent to picnic tables. The area is steeped in history which contributed greatly to the formation of the town of Newcastle. There are interpretive signboards at the site to raise the awareness of its significance as well as just for general interest.

3 Lyme Valley Parkway

Clayton Woods Greenway links Clayton with Trent Vale. The path passes through beautiful woodland and takes you directly past Stoke City FC's Riverside training ground – so keep your eyes peeled for any Premiership stars. This route also passes close to the Britannia Stadium – home to 'The Potters'.

5 River Trent Path

Historically one of England's major trading rivers, The River Trent rises in the Staffordshire hills near Stoke-on-Trent. It flows through Burton-upon-Trent, Sharnlow, 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 meta-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.



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Short cut directions

Shortcut avoiding Newcastle Town Centre

- 🚲 Take left turn to main road (Hartshill Road)
- 🚲 Turn right, walk bike along pavement and cross over at zebra crossing to road opposite (Palmer's Green)
- 🚲 Continue along Palmers Green passing school (Harfield primary school) and go straight on to end and turn left across first road (Lancaster Road)
- 🚲 Continue down track and cross next road into Occupation Street
- 🚲 Take first right (Freehold Street) and then left (Victoria Street) and go down to cross main road (London Road, A34) at pedestrian crossing
- 🚲 Turn right down side road (Stubbs Gate) and after about 50m turn left between houses and follow rough track/path through to Lyme Valley Park

Alternative route via Stoke Town Centre

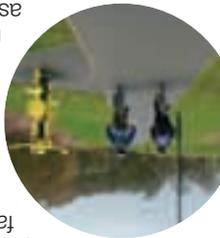
- 🚲 Leave towpath via ramp and use crossings and cycle/footway to cross over A500 and slip roads. Walk bike on footway passing churchyard (Stoke Minster) on right and cross to town centre (Church Street). Continue and take first right (Kingsway) and go through bollards to end of road. Turn left and walk passing Stoke Town Hall/Civic Offices on left to pedestrian crossing cross to right hand side of bridge (Glebe Street) over A500 and take first right, to return to starting point.

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



4 Clayton Woods Greenway

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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 waterescape.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 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

Stoke to Lyme Valley

Circular Cycle Ride 9

FREE

Miles: 9 (loop)
Time: 2½ hours
Level: Moderate





Stoke to Lyme Valley



For a longer ride combine this with routes 1, 3 or 5 in the series, see the Leisurely Cycle Rides leaflet for more ideas.

1 Trent & Mersey Canal

- ▲ From Wharf Place car park (off Glebe Street Bridge) turn left in front of large brick building and then left on to Trent & Mersey Canal. Caution - poor visibility from right.
- 🚲 Taking care on cobbled sections continue under three road bridges and a rail bridge and just before next bridge leave towpath by access next to bottle kilns (formerly part of Twyford's, the famous sanitaryware manufacturers) opposite Hanley Cemetery.
- 🚲 Continue on road and turn right to traffic lights on main road (Shelton New Road) and then turn left on to cycle/footway
- ▲ Continue over A500 in cycle lane and past pedestrian crossing and take first road (cul de sac) on left (opposite car wash)
- 🚲 Bear right through bollards to path on right and continue straight on uphill on road (Stoke Old Road)
- ▲ Cross road (Victoria Street) at top and continue along road opposite (Stoke Old Road)

... **Short cut avoiding Newcastle Town Centre** (directions overleaf)

Miles: 9 (loop)

Time: 2½ hours

Level: Moderate

anti-clockwise route

2 Newcastle Town Centre



- 🚲 Take right hand fork to main road (Hartshill Road) and cross at toucan crossing.
- 🚲 Turn right on to shared cycle/footway and continue past roundabout on to George Street
- ▲ Continue along George Street past The Alma public house and continue to next pedestrian crossing.
- 🚲 Shortly after the pedestrian crossing, join the on-road cycle path and then immediately bear left through bollards and join cycle/footway
- ▲ Cross over next road (Marsh Parade) in to road opposite (Hassell Street)
- 🚲 Continue down (using contra flow cycle lane)
- 🚲 Shortly after cycle lane ends join the pavement and push bike to pedestrian crossing and cross over ring road
- 🚲 Continue to push bike along Hassell Street (bus station on left) and then rejoin road after passing Wilkinsons
- 🚲 Continue on Hassell Street through Newcastle Town Centre, down steep hill and cross ring road (Lower Street/A34) by pushing bike through subway to Blackfriars Road
- 🚲 Pass rear of Morrisons' supermarket and turn left along path by Lyme Brook to next road (Brook Lane)
- ▲ Cross over road and continue on path on other side passing Homebase on left to Lyme Valley Parkway

3 Lyme Valley Parkway

- 🚲 Follow the path (behind Homebase) leading to the Lyme Brook

... **Short cut avoiding Newcastle Town Centre rejoins here**

- 🚲 Continue with the brook on your right past the exercise equipment to the bridge
- 🚲 Cross over the brook and turn left and follow the path next to the brook passing the Newcastle Velodrome/Newcastle town football club on your right to a main road (Stafford Avenue)
- ▲ Turn right on to Stafford Avenue and then left (Clayton Lane) and then left again (Cambridge Drive) passing shops on your right.
- 🚲 Continue with green valley on your left and take the last turning on the right (Cornwall Avenue)
- 🚲 Continue up (it is a very steep road you may prefer to walk) and turn left at the end (Clayton Lane)
- ▲ At the end turn left on to Clayton Road and after a few hundred metres after passing entrance to a school on your left (Clayton Hall Business and Language College) turn left down a signposted cycle route following signs for Trent Vale

4 Clayton Woods Greenway

- 🚲 Continue down hill through wood (take care when there are slippery wet leaves) and then route flattens out and follow the Lyme Brook following signs for Trent Vale with Stoke City FC Training complex and Michelin Athletics Club on your right.
- 🚲 Turn left and cross the bridge over the brook and at next junction turn right (Riverside Road)
- 🚲 Before reaching end of Riverside Road, cross over road and push bike along pavement to junction
- 🚲 Turn right and continue on cycle/footway alongside Stone Road (A34) and continue past school on right (St Teresa's RC Primary School) to roundabout (A34/A500)
- 🚲 Using four pedestrian crossings via central island, cross diagonally to opposite corner of roundabout and join path (with feature sign "River Trent Path")

5 River Trent Path

- 🚲 Follow path beside river, going under A500 and then crossing river on bridge (with Michelin "Bibendum" figure) and continue under next bridge
- 🚲 Turn sharp right on to ramp path up to bridge
- ▲ Cross slip road to A500 at crossing and continue on bridge over A500 and then turn left at roundabout towards incinerator
- 🚲 Take path to right of incinerator and turn left to join Trent & Mersey canal towpath continue under two road bridges to next bridge (City Road - bridge 112)

... **Alternative route via Stoke Town Centre** (directions overleaf)

- 🚲 Continue and then turn left on to Wharf Place before next bridge.

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

©© Indicates cycle storage is available.



Lyme Valley Stadium (velodrome)



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