Attractions on route

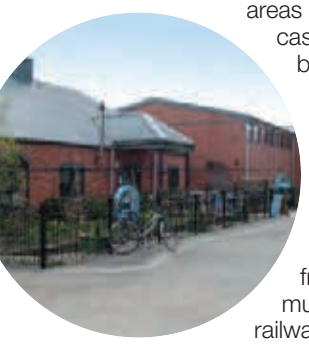
1 Westport Lake

A local nature reserve with the largest lake in the city. The one mile path around the lake has a good surface. A cycle along this path will help to work up an appetite for a stop at the visitors centre café. The **Visitor Centre** which opened in 2009 is built from environmentally friendly materials, is highly energy efficient and is run by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. The park also has an adventure play area.

2 Bradwell Woods

Bradwell Woods, local nature reserve.

3 Apedale Community Country Park



A 184 hectare wildlife haven, in what was once a hive of industrial activity. As recently as the 1990's, areas of the park were part of an open cast mine. However the area has now been landscaped and restored and provides a habitat for a wide variety of wildlife. The park is criss-crossed with footpaths and tracks, and overlooking the park is a memorial in the form of a pit wheel dedicated to the mine workers of Staffordshire. Take some time out from the ride to explore the park, the museum, café, gift shop, narrow gauge railway or even an underground mine tour.

4 Newcastle-under-Lyme and Trent & Mersey Canal

There is the opportunity to divert from the route and visit Newcastle town centre. If you stay on the route you will pass **Brampton Park** which has something for everyone with indoor and outdoor play areas, gardens, aviary, pond, café and the Newcastle Borough Museum and Art Gallery. Inside the museum you will find many artefacts, including the Victorian street scene and toys gallery. Also nearby is the former **Twyfords** Factory, built in 1887, which set new standards of safety and efficiency.

5 Etruria Junction and Festival Park

Additionally you may like to visit Etruria Industrial Museum and Festival Park, then rejoin the route.

Etruria Industrial Museum, with Jesse Shirley's Bone and Flint Mill, was scheduled as an ancient monument in 1975. Etruria Industrial Museum is a great place to park up your bike and try out the museum's tearoom, shop and family-friendly interactive exhibition. The museum's resident blacksmith created the new cycle parking hoops. Can you spot the CycleStoke logo in the ironwork frame?

Festival Park, the site of the 1986 National Garden Festival. Today a major retail, business and leisure park and also includes the "Black Prince" marina and canalside pub "The China Garden".

Between Festival Park and Westport Lake the towpath passes Burleigh Pottery. **Burleigh Pottery** (Burgess, Dorling & Leigh) a 19th century model pottery still producing traditionally patterned pottery ("Burleighware") that is sold on the premises.

Short cut directions

... ***Turn off point for alternative route via Newcastle Town Centre***

- *Turn right (Hempstalls Lane) and when road turns right (Enderley Street) go straight on (Hempstalls Lane) to ring road (Ryecroft)*
- *Turn left and walk bike through subway to cross ring road and then continuing to walk bike, cross side street (Merrial Street) and continue through bollards to pedestrian area (Ironmarket)*
- *Walking your bike, turn right and then first left (Castle Walk) to bus station and turn left and cross ring road (Barracks Road) at pedestrian crossing to road opposite (Hassell Street)*
- *Go up Hassell Street and at end continue on cycle footway to cross at pedestrian crossing (George Street)*
- *Turn right along main road to rejoin main route at third road on left (Albert Street)*

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

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.

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.

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 bridleways 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

Westport Lake to Newcastle

Circular Cycle Ride 3

CycleStoke

FREE

Miles: 12 (loop)
Time: 2½ - 3 hours
Level: Moderate

cyclestoke.co.uk

cyclestoke.co.uk

Westport Lake to Newcastle

About the route

The route takes in the sights of industries past and present and leads you out of the City into Newcastle-under-Lyme to Apedale Community Country Park. Take the opportunity to explore some of the 184 hectares of open space, created at the site of Apedale Mine, one of the last working coal mines in Staffordshire. As recently as the 1990s areas of the park were part of an open cast mine. Once a hive of industrial activity the park now offers a varied landscape of woodland, meadows and pools crossed by many paths and tracks. Overlooking the park is a pit wheel memorial dedicated to the mine workers of Staffordshire. After Apedale you head towards Brampton park with an opportunity to visit the museum and see what life was like in a Victorian Street or the wartime years. You then rejoin the Trent and Mersey canal lined with Pottery factories to complete the route back to Westport Lake.

This route has more road riding than others in the series so has been given a moderate grading. Please consider this when choosing your route, especially if riding with children.

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

Follow CycleStoke on TWITTER and FACEBOOK

CycleStoke

city of stoke on trent

CycleStoke

Westport Lake to Newcastle

1 Westport Lake

- With the lake on left join towpath and passing canal boat moorings go under bridge
- At next bridge (128A) leave towpath, cross over canal and take track immediately on left between carpark and canal
- Continue, cross back over canal and go over railway to T-junction (signposted Stoke / Nantwich)
- ⚠ Turn right, use shared cycle/footway to roundabout
- ⚠ Go under bridge (A500) cross side road and continue to barrier entry point to Bradwell Woods Greenway

For a longer ride combine this with routes **2, 8, 9** or **11** in the series, see the Leisurely Cycle Rides leaflet for more ideas.

Miles: 12 (loop)
Time: 2½ - 3 hours
Level: Moderate
anti-clockwise route

2 Bradwell Woods Greenway

- Go up path through woods, remain on path to left of fencing passing brickworks on right, to end of path
- ⚠ Turn left and then first right (Winpenny Road)
- At end of road turn right and then left and go under bridge (A34)
- Leave path at next access point on left and continue on road
- As road bears left to deadend use access cut-through, bear left (Brick Kiln Lane) turn left at Salvation Army to traffic lights
- ⚠ Turn left and immediately right (Victoria Street)
- ⚠ When main road bends right turn left down Apedale Road
- Go down steep hill and continue on rough track at bottom
- After track turns right take second entry on left and go through barrier to path uphill through open space area

3 Apedale Country Park & Heritage Centre ©P

- Continue on path and take left fork to go downhill to Apedale Heritage Centre
- Continue along access road (left bend) and before park exit turn right through barrier to wide concrete "path"
- At end join path and continue over boarded walkway
- Continue on path between hedges/trees with houses on right, cross cycle lane and continue
- At T-junction at end of path turn left on to cycle lane and then immediately right and continue to road (Lower Milehouse Lane)
- ⚠ Cross over and go through barrier and continue on path
- Continue on path as it bends left and go under bridge (A34)
- Continue on path and then road (Brampton sidings) to T-junction (Hempstalls Lane)

4 Newcastle-under-Lyme and Trent and Mersey Canal ©P

... ***Turn off point for alternative route via Newcastle Town Centre*** *(directions overleaf)*

- ⚠ Cross over and continue on path opposite (Station Walks)
- ⚠ At end turn left (Queens Street/Brampton Road) and pass road on right
- Turn right into **Brampton Park**
- Go past car park and play area to miniature railway
- Leave park on this side (through entry in brick wall) and go down road (Granville Avenue) to main road (King Street)
- ⚠ Turn left and then right at traffic lights (Albert Street)

... ***Rejoining point for alternative route via Newcastle Town Centre***

- ⚠ Turn left (George Street) join cycle lane and take left fork at roundabout (Shelton New Road)
- ⚠ Continue through traffic lights and downhill passing over A500 and railway to next traffic lights
- ⚠ Turn right into new housing development (Lock 38 - former **Twyfords** factory) and follow road to left Trent and Mersey Canal
- Turn left on to towpath at access by bottle kilns
- Go under a bridge (Shelton New Road) and pass a lock
- Pass second bridge and lock and the junction with the Caldon Canal
- ● ***Good access point to Etruria Industrial Museum (café and toilet facilities)***

5 Etruria Junction and Festival Park ©P

- Pass marina and cross canal by footbridge (118), by China Garden Public House turn imediately right, down to canal towpath turn right and continue on towpath heading north
- ● ***Good access point to Festival Park***
- Continue on towpath and walk bike over next bridge to cross back over canal (cobbles, slippery when wet)
- Continue on towpath to Westport Lake passing the **Burgess Dorling & Leigh** traditional pottery factory, Longport boatyard and the bottle kilns of the former Price and Kensington teapot factory
- Leave the towpath by the new **Visitor Centre**

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

©P Indicates cycle storage is available.

Based on a simplifed 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

This map is reproduced from the Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Stoke-on-Trent City Council 100024286 2009.