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 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

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 (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.

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

city of stoke on trent

CycleStoke

Circular Cycle Ride 1

Britannia Stadium to Trentham

FREE

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

REVISED ROUTE now even less road riding

cyclestoke.co.uk

Britannia Stadium to Trentham

CycleStoke

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 - much more favourable for cyclists.

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.

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

Follow CycleStoke on TWITTER and FACEBOOK

CycleStoke

city of stoke on trent

Britannia Stadium to Trentham

Miles: 7 (loop)
Time: 2 hours
Level: Easy
anti-clockwise route

For a longer ride combine this with route **5, 7, 9** or **10** in the series, see the Leisurely Cycle Rides leaflet for more ideas.

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

1 Britannia Stadium ©P

- Leave car park and go down path with bridges over railway and canal
- ... ***Possible short cut to River Trent path***
- *Continue along path passing the incinerator*
- *Walk bike on footway on right side of bridge over A500*
- ⚠ *Cross slip road at crossing and turn right through opening down footpath and then turn left at bottom on to River Trent path*

2 Trent & Mersey Canal

- Turn left on to Trent & Mersey canal towpath heading north and pass under a long bridge (A50)
- After next bridge leave towpath at access point by feature sign (Whieldon Road)
- ⚠ Cross road and turn right under bridge (one way) to traffic lights
- Cross on to shared cycle/footway and turn right passing site of former **Victoria Ground** on left
- Soon after turn left through gap on to side road (Selwyn Street)
- ⚠ Continue to end and turn left (Lonsdale Street)
- Take second turn on left (Gable Street)
- Turn right (Boothen Road) and pass school
- Turn left on to bridge over river to substation

3 River Trent

- Turn right along River Trent path
- ... ***Short cut to River Trent path rejoins here***
- ... ***Possible short cut back to Britannia Stadium***
  Turn left up ramp before bridge and turn left at barrier at top. Walk your bike over the crossing of the slip road of A500 and pass the incinerator to get back to the start quickly.
- Continue under first bridge and cross river on next bridge featuring the Michelin Bibendum figure on a bike
- Continue under bridge (A500) to path end
- At exit turn left and continue on shared cycle/footway beside main road
- ⚠ Cross side road (Church Lane) and (keeping to left) go to traffic lights
- ... ***Possible short cut missing out Trentham Estate***
- *Go uphill on shared cycle/footway (road is one way downhill)*
- *When road becomes two way continue on road (Mayne Street/New Inn Lane)*
- *Pass supermarket (on right), rugby club (on left) and pub (on right)*
- *Take next turn left (Pacific Road) and rejoin main route*
- ⚠ Cross over main road (A34) at pedestrian crossing and turn left on to shared cycle/footway
- Continue on cycle/footway for approximately 1 mile to traffic lights
- ⚠ Cross over side road (Whitmore Road) and pass Trentham Mausoleum on left (the only Grade I listed building in the city) and continue to Trentham Estate roundabout

4 Trentham Estate

- To continue on main route, cross over the main road (A34) at toucan crossing near the roundabout entrance to Trentham Estate
- Turn left on cycle/footway and then turn right on to path at feature sign “Longton Brook Greenway”
- ⚠ Continue beside brook to next road (Bainbridge Road), cross over to greenway and continue to next road (New Inn Lane)
- ⚠ Turn left on to New Inn Lane and then take next right on to Pacific Road
- ... ***Short cut missing out Trentham Estate rejoins here***

5 North Staffordshire Railway

- Cross road and go up off-road path on right that was formerly a branch railway line to the Trentham Estate
- Continue to steps at end
- Turn left on to Trent & Mersey Canal towpath and continue under two bridges
- Just after second bridge leave towpath and go back over bridge to **Britannia Stadium**

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

©P Indicates cycle storage is available.

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