

## Route 3 Northfield to Bournville

**Distance:** 6 miles (45-60 minutes)

**Start:** Northfield (Victoria Common car park, behind the telephone exchange) B31 2LB. OSGR SP023796.

**Route Summary:** A varied circular ride which uses park paths, quiet roads and a canal towpath to visit historic **Bournville**. The ride also passes close to two of Birmingham's ancient parish churches at **Kings Norton** and **Northfield**.

**Refreshments:** The most convenient place to get refreshments en route is in Bournville.

**Parking:** There is a free car park at the start of the ride. There is other nearby parking in Northfield centre and on-street near the end of the ride in Heath Rd South.

**Alternative Start Points:** The route may be started at numerous locations. Convenient car parking is available in Bournville and Kings Norton Park.

**Access by Train:** ➔ Northfield, Bournville and Kings Norton stations are on or near the route.

### Key to Map

<b>A B</b>	Start and route reference point
<b>1, 2</b>	Mileage from start point
<b>PH/CF</b>	Public House/Café
<b>SH</b>	Shop selling drinks, sweets etc
<b>V</b>	Visitor Centre
<b>+</b>	Notable church
<b>P</b>	Start points with free parking
<b>P</b>	Start points with pay parking
	Off-road path – good surface
	Off-road path – rough/very rough surface
	Canal towpath
	Quiet road
	Busier road

Abbreviations used in the route description:  
L left, R right, SO straight on.

**Push Bikes**, the Birmingham Cycling Campaign, aims to influence local authorities, employers, health service providers, public companies (rail, road, water) in providing improved journey facilities (including bike storage and parking) for cyclists.

We are eager for more members - come and join us! Visit [www.pushbikes.org.uk](http://www.pushbikes.org.uk), phone 0121 632 6909, or write to 54 Allison St, Birmingham B5 5TH, for a membership form.

### Birmingham Urban Explorer Cycle

**Routes** are a great way to see your city in a new way – on two wheels! This is one of 9 self-guided cycle rides using quiet paths and roads to link places of interest, providing the ideal healthy and environmentally-friendly half-day out. Cycle them alone or with family and friends. The emphasis is on exploration so don't expect to cycle fast and please give way to pedestrians on shared paths. Please push your bike on any paths where cycling is prohibited, including pavements alongside roads unless signs indicate that cycling is allowed.

**Keeping Safe** Urban Explorer cycle routes use a combination of off-road paths and quiet roads. Short sections of the route may need to be on busier roads but very busy roads are avoided. Please ensure your bike is roadworthy and that you are comfortable riding on roads of this type. If in doubt consider having some cycle training which will improve your on-road confidence. Details of CTC approved trainers are available at [www.ctc.org.uk](http://www.ctc.org.uk).

**Want to cycle the route with others? Push Bikes** organises occasional rides along the routes in these leaflets. To join in, simply turn up at the ride start point with a roadworthy bike. For details of ride dates go to: [www.pushbikes.org.uk](http://www.pushbikes.org.uk).

Published by Push Bikes and funded by the Big Lottery Fund.

Designed and produced by Cycling Horizons for Push Bikes. [www.cyclinghorizons.co.uk](http://www.cyclinghorizons.co.uk)



LOTTERY FUNDED



# Birmingham Urban Explorer Cycle Route

# 3



**Northfield to Bournville Circular**  
via Victoria Common, Cadbury's, the  
Worcester & Birmingham Canal and  
Kings Norton Park (6 miles)

*Explore your City with this self-guided cycle ride*

## Route 3 Northfield to Bournville Circular via Victoria Common, Cadbury's, the Worcester & Birmingham Canal and Kings Norton Park

**Distance:** 6 miles (45-60 minutes)

**Start:** Northfield (Victoria Common car park, behind the telephone exchange) B31 2LB. OSGR SP023796.

### The Route

**A** From behind the telephone exchange, take the path across **Victoria Common**, passing the playgrounds. At the path junction take the centre path.

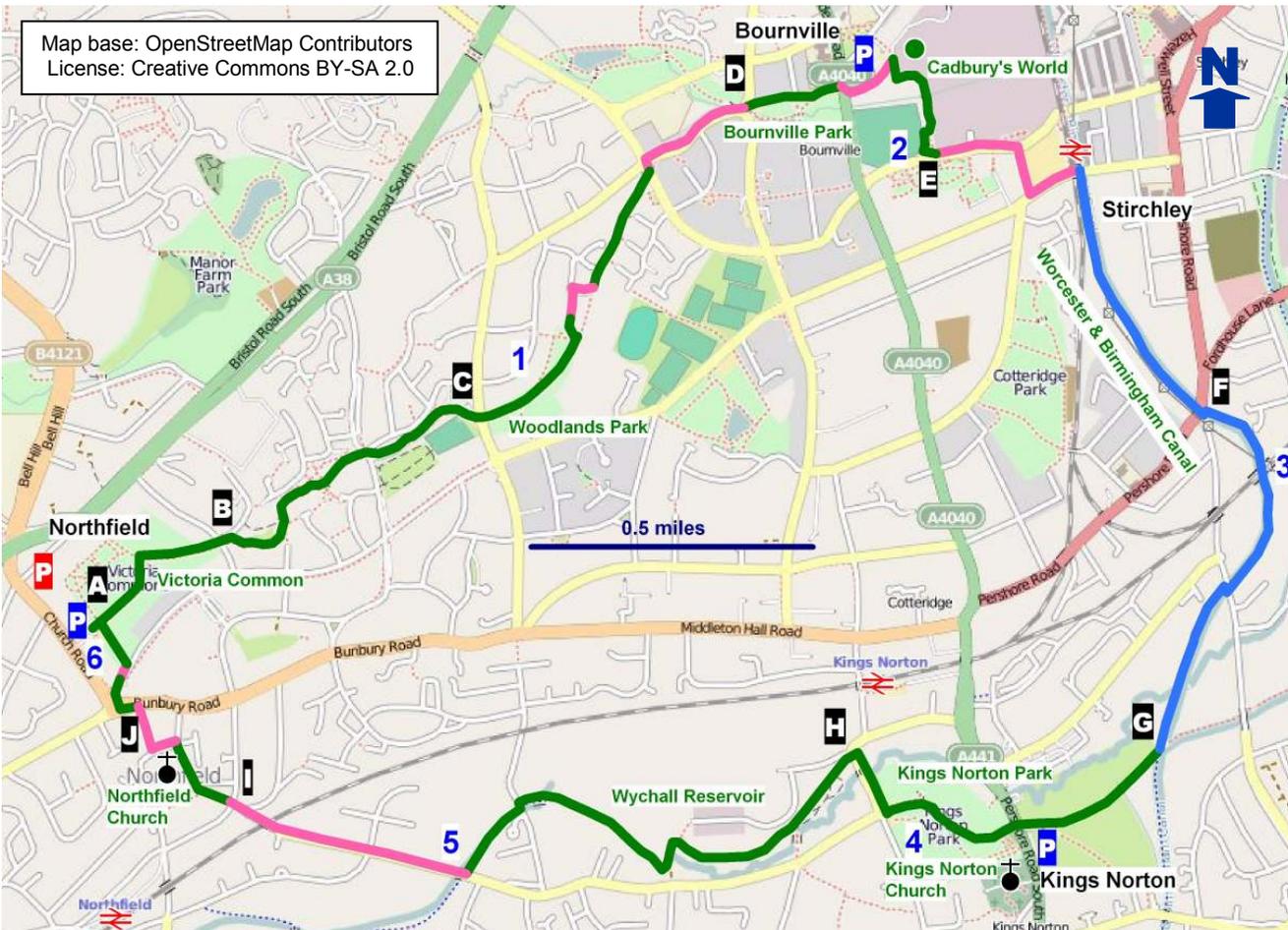
**B** Cross the road and join the path opposite. At the first path junction go L and L again over the stream, keeping the lake on your R. Go SO emerging at the junction of **Hole Lane/Mulberry Rd**. Cross into the access road adjacent to the flats, which becomes a narrow surfaced path running adjacent to the houses. Follow the path R, taking the small bridge over the stream.

**C** On reaching the road (**Woodlands Park Rd**) go straight across into **Woodlands Park**. Carry SO, past the playground. At the path junction bear L and go through the gap between the hedge and the trees to join a quiet residential road. Turn next R at lamp column 13 into an access road and at the end turn L onto the surfaced path. Follow this path to the end, ignoring any side paths. At the road turn L and immediately R into **Hay Green Lane**.

**D** Where the road goes around to the R, turn L into **Oak Tree Lane** and immediately R into **Bournville Park**. Follow the path straight ahead through the park. Cross the main road (**Linden Rd**) at the pelican and go R then L past the church towards the Cadbury factory and **Cadbury World**. Just before the factory buildings turn R onto the pedestrian route signed to **Bournville station**. **You should push your bikes along this route** which leads around the recreation ground and up a ramp to **Bournville Lane**. If this route is closed use the alternative road route going R into Linden Rd and L into **Bournville Lane**.

**E** Turn L into **Bournville Lane** and first R opposite the mock-Tudor buildings up the steep hill on **Franklin Way**. At the top turn L towards **Bournville station**. Cross the railway and turn immediately L down the access ramp and R onto the towpath of the **Worcester & Birmingham Canal** (canal on your L). Continue for 0.5 miles.

**F** At the **Pershore Rd** bridge the towpath swaps sides. It is possible to avoid 15 steps by turning R up the access road, crossing the bridge on the pavement and descending the ramp (and 6 steps) on the other side. Continue along the towpath,



swapping sides again (via ramps) at **Lifford Lane**.

**G** At the junction with the **Stratford-upon-Avon Canal** leave the towpath via the **National Cycle Network Route 5 (NCN5)** signed to **Kings Norton**. Follow the path straight ahead towards the spire of **Kings Norton Parish Church**. Cross the main road via the toucan crossing into **Kings Norton Park**. Bear R in the park following NCN5 and passing the playground. Just before reaching the road, turn R onto the path which parallels the road down to a toucan crossing.

**H** Cross the road and join the path opposite, signed NCN5 to **Northfield**. Continue through the open landscaped area and just before reaching the road turn R onto the NCN5 path passing **Wychall Reservoir**. Cross one minor road (**Popes Lane**) and then leave the path at the next road

crossing (**Wychall Lane**), turning right across the River Rea and up the hill. Follow the road for 0.5 miles.

**I** Cross the narrow rail bridge and at the end of the road go straight across **Woodland Rd** into the footpath opposite. At the junction of the paths bear R with the churchyard on your left. At the end turn L into **Rectory Rd** and R into **Church Rd** passing historic **Northfield Parish Church**.

**J** At the end of the road, use the short length of shared-use path to the L to cross the main road using the traffic signals. Cross to the path going up through the grassy area immediately opposite. This leads into the end of **Heath Rd South**. Take the first path L onto **Victoria Common** and go SO to return to the car park.