

Route 7 Woodgate Valley to Bartley Reservoir

Distance: 6 miles (45-60 minutes)

Start: Woodgate Valley Country Park Visitor Centre car park, Clapgate Lane B32 3DS. OSGR SO995829.

Route Summary: A varied circular ride using a mixture of park paths and quiet roads, including a ride through **Woodgate Country Park** and past **Bartley Reservoir**. Please note that some of the park paths may be muddy, especially after wet weather.

Refreshments: There are a number of pubs and convenience stores along the route and a café at the Visitor Centre. There are also picnic tables overlooking the reservoir.

Parking: There is a free car park at the start. .

Alternative Start Points: The route may be started at numerous locations. There is ample on-street parking along many of the on-road sections of the route and at Senneleys Park.

Access by Train: ➔ There are no rail stations very close to this route. Northfield station is 1.6 miles from point .

Key to Map

	Start and route reference point
	Mileage from start point
	Public House/Café
	Shop selling drinks, sweets etc
	Visitor Centre
	Notable church
	Start points with free parking
	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, 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.

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.

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Birmingham Urban Explorer Cycle Route

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Woodgate Valley to Bartley Reservoir Circular via Woodgate Valley Country Park, Senneleys Park and Bartley Green (6 miles)

Explore your City with this self-guided cycle ride

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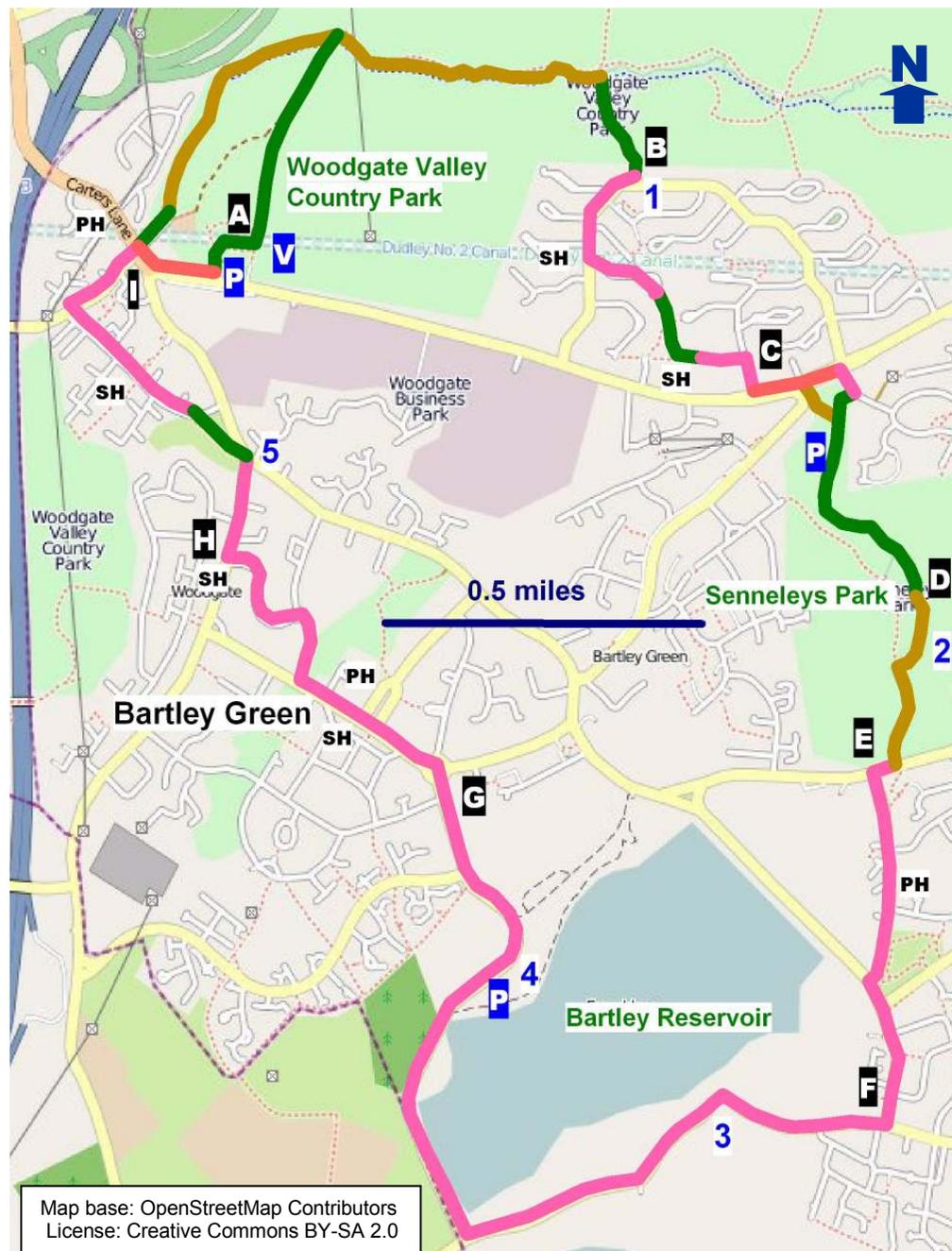
The Route

A From the **Visitor Centre** follow the path to the R of the playground down into the valley. At the bottom, turn R (do not cross the bridge). Follow the path along the valley until you reach a brick bridge. Turn R here and go up the valley side.

B On reaching **Sommerfield Rd** turn R. After a short distance turn L opposite the shop into **Ox Leasow**. At the end of this cul-de-sac join the footpath on the R. At the junction of the paths go L down the hill towards **St Francis Church and Community Centre**. Pass between the church and the shops and bear L to join the road (**Glen Side**) passing the medical centre. At the end turn R.

C At the end of **Stevens Avenue** you need to cross the busy **Clapgate Lane**. The best option is to walk the short distance L to the traffic signals and cross to the far side of **Jiggins Lane** opposite. In dry conditions, go across the grass towards the playground, then join the surfaced path through **Senneleys Park**. Alternatively walk a further 100 yards L along **Clapgate Lane**, turn R into **Mill Lane** to join the path there. When the surfaced path ends go straight ahead until you reach a crossing path and turn L.

D At the bridge, go SO to the brick building, turning R and passing the games courts on



your R. Crossing the stream turn L and follow the path to the park exit.

E On reaching the road turn R and first L into **Moors Lane**. Go up the hill passing a pub and playground. At the end turn L into **Genners Lane**.

F At the end of **Genners Lane** turn R into **Merritts Hill**. Follow this narrow lane for 0.75 miles alongside **Bartley Reservoir**. Turn next right into **Scotland Lane**. There is a picnic area alongside the road with fine views of the reservoir. Follow the lane into **Bartley Green** going SO on at the mini-roundabout.

G At the larger roundabout bear L into **Field Lane**, passing the modern church and pub at **Romsley Rd**. To visit **Bartley Green** shopping centre turn L opposite the church, using the path between the houses. Otherwise turn second R into **Trimpley Rd** and first L into **Ludford Rd**.

H At the end of the road turn R into **Wood Lane**. Follow the road and immediately before the mini-roundabout join the path on the L through the park, passing the playground. At the end of the path turn L up the hill passing a shop. At the end of the road turn right into **Lye Close Lane**.

I At the end of the road, by the **Old Crown pub**, there are two alternatives to return to the start point:

Option A To return direct to the **Visitor Centre** turn R, then L at the roundabout and first L into the **Woodgate Country Park** car park. This option involves 300 yards on a fairly busy road.

Option B (0.7 miles longer) To avoid the busier road and visit the park farm, go SO into **Watery Lane**. At the farm entrance take the gravel path straight ahead. At the path junction go R across the stream. Follow this path until you meet the path you used from the **Visitor Centre** and turn right up the hill to retrace your steps to the starting point.