

Route 9 Brookvale Park to Sutton Park

Distance: 12 miles (90-120 minutes) when returning via the outbound route or 7 miles when returning by train.

Start: Brookvale Park car park, Park Rd B32 3DS. OSGR SO093911.

Route Summary: An almost completely off-road ride through parks and open spaces culminating in Birmingham's largest park. There is an option to return by the frequent train service between nearby Sutton Coldfield and Gravelly Hill stations. This involves 1 mile of cycling on quiet roads.

Refreshments: There are a number of convenience stores along the route and a café at Town Gate near the Visitor Centre.

Parking: Free parking in Brookvale park.

Alternative Start Points: The route may be started from either end or from numerous locations in between.

Access by Train: ➔ Gravelly Hill and Sutton Coldfield stations are 0.5 miles from the two ends of the route.

Key to Map

A B	Start and route reference point
1, 2	Mileage from start point
PH/CF	Public House/Café
SH	Shop selling drinks, sweets etc
V	Visitor Centre
+	Notable church
P	Start points with free parking
P	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

9



**Brookvale Park to Sutton Park via
Witton Lakes and Perry Common
(12 miles returning via the outbound
route or 7 miles returning by train)**

Explore your City with this self-guided cycle ride

Route 9 Brookvale Park to Sutton Park via Witton Lakes and Perry Common

Distance: 12 miles (90-120 minutes) when returning via the outbound route or 7 miles when returning by train.

Start: Brookvale Park car park, Park Rd B32 3DS. OSGR SO093911.

The Route

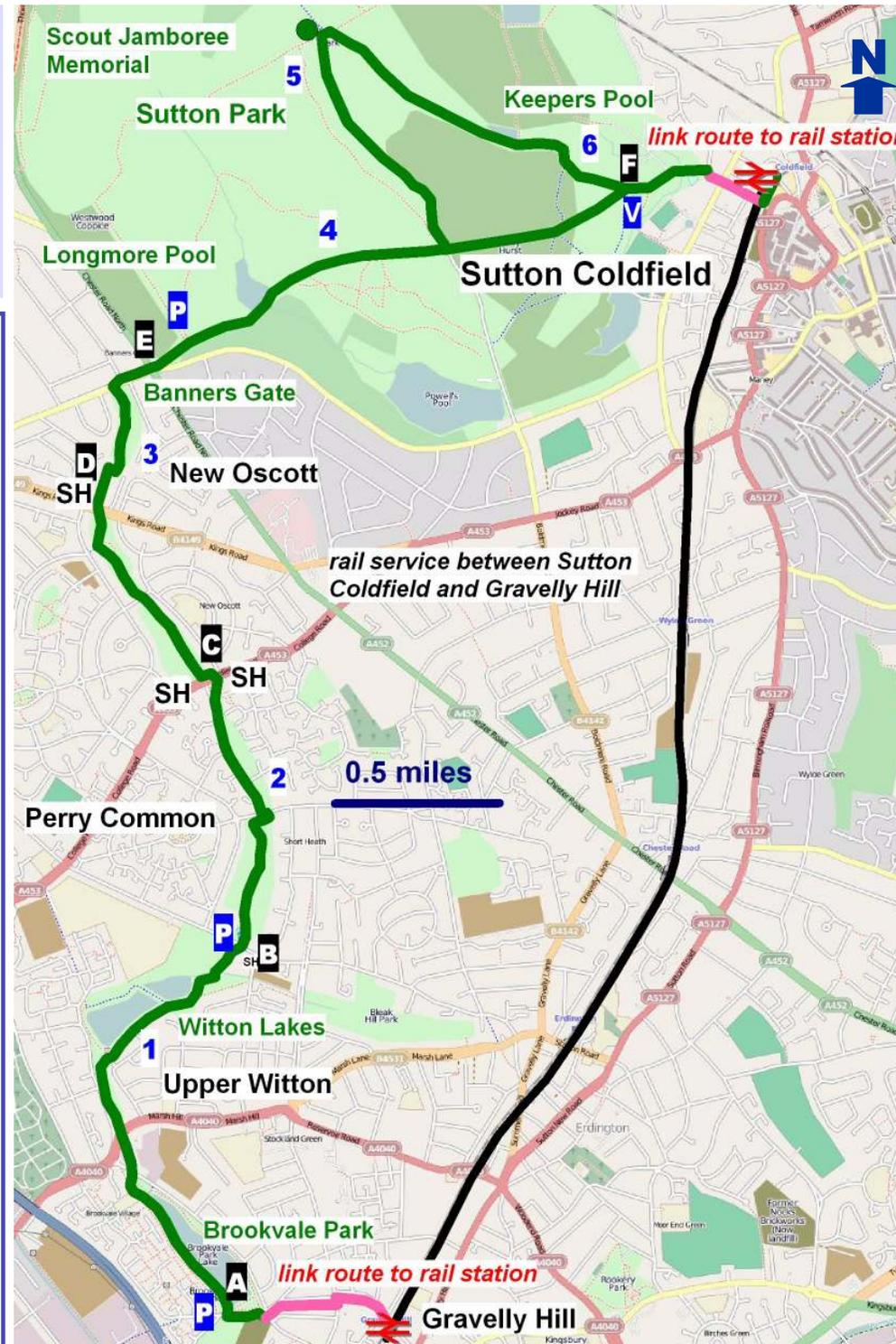
A From the **Brookvale Park** car park join the path alongside the lake (with the lake on your R). At the end of the path cross the quiet road into **Boulton Walk**. Cross the main road (**Marsh Hill**) at the toucan and continue along the path next to the school. Continue past **Witton Lakes**, keeping the water on your L, eventually crossing a small stream. At the end cross the road at the toucan crossing.

B Follow the path across **Perry Common**. At the end cross the road at the toucan crossing and go L to join a shared-use path along **Maxted Rd**. Follow this path and use the toucan crossing to cross **College Rd** in the shopping area.

C Go L to join the path going through the park. Cross the minor road and continue on the path, around the circle of trees and up the hill to a further toucan. Cross the road and follow the path L (signed to Sutton Coldfield) into **Banners Walk**.

D At the end go R and join the path beyond the houses, turning L. Follow the path up the hill with views of **Sutton Park** in the distance. Cross **Banners Gate Rd** at the toucan, turning R into the service road, joining the segregated path alongside the road. After 200 yards cross **Chester Road North** at the toucan, entering **Sutton Park** at **Banners Gate**.

E Follow the wide path passing **Longmoor Pool**. At the major path crossroads turn L and follow the wide path for 0.75 miles to the **Scout Jamboree Memorial**. Turn sharp R onto the wide surfaced track (going back in the general direction you have come from), passing



Keepers Pool. Follow the path and bear L at the next path junction. Carry SO on at the next path junction until you reach the **Sutton Park Visitor Centre**.

F To return by cycle to Brookvale Park: Leave the **Visitor Centre** via the vehicle access road and at the path junction take the second path on your L. Continue straight ahead for 1.5 miles until you reach **Banners Gate**. Retrace your outbound route back to **Brookvale Park**.

To return by train: Leave the **Visitor Centre** via the vehicle access road and at the path junction turn R. Follow the path out of the park at **Town Gate**. Turn R and go SO at the small roundabout. Turn next L into **Railway Rd** and follow the road around to the station entrance. Take the Birmingham-bound train to **Gravelly Hill** (local train times: 0871 200 22 33).

G Leave the station via the ramp from the platform. At the top (**Frederick Rd**) turn L across the bridge over the railway. Follow the road (**Hunton Hill**) down the hill. At the end turn L and immediately R into **St Thomas Rd**. Follow the road to the crossroads. Go SO on here but immediately cross R into **Brookvale Park**. Follow the path SO to return to the car park.