

Secret Birmingham - Heritage Cycle Routes



Cycling is a great way to reduce your impact on the planet, get fitter and discover new things around us. We have brought together some bike friendly routes exploring heritage sites across South Birmingham as well as some of the city's most beautiful and interesting green spaces. You can also access great video content to learn more about the fantastic heritage sites you find along the way. Developed in partnership with C&T theatre company and local community groups.



- There are three interactive cycle routes to choose from, each with their own amazing hidden stories. The **Tolkien route**, follows the footsteps of the writer of 'The Lord of the Rings', the **Cadbury route**, takes you through the sights and chocolatey smells of Bournville, and into the lesser known First World War prefab housing estate, Austin Village and the **Chamberlain route** explores the area around the University of Birmingham visiting Old Joe, the world's tallest freestanding clocktower as well as venturing out to heritage sites via greenways and canal towpaths.
- The Secret Birmingham Heritage Routes and videos can be accessed through a FREE route finding app/website [Komoot](#). You will need to create a free account and choose Birmingham as your free region to fully access this content.
- The video content really brings the heritage sites and stories behind them to life. These can also be found on [YouTube](#).
- The **Cadbury Route** is a 12mile circular route starting at [Bournville train Station, Mary Vale Road entrance](#), finishing at Cotteridge Park.
- The **Tolkien Route** is 14miles and the **Chamberlain Route** is 16miles, both circular routes starting and finishing on the [A38 Blue Cycle Route](#), on the junction of the A38/Pebble Mill Road.



Cadbury Route

Start:

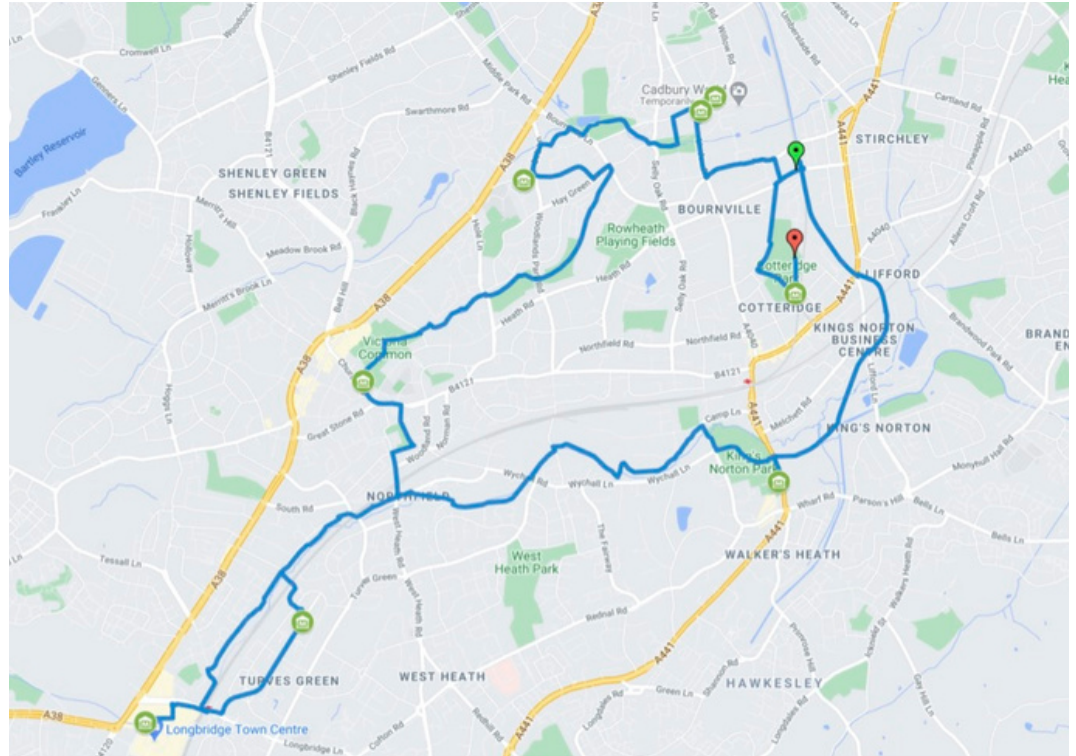
Bournville train
Station

Finish :

Cotteridge Park

Heritage Points:

- Bournville Village
- Selly Manor
- Serbian Church
- Northfield Library
- Austin Village
- Longbridge
- King Norton
Grammar School
- Cotteridge Park



Circular Route: 12miles - Average cycle time: 1hr 45min

View the route in [google maps](#) or use the route finding and navigation app **Komoot** to follow this route and learn about the heritage sites by watching the video content [HERE](#).

Test Your Knowledge

The answers to these questions can be found in the 'Secret Birmingham' heritage videos, can you find the answers to them all?

1. What was George Cadbury's vision for Bournville?
2. When building the Serbian Church where were all the materials like marble, stone and brass brought from?
3. Who helped rebuild Selly Manor and designed most of the buildings on Bournville Village Green?
4. When was the Northfield library fire and who was blamed for it?
5. What is the Longbridge Town Centre site famous for?
6. What are the rocks in Cotteridge park and where did they come from?



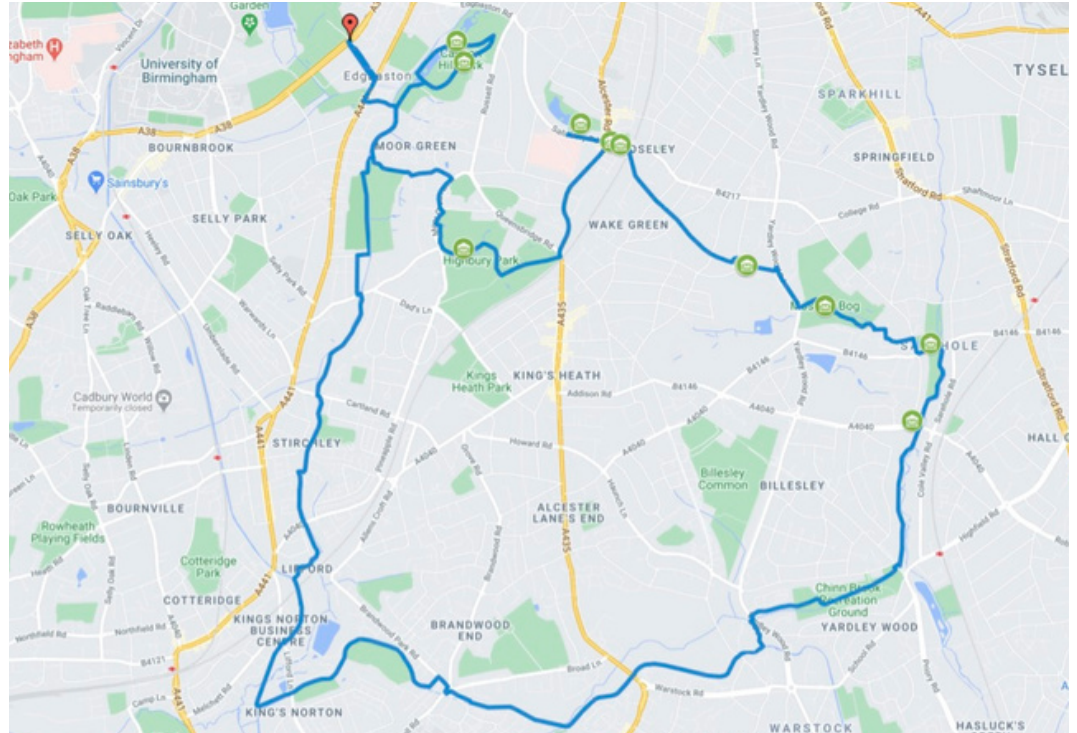


Tolkien Route

Start & Finish:
A38 Cycleway,
Pebble Mill Rd
junction.

Heritage Points:

- Cannon Hill Park
- The Golden Lion Pub
- Highbury Park
- Moseley Hall
- Moseley Village
- St Mary's Church
- Moseley Bog
- Sarehole Mill
- Billesley Prefabs



Circular Route: 14miles - Average cycle time: 1hr 45min

View the route in [google maps](#) or use route finding and navigation app **Komoot** to follow this route and learn about the heritage sites by watching the video content [HERE](#).

Test Your Knowledge

The answers to these questions can be found in the 'Secret Birmingham' heritage videos, can you find the answers to them all?

- 1 What was thought to have been printed at the old Golden Lion Pub?
2. What are the ridges and trough patterns on grass areas in Highbury Park?
3. Who originally lived in Moseley Hall?
4. What is in the ancient square tower of St Mary's Church, Moseley?
5. What was Sarehole Mill used for between 1756 and 1761?
6. What author used to play in Moseley Bog as a child?





Chamberlain Route

Start:

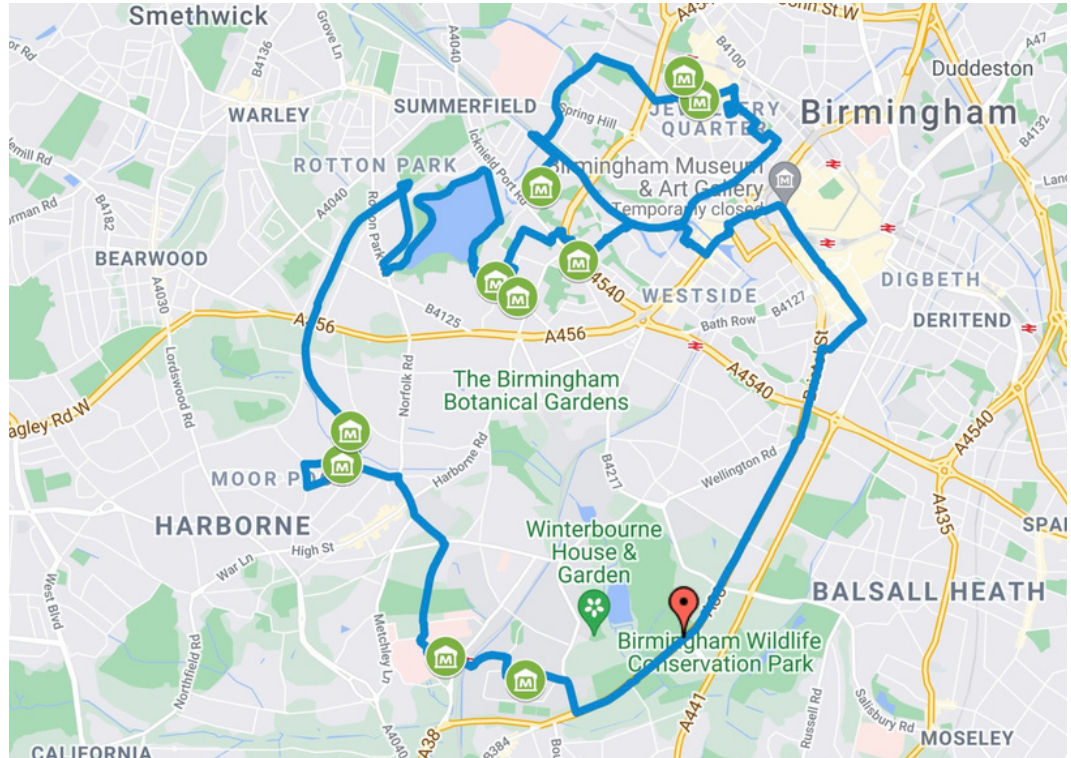
A38 Cycleway, Pebble Mill Rd junction.

Finish:

Port Loop

Heritage Points:

- Old Joe
- Metchley Fort
- Harborne Walkway
- Moorpool Estate
- Perrot's Folly
- Blondin Statue
- Waterworks Tower
- Port Loop
- Joseph Chamberlain Memorial Clock
- Cemeteries



Circular Route: 16miles - Average cycle time: 2hr 30min

View the route in [google maps](#) or use route finding and navigation app **Komoot** to follow this route and learn about the heritage sites by watching the video content [HERE](#).

Test Your Knowledge

The answers to these questions can be found in the 'Secret Birmingham' heritage videos, can you find the answers to them all?

- 1 Big Joe is the worlds tallest freestanding clocktower, just how tall is he ?
2. In 1769 where would you find a Deer Park in Birmingham?
3. In Ladywood you can find a statue of Charles Blondin, what is he famous for?
4. How many bridges can you find along Harborne Walkway?
5. Which tower was inspiration for the Two Towers in JRR Tolkien's 'Lord of The Rings'?
6. How many steps can you expect if climbing Perrott's Folly?

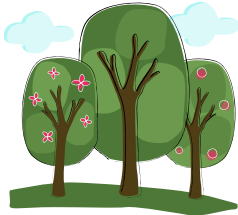




Bike Ride Bingo!



Have some fun while you're out riding the routes with a game of 'Bike Bingo' Can you get a full house? Take photos and share them with us on social media @ecobirmingham using [#BrumByBike](#)



Scenic View

Trailside Art



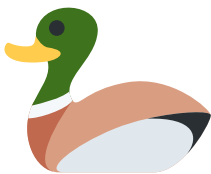
Secret
Heritage Point

Bridge or
Water
Crossing



Use A [Refill](#)
Station

Trail
Snacks



Duck

Pick up
Some Litter



Interesting Spot



@ecobirmingham

Ride Safely



There are few things to remember while you are out cycling these routes :

- Always follow the Highway Code. Give priority to pedestrians, particularly on towpaths and share with care paths.
- Please be extra careful when riding near open water.
- Ride within your own ability.
- If stopping to rest or look at the map please stop in a suitable and safe place.
- Most of all have fun exploring Birmingham and its heritage secrets by bike!

About ecobirmingham



ecobirmingham is creating a sustainable city.

Birmingham faces unprecedented challenges and opportunities over the coming years. Through our projects, we give the people of the city the tools to take positive environmental action and help others do the same.

Donations from people like you are essential to ensure we can continue our important work across the city. Find out how you can help us tackle the big environmental issues in Birmingham via: www.ecobirmingham.com

Please let us know what you thought about our Secret Birmingham cycle routes by filling in our short survey here: surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GZ2JCGD

