

## Ashby Canal Canoe Trail Hinckley to Sutton Cheney Wharf

### Route Summary

Have an adventure on this trail which is also known as the Ashby de la Zouch canal, as the waterway weaves its way mostly through a backdrop of agricultural land.

**Nearest Town** - Sutton Cheney

**O.S. Sheets** - OS Explorer Map (1:25 000) Nuneaton & Tamworth 232

### Start

Lime Kilns Pub, Watling Street  
Hinckley,  
Leicestershire,  
LE10 3ED



Ample car parking but car park can fill up quickly in summer. If so drop boats off and park over the road.

### Finish

Sutton Cheney Wharf,  
Wharf Lane,  
Sutton Cheney,  
Warwickshire,  
CV13 0AL

O.S. Map SP4199.



Ample parking in a pay and display car park £1.00 all day (2013 prices). Nice clean free toilets. Cafe / restaurant inside/outside dining. Licensed.

**Waterways Travelled** - Ashby Canal also known as the Ashby de la Zouch canal

**Type of Water** - Canal mainly rural

**Distance** - 6 miles approx. 3 hours

**Canoe Trail Grading** – easy

### License Information

A licence to paddle the river is included in the [Canoe England membership](#) fee. Otherwise licenses can be obtained from [Canal & River Trust](#) (Take your Canoe England membership card with you as it is your license as well)

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**Local Facilities** - There is the public house at the start and the café at the end

**Vehicle Shuttle Required** - Yes

**Portages and Locks** - None

### Description

Also known as the Ashby de la Zouch canal, this tranquil waterway weaves its way mostly through a backdrop of agricultural land.

The trail starts at the Lime Kilns Pub, car park next to the canal. At busy periods please park on other side of road after dropping boats off. At the get in point you need to turn right heading away from the A5 bridge. The start of this journey takes you through the outskirts of Hinckley heading into the Leicestershire countryside, after half a mile there is a branch in the canal keep left under the bridge.

After one mile from start you will come across Trinity Marina on your right where you will also see a modern Brewers Fayre Pub. A third of a mile past the marina you go under the A 47 road bridge, emerging from under the bridge you will see the imposing Triumph Motorcycle factory on the right (one and a half miles from start).

You will then come into open countryside, where the canal straightens out for approx 1 mile and becomes more picturesque.

One and a half miles after the Triumph factory go under Wykin Bridge (no. 21) at Wykin Spinney, where there are a number of boats moored (two and a half miles from start). Basin Bridge (no. 22) marks the halfway point of this trip.



After passing under Foxwells Bridge (no 26) you will see on the left The Ashby Canal Centre, with a high bridge over the well-presented entrance. When you have been paddling for four and a half miles you will pass under a more modern bridge (no.31) constructed from blue brick and steel.

As you go under Sutton Wharf bridge (no 34), Sutton Cheney Wharf comes into view and this marks the end of the six mile paddle.

Sutton Cheney Wharf has good facilities including nice clean toilets with hot and cold running water, close to the water's edge. There is a lawned area as you get out of the canal which is next to the car park. There is a cafe/restaurant serving hot/cold food and drinks with seating inside and out, this is also a licensed cafe.

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## Useful Information

[www.bosworthbattlefield.com](http://www.bosworthbattlefield.com)

Ambion Lane, Sutton Cheney, Nuneaton, CV13 0AD.  
Contact number 01455 290429

Central Shires Waterways  
Canal & River Trust  
Peel's Wharf  
Lichfield Street  
Fazeley  
Tamworth  
B78 3QZ  
Email: [enquiries.centralshires@canalrivertrust.org.uk](mailto:enquiries.centralshires@canalrivertrust.org.uk)

Telephone: 0303 040 4040

## Recommended Next Trail

If you have enjoyed this trail why not try out one of the many trails available.

## Safety Information

Spending an afternoon canoeing can be a fun way to experience nature, get a great workout and spend time with family and friends. However, it can also be a dangerous journey, if safety guidelines are overlooked. Always follow these basic rules and comply with navigation rules – keep to the right of on-coming boats. Please be careful at points along the trail where there are sharp bends on the waterway and keep a look out at these points for oncoming traffic.

### ***Wear appropriate clothing***

Always wear shoes. Rocks, rough terrain and river beds present serious hazards to boaters without the proper attire. Nearly 90 per cent of all boating injuries are attributed to lack of proper footwear. Other canoe safe clothing includes hats, additional dry clothing towels, and layered items which can easily be removed.

### **Be sure to**

- Know the weather forecast before you set out canoeing.
- Familiarise yourself with the local area, it's sensitive places and protected areas.
- Leave the environment as you found it. Please read [You, Your Canoe and the environment](#)
- Take your litter home with you.
- Follow the navigation rules for the waterway you are on.
- Keep noise to a minimum.
- Do not damage bank side vegetation when launching or landing. (No Seal Launching)
- Where possible keep to any designated paths or launching points.
- Canoe a safe distance away from wildlife.
- Check your equipment.

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- Observe the navigation rules for this waterway.
  - Check to see if there are any events on the waterways when you wish to travel.
- Use the checklist below to make sure you have everything you need.

**Checklist:**

1. Boat
2. Paddle
3. Buoyancy Aid
4. Bailer/sponge
5. Small First Aid Kit
6. Penknife
7. Mobile telephone (in a waterproof bag....Please note that in some areas due to the location mobile telephone reception might be nonexistent)
8. Fresh drinking water
9. Sun cream, hat and sunglasses
10. Light waterproof jacket
11. Footwear
12. Licence

ALWAYS be certain to let others know where you're going and when you're expected to return.

**Specific Environmental Information:**

Please ensure you don't remove or damage any plants or animals from the waterway as they may be protected or harmful if transferred to other catchments.

Canoeists and kayakers take very seriously environmental concerns and already follow existing voluntary environmental codes of conduct, including Canoe England's own guidance notes outlined in the "You your canoe and the environment" publication.

By following the simple steps below you can ensure your presence is not detrimental to the freshwater environment, minimize and avoid accidentally disturbing wildlife and their habitats.

- Find out about the area before you go, noting its sensitive places, species and breeding seasons.
- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home with you.
- When clearing litter left by others, handle it with care.
- Leave the environment as you find it
- Keep noise to a minimum.
- Do not "seal" launch or drag boats to avoid wearing away natural banks. Float your canoe for launching, lift out when landing and carry it to and from the water.
- Do not damage bank side vegetation when launching or landing.
- Where possible keep to any designated paths or launching points.
- On rivers, avoid paddling over gravel banks in low water conditions – they may contain fish spawn.
- Constantly assess wildlife. If you see signs of disturbance move away quietly.

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Be the eyes and ears on the water. Report pollution, wildlife problems, damage, incidents etc to the relevant authorities.

- Canal & River Trust - Emergencies- Telephone 0800 47 999 47
- RSPCA for wildlife and animals in distress – Telephone 0990 55 59 99 (24 hours)
- Environment Agency - Telephone 0800 80 70 60 (24 hours)

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