

Places to look out for...

The letters used here correspond to those shown on the map.

★ Southrey Wood

Southrey Wood is part of the Bardney Limewoods National Nature Reserve and is owned and managed by the Forestry Commission. It is also designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). There are a variety of tree species growing in the wood including oak, hazel and ash, as well as lime. In early spring the woodland floor is carpeted in the white flowers of wood anemone.

★ River Witham and the Water Rail Way

The river Witham flows from its source south of Grantham, through Lincoln and Boston before entering The Wash. It is home to a variety of wildlife so look out for herons, swans, great crested grebes as well as the shy water rail. Barn owls can often be seen hunting in the fields close to the river during the day. The Water Rail Way is a multi-user path between Lincoln and Boston, managed by Sustrans. Much of the route is off road on the old railway line. Look out for artworks along the route, including Lincolnshire curly coated pigs!

★ Stixwoud

Stixwoud was home to a Cistercian nunnery, founded in 1135 and suppressed in 1539. All that remain today are earthworks. Several stone coffins from the priory can still be seen in the church of St Peter. In the churchyard are the remains of a medieval cross.

★ Stixwoud Wood

Another Forestry Commission wood within the Lincolnshire Limewoods area. These woodlands date back to prehistoric times and are believed to be one of the few remaining examples of wildwood with continuous woodland cover for the last 8000 years. They provide a range of habitats for a variety of wildlife. Owls, woodpeckers, bats, butterflies, moths and deer as well as colourful displays of wildflowers throughout spring and summer.

★ Minting

The village of Minting dates back to the Anglo-Saxon period. Earthworks of the medieval settlement can still be seen, and as you cycle past the pub and round the corner the earthworks of the Benedictine Priory can be seen on the right. The priory was founded in 1129 and dissolved in 1414. The earthworks represent stock compounds, buildings and a moat. The ponds remain but may have been enlarged at a later period.



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★ Bardney

Bardney's first monastery was built during the Anglo-Saxon period and destroyed by Vikings in 870. A Benedictine house was founded on the site in 1087 but in 1536 with the threat of dissolution a local rebellion broke out and six monks from Bardney were hanged in Lincoln for joining the rising. It was finally dissolved in 1538. Although no buildings remain today,

outlines of the buildings can be seen and give a sense of scale of the original site. St Lawrence's church in the village contains some architectural pieces from the abbey.

★ Bucknall

There was a settlement here in medieval times but all that remains of crofts, fishpond, quarries and field systems are earthworks. Look out for them in the fields around the village.

Be a responsible cyclist

- Always follow the highway code
- Always follow the countryside code
- Be courteous to other users and vehicles
- Use a bell to let people know you are there
- Be seen – wear high visibility clothing and use lights in poor visibility
- Wear a helmet
- Keep your bike roadworthy
- Please do not cycle around nature reserves or the woodlands - take time to enjoy them on foot

This route has been produced to enable cyclists to explore the Lincolnshire countryside. Although the route is generally quiet please note that all roads have periods when they are busier and attract faster vehicles so please take care.

This is just one in a series of cycle routes produced by Lincolnshire County Council. For others please contact us or visit the website.

We would welcome your comments and suggestions on this route and leaflet to help us improve future editions.

If you would like to request a copy of this leaflet in an alternative format or a different language please contact us.

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