

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

A Grantham Canal

Transporting coal from Nottingham to Grantham by river and road was very expensive in the 1760s so work started in 1793 to construct a canal to link the River Trent in Nottingham and Grantham. Completed in 1797 the canal was 33 miles long with a rise of 140ft to Grantham. Water was supplied from two reservoirs at Nipton and Denton. With the opening of a railway in 1850 use of the canal declined and in 1861 the railway company took control of the canal. The canal eventually closed in 1936. It is now controlled by British Waterways and there are plans to restore it. Sections of the towpath form part of The National Cycle Network (NCN). The canal is a haven for wildlife so cycle quietly and you may catch a glimpse of a kingfisher or a buzzard soaring in the sky.

B Harlaxton

Take the time to admire the variety of architecture, especially the chimneys, as you cycle through the village. Once the estate village of Harlaxton Manor many of the cottages were rebuilt by the Lords of the Manor between 1790 and 1854. The village cross is medieval in origin but has been restored.

C Stroxton

A larger settlement existed here during the medieval period which is why the church is now some distance from the village centre.

D Denton

Many of the village houses are built from the local golden ironstone. The underlying rock of the area contains iron ore which in the past was extracted and sent to Northamptonshire by railway. Some of the local disused railway lines now form part of the NCN. The Welby family own much of the surrounding land and lived in Denton Manor until 1939 when it was taken down. Look out for the gatehouse as you enter the village.

E Belvoir Castle

The castle stands majestically on the south-east edge of the Vale of Belvoir. A castle has stood on the site since the late 11th century. Major rebuilding took place in the 16th century and the early 19th century. It is home to the Duke and Duchess of Rutland and is open to the public. There are also extensive gardens and parkland.



Harlaxton

- 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 – where high visibility clothing and use lights in poor visibility.
- Wear a helmet.
- Keep your bike roadworthy.
- Please do not cycle around the nature reserves – take time to enjoy them on foot.

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 require this leaflet in another format or language please contact us.

**Lincolnshire County Council
Natural Environment Team**

Tel: 01522 782070

Minicom: 01522 552055

Email: dev_net@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Web: www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/countryside



Local View