

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

A Royal Square Gardens

Site of the Royal Hydro Hotel which was destroyed by a bomb in 1943. The gardens now contain a memorial to the Dambuster 617 Squadron which had its mess locally.

B Cottage Museum and Tourist Information Centre (seasonal)

Tel: 01526 353775
Find out more about Woodhall Spa's fascinating history.

C Roughton Moor Wood

This Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust woodland contains oak, birch, rowan, Scots pine and some areas of heathland. Look out for woodpeckers and treecreepers. Please do not cycle around the reserve. Enjoy it on foot following the waymarked route.

D Ostlers Plantation

Between 1942 and 1945 the area was an air base and a surviving airfield building is used as a bat roost. The conifers were planted after the war and there are also areas of oak and birch.

E Kirkby Moor

This Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust reserve is also a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The sandy acidic soil promotes a heathland landscape of shrubs such as heather and bracken with some birch and pine trees. Again please do not cycle on the reserve but follow the waymarked routes on foot.

F Kirkby Gravel Pit

Once an area of sand and gravel extraction the area is now a Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust reserve and an excellent place for a break and some birdwatching. There is a hide and in spring and summer you might see oystercatchers, ringed plovers and common tern. In winter look out for greylag geese and a variety of ducks.

G Wellington monument

A bust of the Duke of Wellington sits on top of a granite obelisk. The woodland behind was planted from acorns sown immediately after the battle of Waterloo.

H Stixwold Wood

Owned and managed by the Forestry Commission this woodland forms one of a group that make up the Lincolnshire Limewoods. These woods are the most important examples of small-leaved lime woodland in Britain and some are designated a National Nature Reserve. The Lincolnshire Limewoods project is a partnership working to protect, enhance and promote the natural and historic landscapes of this area. To find out more visit www.limewoods.co.uk

I Stixwold Station and the Water Rail Way.

The railway line between Lincoln and Boston was opened in 1848 by the Great Northern Railway and the station dates to then. The disused railway line between Lincoln and Kirkstead now forms part of the Water Rail Way, a multi-user path running alongside the river Witham.

J Kirkstead Abbey

Although not on the route it is worth a short detour. Kirkstead is one of the Witham Abbeys, and was founded in 1139 and moved to this site in 1187. All that remains of the Cistercian Abbey church is part of the south transept and extensive earthworks.

K The Pinewoods

This area of woodland on the doorstep of Woodhall Spa is owned by the Woodland Trust. It was originally planted in 1811 to provide a supply of timber for pit props for the adjacent coal mine. However the mine flooded before coal was reached. Today the woodland is dominated by silver birch. Some exotic tree species can be seen in the area which was once the gardens of the Victoria Hotel.



The Pinewoods

- 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.

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The Water Rail Way