



# 69wards - Route 1



## Mainline Route - North to South Birmingham

**Start:** Sutton Coldfield Train Station  
**Finish :** Waseley Hills Country Park

**Distance:** 34miles  
**Average cycle time:** 5hrs  
**Average walk time:** 20hrs

A lush and leafy route taking you across Birmingham from North to South. Expect mixed terrain as the route uses national cycle routes, segregated lanes, shared paths, parks/green spaces, canals and quiet roads. Explore the route in shorter sections or all in one go. Suitable for all bikes and abilities.

### Highlights:

- Wild ponies - Sutton Park
- Castle Bromwich Gardens
- Central Jamia Mosque  
Ghamkol Sharif
- Digbeth, Custard Factory
- Martineau Gardens

### Green spaces:

- New Hall Valley
- Cole Valley
- Small Heath Park
- Kings Norton  
Nature Reserve
- Balaam's Wood

### Pitstops & toilets:

- Sutton Park
- New St Train Station
- John Bright Street
- Selly Oak Retail Park
- Longbridge Village
- Waseley Hills

**View the full route in detail by clicking the links below and follow using gps via Komoot, the route finding and navigation website/app, or Google Maps.**

[\*\*Komoot\*\*](#)

[\*\*Google Maps\*\*](#)



# Route Description



Starting at Sutton Coldfield train station, the route heads straight to Sutton Park, one of the largest urban parks in Europe. Don't forget to keep a look out for the wild ponies!

From there you take NCR 534, a scenic green route through New Hall Valley Country Park to Castle Vale. Expect some urban exploring via shared paths and local cycle routes. A visit to Castle Bromwich Hall & Gardens is a must, entry fees apply but the surrounding parkland is free to explore.



Enjoy the lovely greenway as you travel along the Cole Valley to Small Heath Park, then take our suggested bike friendly route via some quiet roads to reach the city centre. If you are stopping, there is a secure bike storage located on Hill Street (registration required).

Head South on the A38. This is a lovely traffic-free, segregated cycle path lined with trees as you come towards Selly Oak and a joy to ride. If exploring on foot, you may prefer to head to the Mailbox and walk along the canal.

From Selly Oak Retail Park, the Worcester and Birmingham canal takes you through Bournville and onto NCR 5, using parks and green spaces from Kings Norton to Longbridge. Take time to enjoy a bit of wildlife spotting before meandering through some quiet streets and Hollymoor Park, an alternative to Tessel Lane. Join the Rea Valley cycle route all the way to Waseley Hills, another wonderful green space with roaming cattle and magnificent views from the top, a fabulous café, bike parking and public toilets.

## Key places to join/leave the route

- City Centre
- Pype Hayes Park
- Cannon Hill Park/Pebble Mill Rd
- Kings Norton Park
- Longbridge or Selly Oak Retail Park

## Access the route vis public transport

- **Train Stations:** Sutton Coldfield, Wylde Green, Stetchford, New Street, University, Bournville, Northfied or Longbridge
- **Bus Routes:** 11, 104, 8, 6, 57, 45

# Accessing The Route

Our routes are designed to be self-guided, accessible by bike or foot and well connected with bus routes, train stations and bike parking across the city. There are two ways you can access this route and view it more closely. This is through Google Maps and our recommended option **Komoot**. These are both FREE route finding tools which allow you to view the routes in more detail and show things like places of interest, green spaces, public transport links and cafe stops.

Komoot also offers turn by turn navigation. It's easy to get started, you just need to sign up, select Birmingham as your first FREE region to start exploring. There are great features to help plan/modify your journey, information about road types and highlights you will find along the way.

**Google Map:** [www.bit.ly/GoogleMaps\\_Route1](http://www.bit.ly/GoogleMaps_Route1)

**Komoot:** [www.bit.ly/Komoot\\_Route1](http://www.bit.ly/Komoot_Route1)



## Be mindful that you are responsible for your own safety

We think these routes are great for adults, individuals and families who want to explore by bike or foot. Here are a few things to remember

:

- Always follow the Highway Code.
- When on shared paths, give priority and be courteous to pedestrians.
- 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!

# 69wards by Bike or Foot Bingo!



Have some fun while you're out riding or walking the routes with a game of Bingo! Can you get a full house? Take photos and share them with us on social media by tagging **@ecobirmingham** or using **#69wards** & **#WalkCyclePlay**



Visit a  
Green Space



Walk/Cycle to  
the city centre



Get connected  
to nature



Choose walking or  
cycling for your  
daily exercise



Ride/walk a  
route you haven't  
done before



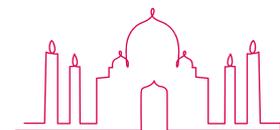
Share your  
commute



Cycle/walk to the  
Supermarket



Visit a new place  
by bike or foot



Cycle/walk to a  
place of worship



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