

The Route

Where: Cambridge to Bottisham

National Route Number: 51

Distance: about 7 miles each way

Terrain: Flat and mostly traffic-free with a couple of short on-road sections

Public transport: railway station at Cambridge

Bike hire: available at the station (01223 307125) and many Cambridge bike shops

OS Maps: Explorer 209 or Landranger 154

Tourist information: Cambridge TIC - 0906 5862526 (calls charged at 60p per minute)

Towns to search for on Sustrans website mapping: Bottisham, Teversham, Cambridge

Cambridge Cycle Trail



Cambridge is a city of cyclists and very much a University city, so it seems appropriate that the route begins at St John's College (founded in 1511), on Bridge Street. Many Cambridge colleges are open to visitors, but not during the exam revision season from mid-April to mid-June. The route follows the river Cam through the city: you may see punts on the river at the very beginning of the route, but thereafter the river usually belongs to rowing teams.

Although this is an urban route in daily use by local cyclists, it is particularly green, and leaves the city via Jesus Green, Midsummer Common, Stourbridge

Common and Ditton Meadows. The route passes the Museum of Technology in the old Pumping Station, which is well worth a visit.

The route leaves the river, passes the airfield and the pretty village of Stow-cum-Quy, where the church dates back to 1340. Bottisham is another attractive village, and while you're there it is worth carrying on to Anglesey Abbey, a Jacobean house owned by the National Trust (closed on Mondays and Tuesdays). There is also a water mill which operates on the first and third Saturday of each month, subject to water levels.