

Rutland Water and Lanes



A route taking in Rutland Water and exploring quiet lanes between the market towns of Oakham and Uppingham.

It's good for hybrid / road bikes. Racing bikes with skinny, slick tyres may have problems on the rougher surfaces

Mountain bikes with knobbly tyres will be harder work on the road sections.

The plan is to start from Burley Road car park in Oakham. Postcode LE15 6DH is a business just opposite the car park if that helps your SatNav. From the car park turn right onto Burley Road to the cross roads with a mini roundabout. Turn left onto Catmos Street and left again onto Stamford Road (B640) That road can be a bit busy so take care but it is a marked cycle route and the pavement is a shared cycle path & footpath. Take care of walkers, dogs etc if you use the shared path.

After less than a mile there is a traffic island junction with the Oakham bypass. This route takes the second exit into the A606. There is a full width cycle path on the right hand side of that road (as you face it). Use the crossing spaces at the traffic island to get onto that cycle path.

After a short distance the cycle path bears to the right and onto a minor lane. Turn right and head away from the A606. This quiet lane leads up the gentle hill to Hambleton.

Part way up there's a cycle track on the left, take it and it will lead away from the lane and onto a track all around the hill with great views of the lake to your left all the way round.

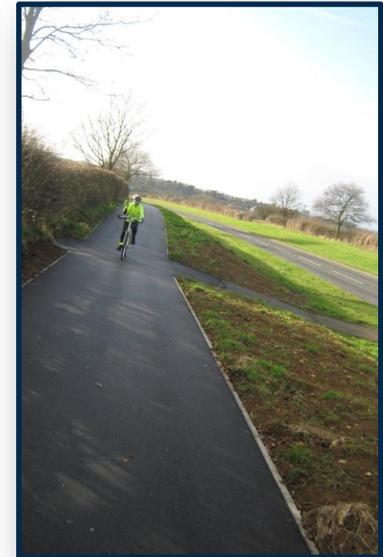
Eventually the track brings you back out onto the lane again. Turn left and coast downhill back to the junction with the main road, the A606.

This time as you approach the junction, look to the right and there's a cycle track. This wide tarmac track runs parallel to the A606 for 1.5

miles. Then you will see a gate on the right onto a track running close to the reservoir. Take that track.

Follow the track around the north shore of the reservoir and on to the dam. The surface is stony with lots of slopes and dips to climb and coast down. The route is very clear to follow and there's a café with a cycle shop on the way to the dam.

Cycling across the dam can be very windy and busy with walkers and it's nearly a mile across. Then, on the south shore the track follows the water line quite closely and is very similar to the surfaces encountered on the other side.



The tracks around the lake are mostly stony, well made tracks. They can be a bit muddy in parts but very rideable on all but the most delicate bikes with super slick road racing tyres.

There are a few places for toilets and café stops on both sides of the lake. Rutland cycles have two cycle shops and hire points, one on each side.



It's best on this ride to aim for a mid ride stop at the café by Rutland cycles on the south shore near the Normanton church museum.

About 3 miles further round the lake, the cycle route turns left, away from the lake and up a steep climb on a tarmac lane. From now on the route is on mostly quiet roads with some junctions with major roads where care is needed. Some climbs are

steep but the descents are fun.

Ignore the cycle route signs to the right and go straight on into a country road running downhill to the village of Lyndon. The road curves to the right through Lyndon, ignore any turns off and follow the road through the village bearing right and then goes uphill. At the next junction follow the signpost to Wing and Preston.

Follow the road uphill, over a railway line and on to a T junction. Turn right into the village of Wing. Through Wing, the road turns left to leave the village and then drops downhill.



At the first signpost turn off left towards Uppingham. Carrying on downhill, over the railway, take care to avoid the next junction to the left, stay with the road you're on. The road winds down and up through fields. At the cross roads go straight on up the hill. The last bit of the climb is very steep up to the main A47 road.

Take care and turn right onto the A47. After a very short distance turn left off the main road onto Glaston Road which leads into Uppingham. Arriving at a traffic island, take the 3rd exit, North Street East. At the end of the road is a cross roads with traffic lights. The centre of Uppingham is to the left.

Turn right away from town on the A6003 signed to Oakham etc. Take care on the busier road which leads to a traffic island with the A47. Negotiate with care and take the second exit into a lane signposted to Ayston. Ride on through Ayston and to a T junction. Turn left signposted to Ridlington & Brooke. At Ridlington bear right following the road down the hill towards Brooke.

In Brooke, follow the road round to the left and then to the right. As the road rises away from the village, look for a junction and turn left to Braunston. In Braunston at the T junction, turn left and then follow the road through the village where it bears right in front of the small church (the Blue Bell pub is on your right). At the next T junction turn left and leave the village on Knossington Road.

Follow the road for 2.5 miles to Knossington. In Knossington at the T junction, turn left. The road then bears right through the village past the Fox & Hounds pub (on your right). Take the next right. There is a signpost with a blue and red cycle route marker and the signpost say "Cold Overton 1 Oakham 4". At the

next cross roads go straight on signposted to Oakham. The road to Oakham is mainly downhill from here.

In Oakham stay on the road all the way to the level crossing junction. With care carry on over the railway line and immediately left up to the station. Bear right into Station Road. Follow that road all the way to the T junction with Burley Road. Turn right, back to the car park where you started.

The total mileage is around 37 miles.

