

## ROUTE DESCRIPTION

This 5 mile circular route, beginning at Burscough Wharf, takes in sections of the historic Leeds and Liverpool Canal and quiet country lanes, making it ideal for families. Burscough Wharf has an array of retail, leisure, independent arts, craft and hobby shops and excellent food and drink outlets.



Along the route you will often see Moorhens feeding by the water's edge or fields within the area. They can be seen any time of the day or night all year round, they reside in abundance at the nearby WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre and several nature reserves that are close to Burscough.

At Lathom you will pass The Ship public house where, in years gone by was used as a navigation pub by workers on the canal and as a watering hole for people from the nearby graving dock.

Burscough Bridge and Burscough Junction railway stations are both less than half a mile away from the start of the route.

- 1 Start the route by joining the Leeds and Liverpool Canal at Burscough Wharf situated on Smithy Walk, turn left onto the towpath. The canal, is 127 miles long and took 46 years to build between 1770 and 1816.
- 2 Continue along the towpath, passing the Grade II listed Ainscough Mill that was built in 1858 and the 'Top Locks' which lead to the Rufford branch canal, until you reach the Ring O' Bells Bridge.
- 3 Exit the canal at Ring O' Bells Bridge, then follow the road onto Hoscar Moss Road. Continue over the level crossing with the railway station on your right to the next left at Wood Lane.
- 4 Follow Wood Lane through open countryside, the road curves sharp left into the tree lined Bleak Lane.
- 5 Follow Bleak Lane through Hoscar Moss, passing Bleak Hall Farm on the right, up to Four Lane Ends level crossing.
- 6 Cross the Level Crossing and bear right onto Daisy Lane, continue along the lane to the junction with Carr Lane.
- 7 Turn right onto Carr Lane and then left into Wheat Lane just before Runnel Brow canal bridge.
- 8 Follow Wheat Lane, passing The Ship, to Glovers swing bridge.
- 9 At Glovers Bridge turn right onto the towpath and retrace the route back to Burscough Wharf. There are a number of pubs, cafes, shops and restaurants in Burscough where you can enjoy refreshments after your ride.



## VISIT

VISIT Sefton and West Lancs are continuing to develop the cycling offer within and around the area by building on the existing potential.

Co-ordinated packages of activities, promoting and marketing the wider area, are continually being developed.

For information on any upcoming events and other cycle routes see our website [www.visitseftonandwestlancs.co.uk](http://www.visitseftonandwestlancs.co.uk)



## CYCLE ROUTES

This route is one of a series of themed routes in Sefton and West Lancashire. They are suitable for families and the less experienced cyclists and include many of the area's landmarks.

All routes are signed and have accompanying leaflets. These are available at all Cycle Hire Centres or via the website.



## CYCLE HIRE

If you are visiting Sefton and West Lancs and you don't have your bike, you can still enjoy our range of themed routes by hiring a bike at one of our cycle hire centres. A wide range of bikes are available for all the family.

For further information or to pre-book, please contact the cycle hire staff or see the website.

01704 500996.  
[info@southportcyclehire.info](mailto:info@southportcyclehire.info)  
[www.southportcyclehire.info](http://www.southportcyclehire.info)



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# Moorhen Route

- Easy/Moderate
- Mostly Road
- Distance 5 miles
- Time 40-50 mins





Ainscough Mill



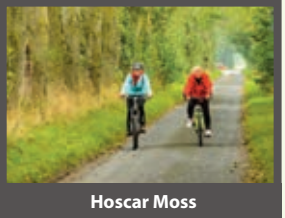
Top Locks



Grovers Bridge



The Ship at Lathom



Hoscar Moss



Moorhen along canal

KEY	
	Moorhen Route
	Railway Station
	Cycle Hire Venue