

# WOLVERHAMPTON TO STOURBRIDGE (MULTIPLE CANALS)

1

TRIP TYPE: SOLO CYCLE

OBJECTIVE: TAKE THE TRAIN FROM STOURBRIDGE TO WOLVERHAMPTON.  
CYCLE BACK VIA WOLVERHAMPTON LOCKS, STAFFS &  
WORCESTER CANAL, AND STOURBRIDGE CANAL

DISTANCE: 19 MILES

TIME: 2 HOURS, 8.8 mph

NICHOLSON: GUIDE 2, PP 44, 45, 117-120, 132, 133

COSTS: FREE PARKING AT STOURBRIDGE, TRAIN FROM  
STOURBRIDGE JUNCTION TO WOLVERHAMPTON £6, 4ph

DIFFICULTY: FAIR

OVERVIEW: A straightforward and pleasant ride, mainly rural  
apart from the initial section down Wolverhampton locks. At  
under 20 miles it can be done in around 2 hours on a dry day.

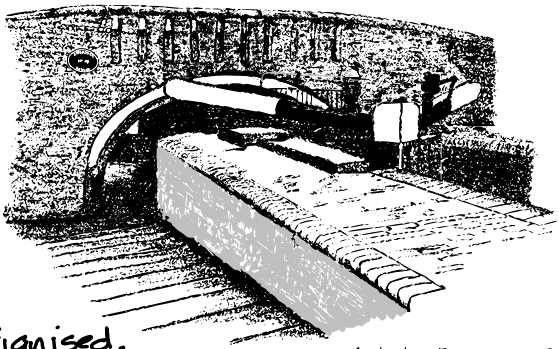
## 1. STOURBRIDGE TO ALDERSLEY JUNCTION (21 CYCLING)

Park on Bradley Road, Stourbridge DY8 1UX. There are no  
restrictions, and there is plenty of room. Cycle down to the ring  
road (High Street). Use the subway under the ring road bearing  
right onto lower High Street. Continue through the old shopping  
centre. Half way along after the pedestrianised section it  
becomes one-way against you, so you will need to walk your  
bike up to Wetherspoons.

Don't follow the signs for Stourbridge Town Station, unless you  
want to catch the novelty shuttle the half mile to Stourbridge  
Junction, but it's not worth the wait.

Instead, cross over the ring road again and continue on the

busy Hagley Road to Glass House Hill. Turn left, then right into Stourbridge Junction Station. Trains are frequent. Change at Smethwick Caltan Bridge where trains for Wolverhampton go from Platform 3, so use the lift to drop down to the perpendicular line.



Awbridge Bridge No 49

Coming out of Wolverhampton Station go straight ahead [as of April 2023 the area is being pedestrianised, and a tram route installed]. Cross the bridge over the Wolverhampton ring road (the canal is underneath you but you can't see it). Turn right along the footpath to the A4150, Wednesfield Road. Cross this, then drop down to the towpath and continue north (away from the station).

Continue down the fascinating 21 Wolverhampton locks to Aldersley Junction. At Fox's Lane Bridge (Lock 10) it is easier to go over rather than navigate down the twisty and slippery path. At the junction turn right and cross the footbridge, then left onto the Staffs & Worcester Canal.

## 2. ALDERSLEY JUNCTION TO STOURBRIDGE (17M)

The towpath is good quality tarmac for a short while, and then a decent earth surface. It gets narrower at some points, but is fine to ride.

The towpath changes sides at Dimmingsdale Lock.

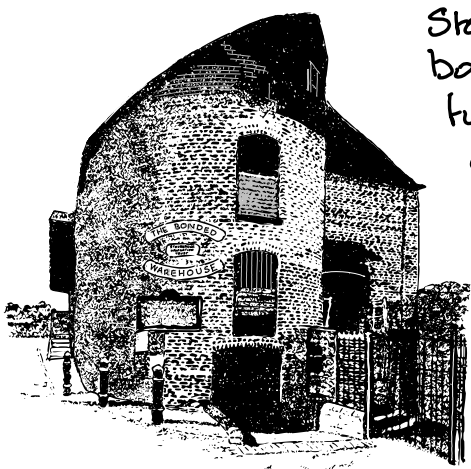
The unusual Bratch Locks are worth a stop, and an explanation of how they operate from volunteers, if available (they use side ponds and culverts - very exciting!).



Circular weir on the Staffs & Worcester

The canal winds its way down to Stourton Junction via Devils Den (a bathhouse cut into the sandstone cliffs). Turn left over the bridge at the junction and continue 2 miles to where the Stourbridge Town Arm goes off to your right.

If you've not visited Stourbridge locks before they are worth a look (you will come down them on the Halesowen to Kidderminster ride). Otherwise, cross the bridge to take the Arm a further mile back to Stourbridge Wharf. Go past the unusual banded warehouse on Canal Street, then turn right on the High Street Footpath a short distance before dropping down the slope to Bradley Road and your car. If you time it right you can pay a visit to The Cornish Pasty Box to replenish those lost calories (Saturday 10-1.30, Tuesday 12-2).



Banded Warehouse, Stourbridge