

Kennet and Avon Canal to Bradford ON AVON

DISTANCE
17.5 MILES

TIME
3-4 HRS

ABILITY
LEVEL 3

Avoncliff Aqueduct
country pubs
Medieval tithe barn

For the late Robin Williams cycling was “the closest you can get to flying”:
we’re sure you’ll agree as you soar across the canal paths.

You can hire nextbikes from the nearby Holburne Museum (see pages 3-4 for other hire locations). If coming from further afield you could park at The George in Bathampton.



A Join the Kennet and Avon Canal at Beckford Road.

B Alternative start point at The George in Bathampton.

C After 4.5 miles on the path you will reach Dundas Aqueduct. A short detour straight on will take you to the Brassknocker Basin café & campsite, Angelfish Restaurant, and close by is a restored portion of the historical Somerset Coal Canal, now used for moorings. For canoe and boat hire there is the Bath and Dundas Canal Company.

AVONCLIFF AQUEDUCT

Completed by John Rennie and chief engineer John Thomas in 1801, the central span sagged soon after it was built and has been repaired many times.

D Cross over Avoncliff Aqueduct. This is a rare opportunity to follow the canal path as it traverses the river.

E A good stopping point is provided in the form of the 16th Century Cross Guns (a family and dog-friendly pub with Box Steam Brewery ales and ciders).

F 1.5 miles later you will enter Bradford-on-Avon by the medieval Tithe Barn (which is worth a look).

TITHE BARN

This 14th century barn was originally part of a monastic grange, owned by the richest nunnery in the land at the time: Shaftesbury Abbey. Its beautiful timber cruck roof spans 168 feet (51 metres).

G Join the main road through the town centre. There are a number of foodie options available, including the award-winning Bridge Tea Rooms (on Bridge Street) and the family-run Lock Inn.

QUOINS ORGANIC VINEYARD

They run tours (£7 for over 18s) the first Sunday of May, June, July, August or September. It’s two miles from the Tithe Barn up through Bradford to Little Ashton.

H Return the way you came, or more confident cyclists could return via the Two Tunnels on p.13 (take a left after Avoncliff Aqueduct and head out towards Brassknocker Basin, then continue up hill to Monkton Combe School and left through the village, left again towards Wellow not Bath, near the top of the hill take a sharp right onto cycle path which takes you into the south west of Bath).



KENNET AND AVON CANAL TO BRADFORD ON AVON

Map Key

Cycle Route Traffic-tree

Starting Point

Mile Markers (outward)

Mile Markers (return)

Points of Interest

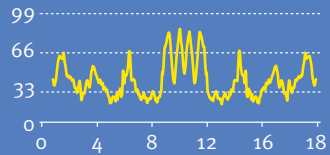
Access Points

Refreshments

Tourist Information

Public Toilets

Elevation (m)



Start Elevation: **41m**
 Max Elevation: **70m**
 Gain: **255m**
 Climbs on Route: **5**

