

15. Bradford on Avon

Easy 4km canal walk on hard surface for most wheels.

Alternative grassy path for wheelchairs.



Where is it?

Bradford on Avon is on the A363 between Bath and Trowbridge, and the walk starts at the railway station car park. Park at the far end in Zone B, pay and display.

The walk

This 4km route alongside the River Avon and the Kennet and Avon Canal passes through the historic Barton Farm Park and leads to the Avoncliff aqueduct. The complete walk is accessible for all except hand-propelled wheelchairs. Subject to conditions underfoot, wheelchair users can enjoy a riverside walk of similar length. The surface is largely metalled or hard grit, with mown grass on the riverside. **All users have a steep short descent at the beginning.** Thereafter wheelchairs are on the level while others face a short ascent to the towpath. At Avoncliff there is an optional steep descent to an inn, or a longer descent and steep ascent to a café.



Directions

From the far end of the station car park the walk drops on a short hairpin bend between two offset iron posts under the railway bridge. The path leads past the attractive farm buildings **1** (farmhouse, dairy, pigsties, granary and tithe barn) which are worth a close look now or on the way back. The ground at the site is gravelled.

The path leads across the meadow with the river on the right and the canal just visible above to your left.

2 Halfway through the walk, at a fork in the path wheelchair users may bear right to a grassy riverside walk which passes through four double gates to Avoncliff weir. Turn around at the weir. **The grass on this section is sometimes uneven and may be muddy after rain.** You return the way you came.

The route to the left (**not for hand-propelled wheelchairs**) climbs a short way to the canal and follows the towpath for about 1,200 metres to where the canal turns right over the viaduct. **3**

Return the same way, but at the point where you came up to the canal **2** buggy users with strong arms and hardy children could continue along the towpath for 500 metres and bump down to the farm buildings via 20 steps and a gravel path.

Refreshments, toilets and parking





Restaurants, pubs and cafés in Bradford, pub and café at Avoncliff. Accessible toilets at the start. There is also limited parking at Avoncliff aqueduct (approached by a steep and narrow lane).

Walks on Wheels has been devised by the Cotswold Wardens to mark their 40 years of voluntary service providing access to the Cotswolds and conserving its special landscape.


15. Bradford on Avon canal and farm path



Key to map

-  Smooth hard surface
-  Grass, mown or grazed but may be uneven
-  Gentle slope
-  Steep slope

Key to symbols

-  Parking
-  Toilets

Please Note:

Some of these routes may be difficult or impassable after rain, and in high winds and low cloud. Town and village walks are subject to road traffic. Always wear clothing appropriate for the weather conditions. The Cotswold Conservation Board cannot accept responsibility for accidents or difficulties resulting from following these routes.