

Worcestershire & Birmingham Canal guidance for cyclists

Bridge length - heading South from Stratford Canal Junction (Kings Norton to Worcester)	Approx length (metres)	Condition grade
Kings Norton Junction Bridge 72 to Wast Hill Tunner (north)	1,500	A
Wast Hill Tunnel	2,500	
Wast Hill Tunnel (South) to Bridge 64	4,000	C
Bridge 64 to Shortwood Tunnel	2,900	A
Shortwood Tunnel	600	
Shortwood Tunnel (South) to Bridge 57	1,400	C
Tardebigge Tunnel	700	
Tardebigge Tunnel (South) to Bridge 44 (Stoke Prior)	5,500	B
Bridge 44 to Bridge 42 (Boat and Railway PH)	1,000	C
Bridge 42 to Bridge 38	2,800	B
Bridge 38 to Bridge 35 (Hanbury Wharf – Droitwich Canal Junction)	1,300	C
Bridge 35 to Bridge 33	700	B
Bridge 33 to Dunhampstead Tunnel (North)	2,000	C
Dunhampstead Tunnel	200	
Dunhampstead Tunnel (South) to Bridge 30	300	C
Bridge 30 to Bridge 29	300	B
Bridge 29 to Bridge 28	300	C
Bridge 28 to Bridge 26	500	A
Bridge 26 to Bridge 25 (first 400 metres approx)	400	C
Bridge 26 to Bridge 25 (last 800 metres approx)	800	B
Bridge 25 to Lock 11 (Sixways Stadium)	1,800	B
Lock 11 to Diglis Basin (Worcester)	7,600	A

Condition grades

A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sealed surface (eg. tarmac), consistently even Suitable for road bikes and novices Occasional ponding only after heavy rainfall

B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsealed surface (eg. crushed stone) Occasional uneven surface and irregularities Unsuitable for road bikes - 'off-road' bikes only Novices should take extra care Occasional ponding after light rainfall Muddy in places

C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsealed surface (eg. grass) Consistently uneven with frequent surface irregularities Unsuitable for road bikes and novices Off-road bikes only Experienced cyclists should take extra care Frequent ponding after light rainfall Very muddy in places

Notes

- helmets should always be worn
- bell or horn should be used on approach to all structures and blind bends
- bell or horn should be used when approaching pedestrians and anglers
- give way to pedestrians
- proceed at 'dead slow' pace when passing by other cyclists
- some bridges have very low headroom - dismounting is advisable
- hedge cutting takes place annually so beware of hedge cuttings
- contact the office for up to date towpath information

Note: this guidance is based on a condition survey undertaken in March 2017
The prevailing towpath conditions can change rapidly during times of heavy rainfall.
Guidance approved by waterway manager, Nick Worthington Call: 01452 318000