

1] With your back to the Village Hall, turn right on to The Street (B4060), head south towards Wotton-under-Edge and take the first right (signed Lower Wick, Stinchcombe Village).

2] At St Cyr's church and the War Memorial, bear left into Wick Lane, signposted Lower Wick.

3] At the T junction, turn right (signposted Lower Wick, Berkeley), cross over the M5 and turn left at the crossroads signposted Damery, Lower Wick.

4] Follow this lane over the railway bridge, past Hogsdown Farm campsite, to a T junction and turn left.

5] Keep on this lane through **Lower Wick**, under the M5, past The Pepperpot and follow the bend to the right signposted Damery, Tortworth.

6] This lane passes through Michaelwood and after a left turning for Huntingford, bends to the right and drops down into **Damery**.

7] Turn left over the 'Weak Bridge', crossing the Little Avon river signposted Tortworth.

8] The road twists left and right steeply uphill, then after a left bend takes you past **Tortworth** church on the left and uphill past the estate farmshop to a crossroads with the B4509. This is **10km/6mi** from the village hall.



9] Go straight over signposted Leyhill, Cromhall.

10] Turn left opposite the entrance to the Four Pillars Tortworth Court Hotel and then pass Leyhill prison on the right.

11] At the T junction in **Cromhall**, the Royal Oak pub lies just to the left. Turn right, merge on to the main road B4058 and, after a short distance take the second right signposted Abbotside, Milbury Heath. A left turn opposite here leads to the Cromhall village shop.

12] You go through two 90° bends: right, then left. This is where, after **13k/8m**, the **short loop** can return you to Stinchcombe:

Short loop:

At this left bend there is a grass triangle with a right turn: go up this minor lane until you reach a left turning with a house on your right. Go straight ahead, opening the 5-bar gate and, with woods on the right, continue down the track on to Gambriel Lane. This is a rough off road track which is fairly bumpy.

*Pass a couple of houses on the left and a Tortworth Estate lodge on the right. Cross over the M5 and you reach the A38 opposite Eastwood Park, near Falfield. You've cycled **14.5km/9mi**.*

*Turn right up the A38, through **Falfield** traffic lights (B4509 junction) then first left into Moorslade Lane, signposted Lower Stone.*

*At the end of the lane in **Lower Stone** when you come to the "T" junction turn left and immediately at the next "T" turn right, signposted Ham and Berkeley.*

*Follow this lane for about 2km/1.25mi miles to a T junction and turn left, with a sharp right bend after another 0.8km/0.5mi (ignore left turn). Go through **Ham**, with the Salutation Inn on the right.*

*Pass the Berkeley Estate offices and hunt kennels on your right and arrive in **Berkeley**. Turn right into the main street, Market Place. Berkeley has various pubs, shops, a chip shop and a café. You've now cycled about **23km/14.5mi**.*

*Follow Market Place out of the town, past the Castle entrance on the right up to the roundabout. Continue straight ahead along the B4066 right up to its end at the A38 at Berkeley Heath by the filling station. **26km/16mi** so far.*

Turn right along the A38, then take the first left signposted Stinchcombe, North Nibley.

*Pass the nursery on the right, go under the railway bridge and up to the crossroads before the bridge over the M5 to retrace the route along the next left, back through **Stinchcombe** village. It is just under **32k/20m** total back to the village hall. A fine morning or afternoon ride!*

Alternatively ...

13] To ride to Bristol and Bath, keep on the main route at the grass triangle [12, **13km/8mi**] and head towards Tytherington, passing a turn to the right (which says Avon Cycleway - ignore this and go straight on signposted Filton), keeping woodland to your right.

14] At the T junction, with the Avon Cycleway Link signpost, turn right then turn right again after 0.8k/0.5m, then left in 0.4km/0.25mi along what the OS map calls Tytherington Hill, but the road name plate calls Baden Hill Road.



15] This road passes steep woodland to the right, with a disused lime kiln and worked out quarries, to crossroads in **Tytherington**, with The Swan opposite you and the village shop behind

the pub. **17km/10.5mi** from Stinchcombe.

16] Cross the main road and go straight ahead, bearing to the left behind the pub car park and passing the shop on the left, Itchington Road, signposted Earthcott, Iron Acton.

17] Pass under the railway bridge and soon take the left hand turn towards Latteridge and Iron Acton. About **21km/13mi** so far.

18] In **Latteridge**, turn left on to the B4059, signposted Iron Acton. This is the only unpleasant road on the route, with its lorry traffic, but is over after 2km/1.25mi miles, towards the end passing Acton Court on the right.

19] At the **Iron Acton** traffic lights, go straight over the crossroads, pass the White Hart on the right. Then after 0.8km/0.5mi, the road curves to the right. Take the left fork here (straight ahead) on a narrow lane (signposted Unsuitable for Heavy Goods Vehicles).

If you have the South Gloucestershire Council cycling map available from Sustrans or www.lifecycleuk.org.uk you will find that you are now on Avon Cycle Route no 10.

20] This lane drops into a dip with a railway level crossing. This line leads to a quarry in Tytherington and only has occasional freight trains, but Stop, Look and Listen before proceeding.

21] Continue for a mile to a T junction at **Frampton End** and turn left on to Church Road. **26km/16mi**.

22] Take the immediate first right off Church Road towards the school, Lower Stone Close.

23] Bear left by the school into Woodend Road (Avon Cycleway) and, at the next "T", turn left and continue to the main Badminton Road A432.

24] Cross straight ahead into South View Crescent (Avon Cycleway) and follow this round to the right to small crossroads at Bell Road. This area is **Coalpit Heath**.

25] Turn left up South View Rise, and then right at the T junction, into Roundways. After curving to the right past a school on the right, turn left into Henfield Road by Ring O' Bells on the left corner. (Avon Cycleway 10) **28km/17.25mi**

26] Continue for 2k/1.25m. This cycleway is now signposted for Bath and passes under a railway viaduct and with Kendleshire golf course on the right.

27] At the crossroads with Westerleigh Road B4465, cross straight ahead, pass under the M4 bridge, follow the curve to the right. Then as the road narrows on a left bend you reach an old railway bridge marked 11'9".

28] This is where you leave ordinary roads and join a spur of the Bristol-Bath cycle path (still Route 10 at this point) by going up the track on the right, back up towards the bridge signposted Bath. About **32km/20mi** from Stinchcombe.

The cycle path skirts the Ring Road A4174 and takes



you to the site of the old Mangotsfield station where the route continues straight ahead to Bristol or sharp back left to Bath.

The Bristol-Bath cycle path is National Route 4: www.bristolbathrailwaypath.org.uk describes the route.

On your way to Bristol you reach the Staple Hill tunnel after 1.2km/0.75mi: it's downhill all the way from there!



You can follow this on another (Bristol) map in the same series and the Bath route by the Bath and North East Somerset (B&NES) map.

From this Mangotsfield junction, Bristol is about another 7 miles (11km) and Bath 13 miles (21km) along the cyclepath.

Cycling to the spur of the Bristol/Bath Cycle Path (28 above) and returning on the Stinchcombe loop.

44 miles **70 km** **5 hours**

Distances from Stinchcombe one way

BRISTOL **BATH**
27 miles **43 km** **33 miles** **53 km**



Cycling around

Stinchcombe

Cycling from Stinchcombe to Bristol or Bath.

13

This cycle ride enables you to cycle to Bristol or Bath but also incorporates a shorter loop back to Stinchcombe.

There are a few short, sharp hills. It is not suitable for racing bikes because of a small off-road stretch and some bumpy side roads.

Places you pass through, and distances you have done, are in bold in the directions.

Start: Stinchcombe Village Hall

Refreshments: Several pubs and shops en route in various villages/ suburbs and a good range of eateries in Berkeley.

STINCHCOMBE LOOP

20 miles **32 km** **3 hours**

