

Lakeside cycle trail... 5 miles

Clumber, Nottinghamshire

THE NATIONAL TRUST

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Get on your bike and explore this amazing landscaped park, once home to the Dukes of Newcastle. As you cycle around the 87-acre serpentine lake you'll pass beautiful trees teeming with wildlife. This 5 mile trail is part of a 20 mile cycle network around Clumber, which you can explore for yourself by hiring a bike from our cycle hire centre or by bringing your own.

Getting there & local facilities...

Start: Clumber cycle hire centre – **Grid ref:** SK625745 **Map:** OS Landranger 120

Buses/Rail: Stagecoach 233 from Nottingham (Sunday), Stagecoach 33 Worksop– Nottingham (passing close Worksop station) alight Carburton, ¾ mile.

Cycling: National Cycle Network route 6 runs very close. See www.sustrans.org.uk

Road: 4½ miles SE of Worksop, 1 mile from A1/A57, 11 miles from M1 exit 30.

Facilities: Car park, refreshment kiosk, shop, plant sales, cycle hire and WCs.

Contact us: 01909 544 917 clumberpark@nationaltrust.org.uk

Look out for...

🌿 Serpentine Lake

In the 1760s the Duke of Newcastle employed Stephen Wright to design his new home. The house, lake, driveways and even tree planting were all designed to complement each other. The magnificent centre piece, the lake, was created by damming the River Poulter in 1772 and, including building the ornamental bridges and cascade, it took fifteen years and cost £6,612 8s 9d – a lot of money in those days!

🌿 Pinetum

To show off their power and wealth in the days of the Dukes, the rich had their gardens planted with exotic species from around the world. At Clumber these were the Pleasure Ground and Pinetum. The Seventh Duke had the Pinetum planted in the 1890s to display exotic conifers, including the Blue Douglas Fir and Veitch's Silver Fir. How many different species can you spot on your ride around Clumber today?

🌿 Hardwick Village

During the 19th century, Hardwick Village was designed and developed as a model village to house estate workers. As well as attractive cottages the village also had a post office, school and chantry where choir boys from the Chapel stayed. With the estate being largely self-sufficient Hardwick Grange Farm and a number of workshops, including carpenters and blacksmiths, were housed on the estate. If you take a peek inside the Chapel some of the attractive metalwork you can find inside was made in these workshops.



Clumber Bridge carried the Duke's guests giving them spectacular views of the majestic lake and house, just as you can see today. Can you spot what's changed about this view?
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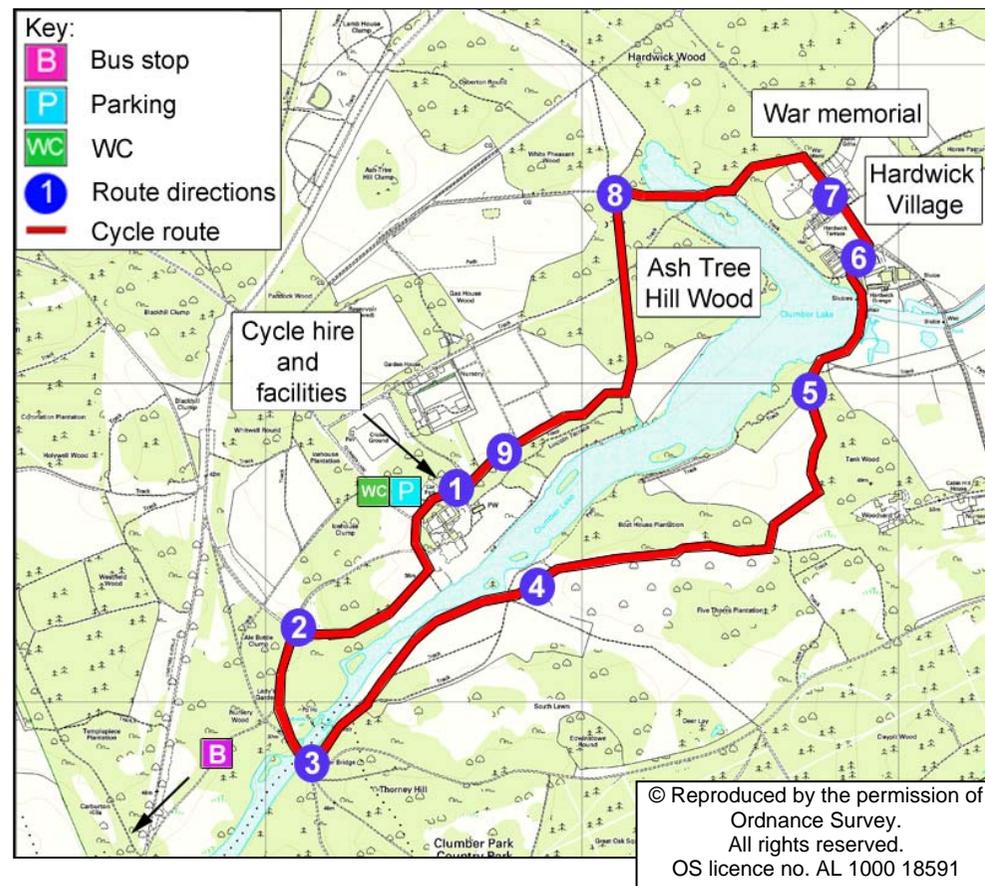
A ferry used to take the Duke's family and guests across the lake to make the most of tea in the afternoon sun. You can still find the remains of one of the ferry docks across the lake from the ornamental gun battery.
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Along the original main driveway, Drayton Lane, there were a number of vistas designed to give guests different views of Clumber House as they approached. From this particular view you can see how the lake arm makes it look more impressive.
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Route and directions

1. Follow the blue arrows and numbered posts 1 to 8, and 1 again so that your route is circular. From the cycle hire centre head towards the main visitor facilities, then continue on the road bearing left towards the bridge. Keep on the hard surfaced track that swings right. On your right is the Pinetum.
2. Continue on the track until you reach the crossroads, then turn left. The road narrows towards Clumber Bridge so be careful of vehicles.
3. Once over the bridge take the left into the car park. You can hear the tumbling water from the elegant cascade. Continue on the red shale path along the lakeside.
4. On the bank opposite the chapel, where Clumber House once stood, look out for the ferry dock remains. Just past here bear right along the red shale path and through the gate, with the wire fence on your left. This lowland heath is one of Clumber's most precious habitats. Once common throughout the Sherwood area, this remaining tiny fragment is home to an amazing array of wildlife; you can find out more in the conservation centre about how we care for this. Leave this area of heath through another gate.
5. Continue on the track up on top of the dam. Look out for the beautiful vista.
6. Head right just before the toilets. Cross the car park, turning left at the road through Hardwick Village.
7. Leaving Hardwick, on your right, you'll pass the War Memorial. Commissioned by the Seventh Duke for 'our countrymen and allies who gave their lives in the Great War', it has engraved on its side the names of the 24 men from the Clumber estate who gave their lives in both World Wars. On the opposite side of the road are the now redundant kennels. These were built for the Seventh Duchess, complete with a hospital. In the 1890s it would have been a noisy place housing over 90 dogs, including Clumber Spaniels and Russian Wolfhounds. Turn left past the bus shelter, taking care on this narrow road.
8. Once over the tarmac causeway, turn left along the red shale track up through Ash Tree Hill Wood. Go straight across the crossroads at the top of the hill. Once at the bottom follow the red shale path right alongside the events field.
9. Pass the walled kitchen garden on your right before returning to the cycle hire centre. Grab a yummy ice-cream or a cuppa and piece of cake from the café.



Cycle distance, terrain and accessibility

5 miles (8 km) over hard surfaces and woodland paths. Suitable for all types of cycles. Take care on all roads. Please dismount at road junctions and steep hills when cycling with young children. Take care with speed on slopes and in limited visibility, especially in adverse weather conditions.

Cycle hire info

Full range of cycles available to hire - connectors, trailers, tandems, child cycles, cycles with child seats and adapted cycles. Cycle stands available. Cycle route guides, with all four cycle routes, can be purchased from the cycle hire centre and visitor enquiries point, priced 50p.

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Find out more at www.nationaltrust.org.uk