



The Water Rail Way, the path beside the River Witham that connects Lincoln to Boston, was named in a competition both for its former life as a railway line but also for the abundant bird life that can be seen in this green corridor. The shy Water Rail has been seen from this path.

For centuries, boats loaded with grain and wool plied between the Cathedral city of Lincoln and the seaport of Boston. Local people travelled on packet boats between the two towns and riverside villages until the railway opened in 1848 when cheaper and faster rail travel saw a decline in the river's fortune. The last goods train to the sugar beet factory at Bardney came though in 1981.

There are services in the villages of Washingborough, Fiskerton and Bardney. Fiskerton can be accessed by crossing over the newly ramped Five Mile Bridge and following the signs for the village or to the newly created Fiskerton Fen Nature Reserve.



It is hoped in the future that the Water Rail Way will continue beside the River Witham in Bardney, but at the present time there is a winter and a summer route (see map). Please take care on the on road sections.

The Water Rail Way consists of 20 miles of off-road path and 13 miles on country roads. It connects Lincoln and Boston and for much of its length it sits beside the River Witham. The Water Rail Way forms a part of the regeneration work undertaken by the Lincolnshire Waterways Partnership and it was project managed by Sustrans on their behalf.

It was funded by the European Union and Lincolnshire County Council.



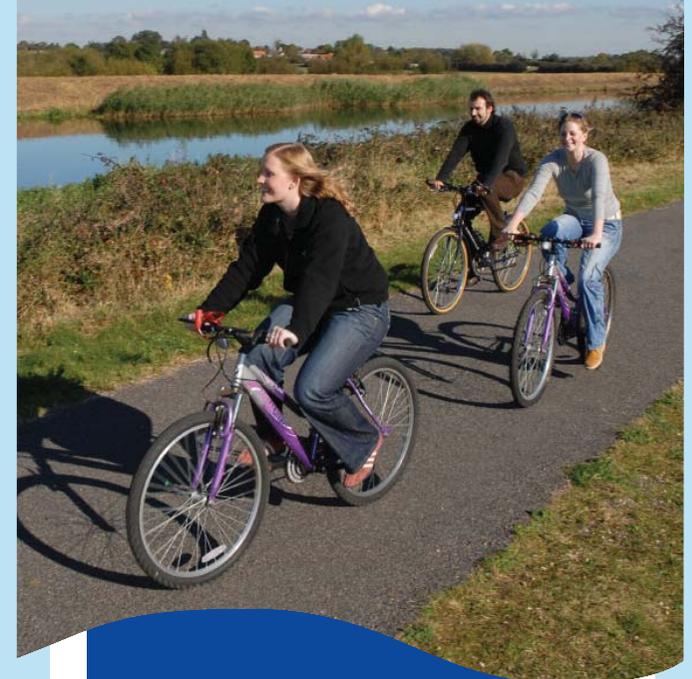
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The WATER RAIL WAY

A mainly traffic free route between Lincoln and Boston

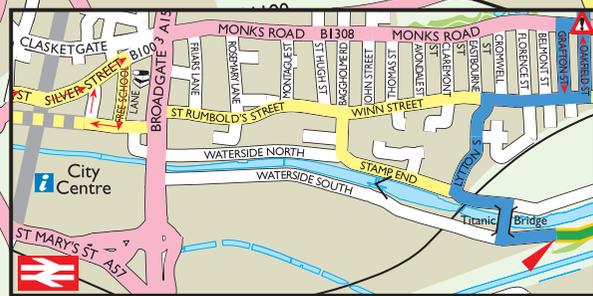


Lincoln to Bardney
9 miles of railway path beside the River Witham for walkers, cyclists and horse riders

Water Rail Way Lincoln to Bardney

1
Market
Rasen 17

LINCOLN



Code of Conduct for Shared Use Paths

Cyclists Please don't expect to cycle at high speeds and be prepared to slow down or stop if necessary. Be careful at junctions, bends and entrances. Give way to walkers, wheelchair users and horse riders - leaving them plenty of room. Remember that many people cannot hear or see well so don't assume that they can see or hear you. Fit a bell and use it - don't surprise people.

Motorbikes Are not permitted on the path.

Horse Riders Please proceed at a walking pace to protect the surface of the path for other users, and allow families with young children to use the path in comfort.

Walkers If you are walking with a dog, please keep it on a lead at all times.

	Tourist attraction		Cafe		Road with heavy traffic - best avoided		Water Rail Way
	Sculpture/feature		Shop		Routes found useful by local cyclists - mainly on quiet roads		On Road
	Public toilets		Children's play area		Track - may be unsurfaced and muddy after rain. Unsuitable for wheelchairs		Track
	Camping/caravan site		Rail stations		Fast and busy section of route - take extra care		Traffic-free wheelchair friendly
	Public house		Path access point		Southrey Wood		Lincolnshire Limewoods with public access
					Other roads		

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