

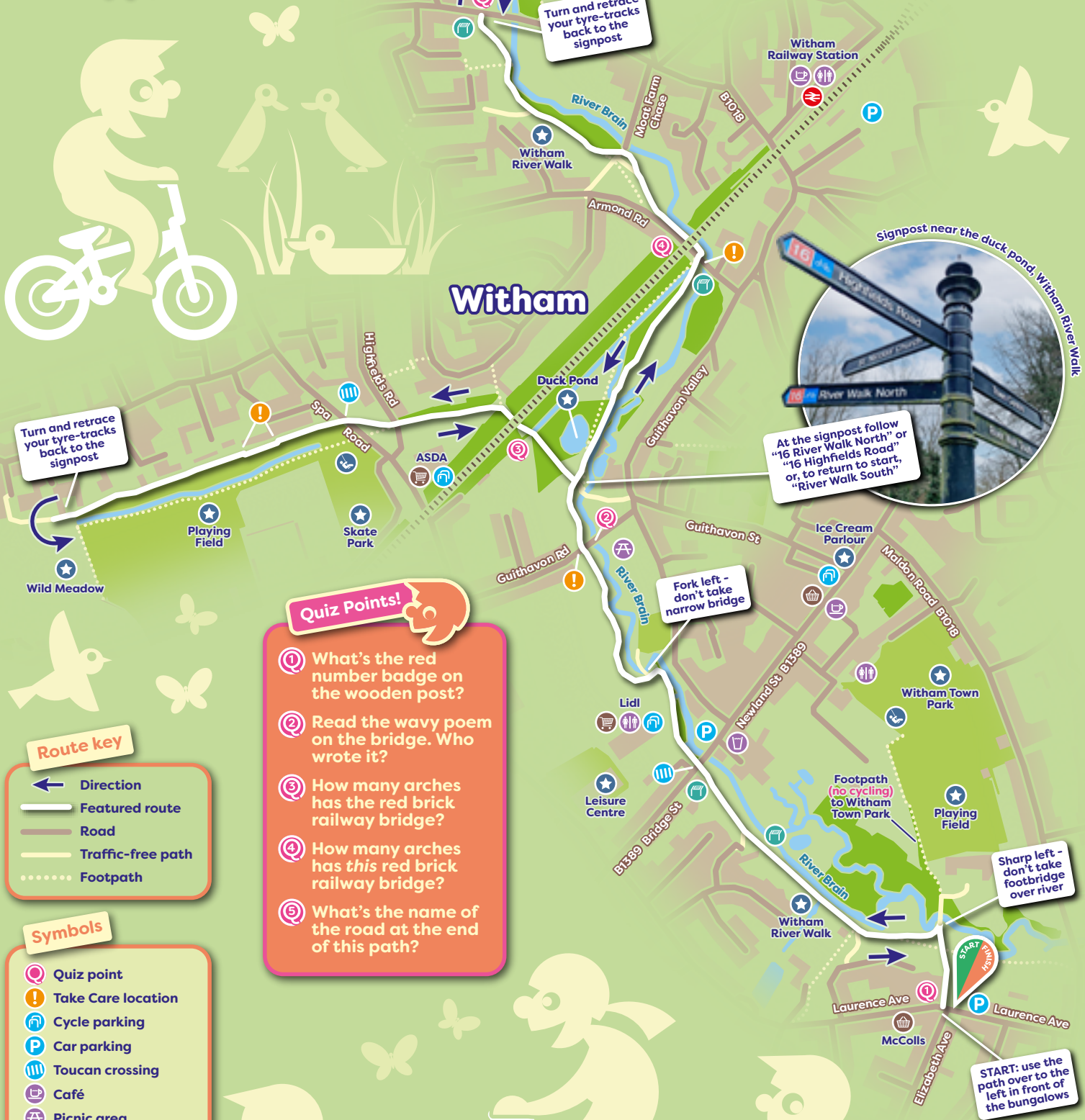
# EXPLORE Braintree District BY BICYCLE

## Family-Friendly Cycle Route 3

A family-friendly traffic-free cycle ride in central Witham suitable for adults with children under 10 years of age. Start and finish at Laurence Avenue.



5.7 miles (6.0km)



### Quiz Points!

- 1 What's the red number badge on the wooden post?
- 2 Read the wavy poem on the bridge. Who wrote it?
- 3 How many arches has the red brick railway bridge?
- 4 How many arches has *this* red brick railway bridge?
- 5 What's the name of the road at the end of this path?

### Route key

- Direction
- Featured route
- Road
- Traffic-free path
- Footpath

### Symbols

- Quiz point
- Take Care location
- Cycle parking
- Car parking
- Toucan crossing
- Café
- Picnic area
- Toilets
- Pub
- Information panel
- Attraction
- Play park
- Supermarket
- Convenience store
- Railway station



# Cycle Route 3

This is the perfect cycle route for families with young children. It uses three shared-use paths radiating from the duck pond in Witham; the River Walk and parts of National Cycle Network Route 16. It is pan-flat, short, and entirely traffic-free except for a few road-crossings. Some of the paths are 'Segregated' Shared-use Paths meaning cyclists should use one side, and pedestrians use the other.

## Good Cycling Code

### ALWAYS:

Follow the Highway Code

Cycle at a safe and responsible speed

On shared-use paths give way to pedestrians, wheelchair users and horse riders

Ring a bell or call out to warn of your approach, acknowledging people who give way to you

Remember that some people are hard of hearing and visually impaired so don't assume they can see or hear you

Follow the Countryside Code; in particular respect crops, gates, livestock, wildlife and take litter home

Take special care on roads, at junctions, cycling downhill, beside open water, or on loose surfaces

Carry food, water, a puncture repair kit, a map, a mobile phone and waterproofs

Keep your bike in good condition and use lights in poor visibility

Consider wearing a helmet and high visibility clothing

## Directions

- Starting from the car-parking bay at Laurence Avenue, take the shared-use path alongside the bungalows to the junction near the footbridge. (From here you can opt to walk-your-bike to Witham Town Park along the footpath).
- Follow the "(16)" signs along the River Walk adjacent to the river as far as a Toucan Crossing opposite Lidl.
- If you wish, you can turn right here and visit the town centre where there are lots of amenities.
- Otherwise, cross at the Toucan Crossing (so called because two types of users can cross: cyclists and pedestrians!) following the river around the supermarket. When you come to a fork, keep left and follow to another, quieter road-crossing next to a bridge.
- A little further on, you will find a four-way signpost which is where you join National Cycle Network Route 16.
- You can either take "16 River Walk North" or "16 Highfields Road". It doesn't matter which as you will return to this point to do the other.
- If you take "16 River Walk North" you will pass the duck pond and soon reach another road crossing where you turn left under the railway bridge.
- Follow this all the way to the end of the path where it meets another road. Turn and retrace your route back to the signpost.
- If you take "16 Highfields Road" follow that path under the railway bridge passing ASDA. Cross two roads and you'll find a playground, a skatepark and some playing fields. Take the shared-use path behind the houses all the way to the end where you'll find a wild meadow.
- Again, turn and retrace your route back to the signpost. From there, take "River Walk South" retracing your route back to Laurence Avenue.

Quiz Points answers: 1) Sixteen, 2) Horace Walpole, 3) One, 4) Four, 5) Powers Hall Road.



Explore Braintree District By Bicycle. This is one in a series of 10 new cycle routes aimed at encouraging people to explore the Braintree District by bike. There are three short traffic-free rides for families with children aged under 10, three on quiet roads for those with children aged over 10, and four longer-distance routes for experienced leisure cyclists.

## Routes in the Series

### Families with Children Under-10

- 1 Bocking Blackwater LNR
- 2 Flitch Way and Great Notley
- 3 Witham

### Families with Children Over-10

- 4 Ridgewell
- 5 Gosfield
- 6 Terling

### Experienced & Leisure Cyclists' Routes

- 7 Great Yeldham to Bulmer
- 8 Bures to Coggeshall
- 9 Rayne to Steeple Bumpstead
- 10 Braintree to Hatfield Peverel



The representation on this map of a road, track, cyclepath or footpath is no evidence of the existence of a right of way. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this map, Braintree District Council, FourPoint Mapping Ltd, or OS cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions.

We have taken all responsible steps to ensure that this cycle route is safe and achievable by adults and children with a reasonable level of fitness. However, all outdoor activities involve a degree of risk. To the extent permitted by law, Braintree District Council accepts no responsibility for any accidents or injury resulting from following these routes. Walking and cycling routes change over time. Weather conditions may also affect path surfaces. Please use your own judgement when using the routes based upon the weather and the ability, experience and confidence levels of those in your group.

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# Family-Friendly Cycle Route 3

For Families with Children Under-10



Download the GPX trail from:  
[visitbraintreedistrict.co.uk/cycling](http://visitbraintreedistrict.co.uk/cycling)