



Weavers Wheel Route Description:

The text below provides a brief description of the proposed Weavers Wheel Cycleway. For the purposes of the description the route starts from the Witton Country Park Cycling Hub at the pavilion and runs in an anticlockwise direction.

- I. From the Witton Park Cycling Hub (pavilions) the route runs westwards using National Cycle Network 6 (NCN6) crosses the River Darwen at the car park and runs up to Tower Road.
- II. At Tower Road the route continues onto the recently constructed cycleway (LSTF funded) linking through onto The Crescent at Cherry Tree, Blackburn. The route turns right onto Preston Old Road for a short on road section to Cherry Tree Lane.
- III. At Cherry tree lane the route enters onto the Leeds & Liverpool Canal towpath and runs in an easterly direction towards Ewood.
- IV. The route leaves the towpath along the footpath linking New Wellington Street to Aqueduct Road via the rear of the bowling greens.
- V. At Aqueduct Road the route continues on road and crosses the A666 at the Thwaites' Theatre to pick up the River Darwen Parkway behind Ewood Cycles (former Aqueduct Inn).
- VI. The River Darwen Parkway which offers fantastic views of the borough and Ewood Park exits via Millbrook Street at Lower Darwen onto Fore Street.
- VII. The route continues eastwards, passes Highercroft Road and turns left at Rakes Bridge to re-join the River Darwen Parkway. This short section of Parkway is used to by-pass the steep section of Stopes Brow.
- VIII. It re-joins Stopes Brow using the access road to St. James' School, turning left to progress towards the traffic signal junction at Blackamoor.
- IX. The route then continues along Blackamoor Road to the Guide Signalised Cross-roads area and uses the existing shared footway and toucan crossing facility to cross Haslingden Road. This section of the route up to Guide Cross-roads is possibly the most challenging for cyclists. This is an extremely busy road and there is insufficient pavement width to develop a shared cycle/ pedestrian path. Caution will be advised along this section in literature and through signage.
- X. From this crossing point the route uses the existing shared cycleway through Lions Drive and Dutton's Way to enter the Arran Trail at the lower section of Dutton Way.
- XI. The route runs along the Arran Trail in a northerly direction to the end of the Trail at the landscaped area between Staffa Crescent and Bank Lane (Knuzden Brook).
- XII. Turning left onto Bank Lane and passing the junction of Fecitt Brow the route turns right onto the Public Footpath linking Bank lane to St. Ives Road.

- XIII. The route turns left onto St. Ives Road and then immediately right to follow the path linking through to Accrington Road.
- XIV. The route crosses Accrington Road at Peronne Crescent and runs along Peronne Crescent and then Maricourt Avenue to the junction with Whitebirk Road.
- XV. Turning right onto Whitebirk Road the route runs on road down to the Red Lion Roundabout, around the roundabout in an anticlockwise direction using widened footways and onto the Canal Towpath via improvements to the existing entrance to Davies Road located close to existing crossing point.
- XVI. The route follows the towpath in a north easterly direction, swinging northwards and then north westerly to exit onto Trident Park and Trident Way towards Whitebirk Drive.
- XVII. The route then crosses Whitebirk Drive and follows the shared footway / cycleway towards Brownhill Roundabout via the Philips Road, Whalley Old Road, Emerald Avenue, Roe Lee Park, Brownhill Drive and Cornelian Street junctions (the section from Phillips Road to Brownhill has been delivered thanks to LSTF funding).
- XVIII. The route then crosses the A666 Whalley New Road at the signalised junction onto a shared footway alongside Ramsgreave Drive.
- XIX. The route crosses Pleckgate Road and continues along the Service Road, crossing Lammack Road until it reaches the junction with Whinney Lane.
- XX. The route turns left onto Whinney Lane and immediately right onto St. Lawrence Avenue and continues along Quebec Road and Beardwood to join Preston New Road.
- XXI. Turning left onto Preston New Road the route continues to the Revidge Road signalised junction and turns right onto Billinge End Road.
- XXII. Riders on the Wheel will be presented with two choices to return to Witton Country Park at this point. The easier route will follow Buncer Lane and sign cyclists into Witton Park next to Witton Park High School (picking up the NCN route 6).
- XXIII. The longer more challenging route runs along Billing End Road, Woodcock Hill Road, Long Lane and Sandy lane, turning left onto Old Hall Lane and re-joining NCN Route 6 onto Tower Road and through Witton Park to the Witton Park Cycling hub.

Spokes:

The six proposed spokes run from various points along the circular wheel section in towards the Town Centre. They are;

Spoke 1 – Leaves the Weavers Wheel from the Canal Towpath onto Canal Street, Queens Terrace, New Chapel Street and through to Mill Hill Gardens. The route then uses Queen Victoria Street, Mill Hill Bridge Street, Stancliffe Street and Stansfield Street to link back onto Whalley Banks and King Street and through to the Town Centre.

Spoke 2 – Leaves the Weavers Wheel on the River Darwen Parkway to use an established footpath linking through onto Fishmoor Drive. The route then continues onto Morecambe Road and Manxman Road to follow an off road route linking Manxman to Brandy House Brow. The route then drops down Brandy House Brow to the Grimshaw Park retail area.

Spoke 3 – Leaves the Weavers Wheel at Lions Drive and heads along Haslingden Road to pick up the Town Centre to Royal Blackburn Hospital Cycle Route. This route links through from Haslingden Road

close to the Hospital Access Road, crosses Old Bank Lane and continues along the off road route before re-joining the road section at Queens Road. The route is then signed to Blackburn Railway Station via Pringle Street, Bennington Street and Lower Audley Street.

Spoke 4 – Leaves the Weavers Wheel on the canal towpath at Davies Road off the Red Lion Roundabout, Whitebirk. The route then follows the canal through to Eanam Wharf. From here the town centre can be accessed via Eanam and Salford.

Spoke 5 – Leaves the Weavers Wheel at Brownhill Drive and continues along Cornelian Street and Pear Street before crossing Whalley New Road and onto Pemberton Street at Roe Lee Mill. The route then continues to the Pleckgate area via Royal Oak Avenue and to the town centre along Pleckgate Road and Shear Brow.

Spoke 6 – Leaves the Weavers Wheel at Billinge End Road and links directly into the Town Centre via Preston New Road.

Spurs:

The main spurs run from various points around the Wheel, outwards to surrounding districts and areas.

Spur A1 - Leaves the Weavers Wheel at the junction of Preston Old Road and Beardwood and links through to the Samlesbury Enterprise Zone via Preston New Road, Branch Road and Myerscough Smithy Road

Spur A2 - Leaves the Weavers Wheel at the junction of Whinney Lane and Yew Tree Drive and links through to Samlesbury via Mellor

Spur B – Leaves the Weavers Wheel at Fore Street Lower Darwen and links through to Darwen Town centre via the Hollins Grove and Chapel areas of Darwen. The route will follow an established and signed cycle way.

Spur C – Leaves the Weavers Wheel at the Blackamoor Road junction and continues along Roman Road towards Darwen via Hoddlesden.

Spur D – Leaves the Weavers Wheel at Blackamoor Road and continues along School Lane and Lottice Lane towards Oswaldtwistle

Spur E – Leaves the Weavers Wheel at Trident Park and continues along the Canal Towpath towards Rishton

Spur F – Leaves the Weavers Wheel at Whalley Old Road on the Brownhill Drive section and heads towards Whalley.

Spur G – Leaves the Weavers Wheel at Brownhill Drive and heads towards Whalley on Whalley New Road, passing the Ramsgreave and Wilpshire Railway Station.

Spur H – Leaves the Weavers Wheel on the towpath at Cherry Tree Lane and continues along the towpath out towards the Hoghton and Preston areas.