

The River Soar & Grand Union Canal Ale Trail



Distance: 12.90 km

Difficulty: Moderate

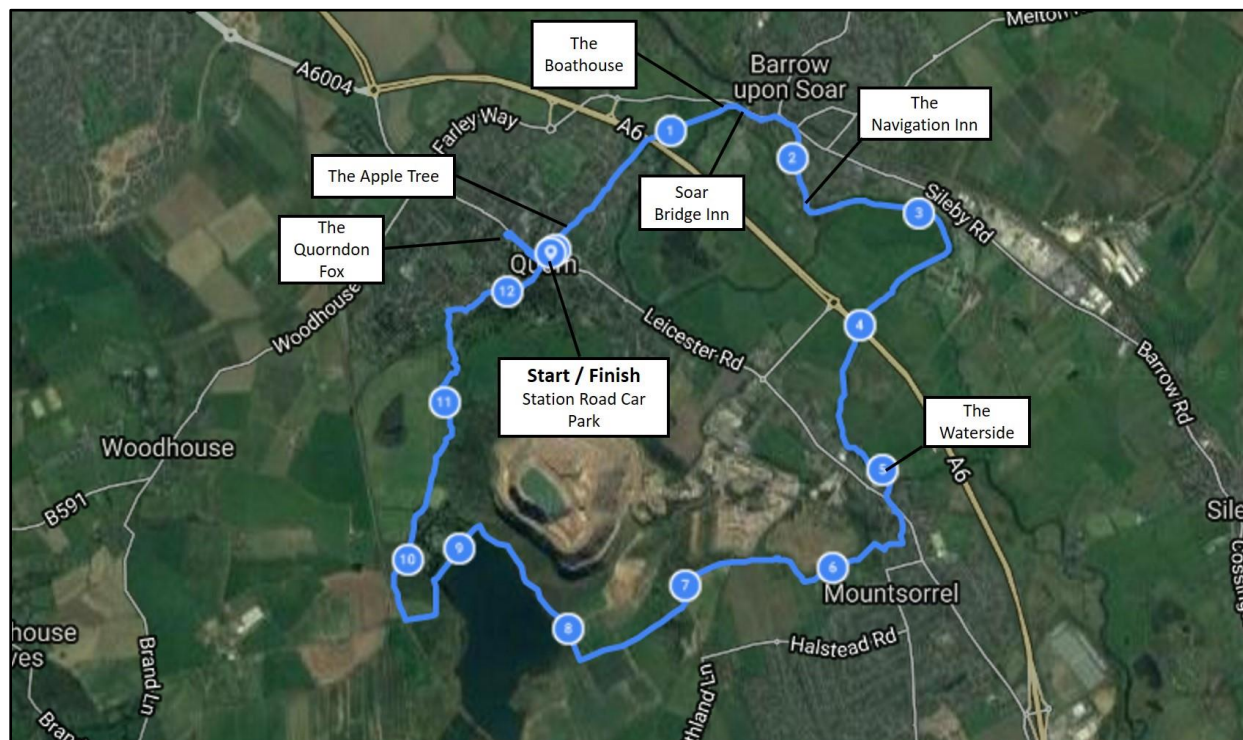
Dog Friendly: No

Ascent/Descent: Easy (+/- 300 metres)

Toilets: At the pubs, only

Wildlife: Donkeys, Brook Minnow, Perch, Kingfisher, Long-eared bat

Endomondo GPS track: [View/Download here](#)



The River Soar and Grand Union Canal circular walking route (Google Maps)

Starting location: at the public car park on Station Road (satnav: LE12 8BS) where it is free to park.

1. Start with you back to the car park and set off right, heading along Station Road. When you reach the junction where The Apple Tree public house is on the corner, continue on so that the pub is on your right. After around 200 metres, you will come to a footpath on the right (near number 120, pictured right). Take this path and follow it through to Victoria Street. Keep heading straight-on and then through another unsigned footpath (pictured left). Cross Meynell Road and proceed onto Huntsman's Close and then on to cross the foot bridge over the bypass.



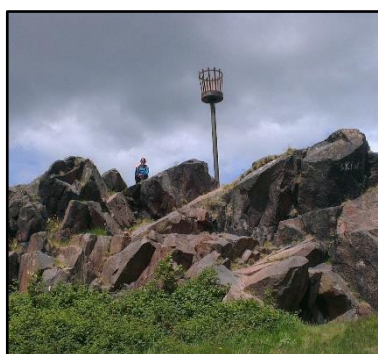
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2. Once over the bridge, follow the path over a field and at the road, turn right and walk over the river bridge and up Bridge Street, passing the Soar Bridge Inn on your right and the Boat House Inn on the left. Continue up the hill and at the roundabout, turn right onto South Street and then turn right on to Mill Lane and down the hill to The Navigation public house. Cross over the canal bridge and take the track on the left through “Barrow Boating” and on to the footpath which crosses the weir.

3. Follow the towpath (pictured right) alongside the Soar, around the bend in the river, and eventually under the Quorn/Mountsorrel bypass until a footbridge over the river is reached (always staying on the path closest to the river). Cross over this footbridge and continue along the river, under the 1860 bridge, eventually crossing a stile and emerging on to a road opposite The Waterside Inn at Mountsorrel.



4. Turn right to cross the bridge, then walk up towards the village. After passing The Peace Garden, turn left into the Market Place. Turn right by the Butter Market and then immediately left up a footpath between houses 3 and 5. Follow the path up Castle Hill, ignoring a path off to the left. Pass the beacon on your right (pictured left), then bear slightly right across the grass, on to a road.

5. Turn right onto the road and then left along Cufflins Pit Lane, which is signposted “Leicester Round”. Follow the track uphill. At the end of the track, you meet a road; go left along the road and over an old railway bridge. You will come to a T-junction. Here, go left and then right on to Kinchley Lane. Follow this lane downhill and stay on the road as it goes alongside the reservoir and across the dam. At the end of the dam, continue up the track to the left.

6. Do not cross over the railway bridge but take the footpath to the right, keeping the railway on your left. The footpath bears right after about 200 metres, following the edge of a wood. It is then very clearly routed over a stile and wooden bridge, then continue on between a hedge and fence, which marks a field boundary. At the end of this fenced section, cross over a stile and follow the signs and a well-worn path. Then, join a farm track (turning left when you meet it) which will bring you out on to Chaveney Road in Quorn.

7. Here, turn left and follow the footpath along into the town. You will pass The Blacksmiths Arms and then come to a roundabout. Turn left up High Street, until you come to the Quorndon Fox. Exit the Quorndon Fox and go right, either keeping to pavement or heading through the church grounds on Church Lane. At the roundabout (or upon exiting the church grounds) go left onto Station Road. You are now back at your start point.



Pub 1: The Apple Tree



Pub 2: The Boat House



Pub 3: The Soar Bridge Inn



Pub 4: The Navigation Inn



Pub 5: The Waterside Inn



Pub 6: The Quorndon Fox



Tips

The [Quorn Country Hotel](#), a 4-star hotel located near to the start location, regularly runs promotional offers that consist of a room for the night, three-course evening meal and breakfast for somewhere in the region of £120... so get in the car and have a weekend away!



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