Canal, River, Woodland and Docks

A short (4 mile), flat ride around the Rotherhithe Peninsula. Designed to be ridden clockwise, but works anti-clock as well. Be nice to pedestrians, please. Almost entirely off-road. Map at <https://bit.ly/3aceO7A>

Riding clockwise. Start in Deal Porter Square next to Canada Water Library (or anywhere else on the loop as it suits you).

Head down the ramp between the Jubilee Line ventilator and the bar/restaurant to the Albion Channel.

Follow this canal, keeping on the left hand as you approach the Dutch-style bridge and again soon after at Surrey Water. Use the crossing of Salter Rd, then cross the red bridge and head left down a short flight of steps to the Thames riverside path.

Continue around an inlet until the path runs out. Go 50m along Rotherhithe St then turn back to the river on Sovereign Crescent. Follow this past the obelix and back down to Rotherhithe St where the road goes out.

Turn left along Rotherhithe St for 100m then right andimmediately go through a gap on the left to a path. Continue along the path, forking right to go under Salter Rd and bear left into Russia Woodland. Keep straight or left crossing 2 bridges until you make it to the bridge under repair. Go left and right to the long path along the surviving wall of Russia Dock. If you get lost try other paths until you reach this point. Everyone gets lost in these paths!

At the end of the straight path bear rt and ride under Redriff Rd to Greenland Dock. At the dock turn left and rt past the Moby Dick Pub and follow the dock to South Sea St.

Take second left on to pavement of Princes Ct (you need to use pavement as no dropped kerb later). Follow this round to the rt and cross the exit channel from South Dock using the lock gate. At this point a small extension is possible, see below.

Turn inland and follow the side of South Dock then rt along the top of the dock. At Rope St turn left and pass the Watersports Centre and turning right to reach the edge of Greenland Dock, opposite where you joined it earlier.

Continue next to the Dock, turn rt along the top, then bear left under Redriff Rd taking care to use the ramp on the left side. The path continues up to Surrey Quays Shopping Centre.

Cycle carefully next to that trying not to run down any shoppers. At Canada Water go rt then left past Decathlon and back into Deal Porter Square.

Home page for “Rides for the month” is <https://bit.ly/2JiC2gp>

An easy one mile extension is along the historical Deptford waterfront. After crossing the lock at South Dock, continue along the Thames path. The brick Georgian buildings are most of what is left of Deptford Dockyard, the first Royal Dockyard. This was important for 300 years from mid 16th to 19th Centuries (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deptford>). At Pepys park take the right hand path and cycle between the buildings until reaching Longshore. You can cycle across the square heading to the far right corner and them back to the river and left to rejoin the route.