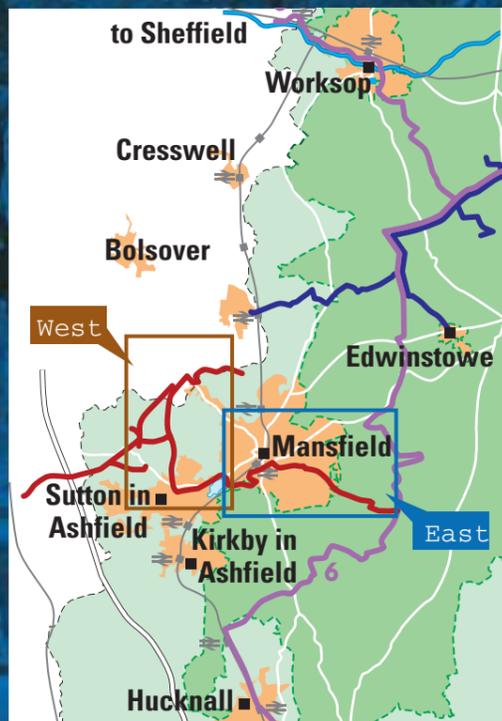


These trails link Kingsmill Reservoir to National Cycle Route 6, east of Rainworth, a distance of some 6 ½ miles. From Kingsmill, the route follows a bridleway through new industrial estates and Sheepridge Road via Bleak Hills.

At Sheepridge Road, the route runs alongside the River Maun through a Local Nature Reserve and passing under the old stone railway viaduct and then through Quarry Lane park beside the old mill ponds.

Crossing Nottingham Road, the route then takes in Fisher Lane park before emerging onto a short on-road section on Littleworth Road.

Although there is a steep incline in Fisher Lane Park, once north of Windsor Road the route has more gentle gradients, largely following a disused railway line to Rainworth and beyond to NCR 6, with signed road crossings. Another short section of on-road route takes the user from The Avenues Rainworth, along Southwell Road, to the link to NCR 6 and Sherwood Pines.



This information can be made available upon request in alternative formats and languages.

For more information on cycling and recreational routes, see www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/home/leisure/l-cycling



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trails

The Mansfield Way

At Racecourse Road, the trail joins The Mansfield Way and traces the route of the Mansfield-Southwell railway to Rainworth. A small hamlet until the 1870's, when the line was opened, Rainworth expanded with the development of Rufford Colliery, but the closure of the pit in 1993 has seen the town's prosperity decrease.

Sherwood Pines Forest Park, 3300 acres owned by the Forest Commission, is billed as the largest tract of publicly open Forest in the country and has many graded biking and walking trails, and other activities. Planted on former heathland, there is an increasing proportion of broad-leaved tree species amongst the commercial pine.

The Timberland Trail

Starting at Kingsmill Reservoir, the Timberland Trail runs around the southern edge of Mansfield Town centre, joining the Mansfield Way at Racecourse Road.

Occupied since Roman times, Mansfield's prosperity was fuelled by the industrialisation of coal mining in nearby villages, and the building of a local railway network. The River Maun also provided energy for textile and hosiery mills; the old mill ponds can still be seen in Quarry Lane Park and the trail runs alongside the Maun through Titchfield Park.

The trail joins the line of the former Mansfield - Southwell railway line at Fisher Lane Park.

Parts of the trail are particularly important for their wildlife and habitat value; much of the route between Rainworth and Mansfield has been designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and the section immediately east of Oak Tree Lane is on the National Heathland Register.

Characterised by heather and gorse, with associated birch and pine trees, lowland heath supports breeding populations of rare birds such as the nightjar and woodlark, native reptiles eg. adders and slow worms and rare insects and spiders.



